Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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A Success Model for Enterprise Resource Planning Adoption to Improve Financial Performance in Vietnam's Equitized State Owned Enterprises. Pham, Long; Teich, Jeffrey E. International Journal of Enterprise Information Systems, January-March 2011, v. 7, iss. 1, pp. 41-55. Abstract: Equitized state-owned enterprises (ESOEs) in Vietnam have begun to implement enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, ubiquitous in developed countries, to improve their operational and financial performance. However, such ESOEs lack a model for ERP adoption to guide them in successfully implementing ERP systems. This study is based on an extensive review of literature on ERP benefits and the equitization process in Vietnam and relevant theories on innovation adoption, and the authors propose a success model for ERP adoption in Vietnam's ESOEs. Model hypotheses that present relationships among factors influencing ERP adoption are given and future studies are discussed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Analysis on Dynamic Landscape Patterns of Urbanizations in Four Asia Cities Using 3S Technologies and CA Model. Yizhao Chen, Jiasheng Huang and Jianlong Li. Applied Informatics and Communication, Communications in Computer and Information Science, 2011, Volume 226, Part 1, 182-188. Abstract: Urbanization has brought great impact on regional landscape pattern and the food security, and it strongly affected urban ecology environment, biology diversity and human-being life. With the help of 3S technology and CA model, our research took four Asia cities respectively as the case of big cities and small cities to study the urbanize condition in Asia. First, base on the technology of remote sensing, GIS technology and the method of landscape ecology gradient analysis combined with landscape indexes, the landscape structure and its spatial characteristics of urban land, agricultural land and other land use types of Zhangjiagang City is studied in the paper; And second, Two mega-cities in Asia-Pacific Region: Manila, the Philippines and Hanoi, Vietnam, were selected to compare with Shanghai, China. In support of 3S (GIS-GPS-RS) technology, the landscape pattern dynamics and desakota regions features related with urbanization of the three cities in recent twenty years were studied, with gradient analysis using six landscape matrix indexes: Contagion index, largest patch index, landscape shape index, perimeter-area fractal dimension, patches density, and Shannon’s diversity index. In our study, we have concluded that: urbanization in Zhangjiagang is rapidly in recent years; landscape pattern changed significantly in the 20 years in Shanghai and Urbanization in Shanghai is slower than Metro Manila but faster than Hanoi; Last, large cities and small cities should be developed in perfect harmony. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Arsenic contamination in groundwater and its possible sources in Hanam, Vietnam. Nguyen Minh Phuong, Yumei Kang, Katsutoshi Sakurai, Miyuki Sugihara, Chu Ngoc Kien, Nguyen Dinh Bang and Ha Minh Ngoc. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, published online 10 Aug 2011. Abstract: This study investigated the arsenic (As) level in groundwater, and the characteristics of aquifer sediment as related to the occurrence of As in groundwater in Hanam, Vietnam. The deposition and transport of As-containing substances through rivers were also examined. Arsenic concentrations in 88% of the groundwater samples exceeded the As limit for drinking water based on the WHO standards. The dominating form of arsenic was As(III). The maximum total As content in bore core sediment was found in a peat horizon of the profiles and generally, elevated levels
of As were also found in other organic matter-rich horizons. Total As contents of the bore core sediments were significantly correlated with crystalline iron oxide, silt and clay contents, suggesting that As in aquifer sediment was mainly associated with iron (hydr)oxides and clay mineral. In the groundwater, As concentration showed significant correlations with the total concentrations of Fe and HCO₃⁻. Significant correlations between HCl-extractable As and non-crystalline Fe oxide, total C, N, and S were also observed in the profiles. The results support the hypothesis that under favorable reductive conditions established by the degradation of organic matter, the dissolution of iron (hydr)oxides releases adsorbed As into the groundwater. The deposition of As in the sediments from the Red River were significantly higher than that in the Chau Giang River, suggesting that the Red River is the main source of As-containing substances deposited in the study area. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

At what price rice? Food security, livelihood vulnerability, and state interventions in upland northern Vietnam. Christine Bonnin and Sarah Turner. Geoforum, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 23 August 2011. Abstract: In the northern uplands of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam the state is taking dramatic steps to (re)configure agricultural production through the introduction and subsidisation of hybrid rice and maize seeds. These require yearly cash investments and access to state supplied inputs, a far cry from earlier upland ethnic minority livelihood strategies. In this paper we develop a conceptual framework that brings together an actor-oriented livelihoods approach with concepts from everyday politics and resistance, to examine the relations now at play as ethnic minorities, namely Hmong and Yao households in Lào Cai province, react to the introduction of these hybrid seeds, negotiate with the state over their use, and contest and subtly resist the wholesale adoption of this programme. Our framework takes us beyond an investigation into financial benefits and yields, to focus upon the social, cultural and political aspects inherent in upland farmer decision-making regarding state interventions. Our findings reveal that such agricultural programmes have resulted in new food insecurities and vulnerabilities overlaysing more established concerns. Yet in turn, ethnic minority households evaluate these innovations according to their own terms, and have responded by negotiating, accommodating, and also contesting the state’s initiatives using creative and innovative everyday politics and livelihood strategies. In so doing, they have worked to maintain autonomy over choices and decision-making vis-à-vis the economic, social and cultural reproduction of their household units; a delicate balancing act in a socialist state. Full text

Avian and pandemic human influenza policy in South-East Asia: the interface between economic and public health imperatives. Petcharat Pongchaaroensuk, Wiku Adisasmito, Le Minh Sat, Pornpit Silkavute, Lilis Muchlisoh, Pham Cong Hoat and Richard Coker. Health Policy Plan. First published online: August 22, 2011. Abstract: The aim of this study was to analyse the contemporary policies regarding avian and human pandemic influenza control in three South-East Asia countries: Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam. An analysis of poultry vaccination policy was used to explore the broader policy of influenza A H5N1 control in the region. The policy of antiviral stockpiling with oseltamivir, a scarce regional resource, was used to explore human pandemic influenza preparedness policy. Several policy analysis theories were applied to analyse the debate on the use of vaccination for poultry and stockpiling of antiviral drugs in each country case study. We conducted a comparative analysis across emergent themes. -- The study found that whilst Indonesia and Vietnam introduced poultry vaccination programmes, Thailand rejected this policy approach. By contrast, all three countries adopted similar strategic policies for antiviral stockpiling in preparation. In relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza, economic imperatives are of critical importance. Whilst Thailand's poultry industry is large and principally an export economy, Vietnam's and Indonesia's are for domestic consumption. The introduction of a poultry vaccination policy in Thailand would have threatened its potential to trade and had a major impact on its economy. Powerful domestic stakeholders in Vietnam and Indonesia, by contrast, were concerned less about international trade and more about maintaining a healthy domestic poultry population. Evidence on vaccination was drawn upon differently depending upon strategic economic positioning either to support or oppose the policy. -- With influenza A H5N1 endemic in some countries of the region, these policy differences raise questions around regional coherence of policies and the pursuit of an agreed overarching goal, be that eradication or mitigation. Moreover, whilst economic imperatives have been critically important in guiding
policy formulation in the agriculture sector, questions arise regarding whether agriculture sectoral policy is coherent with public health sectoral policy across the region. Full text http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2011/08/22/heapol.czr056.abstract.

Building on qualitative datasets and participatory processes to simulate land use change in a mountain watershed of Northwest Vietnam. M. Lippea, T. Thai Minh, A. Neefc, T. Hilgera, V. Hoffmannb, N.T. Lamd and G. Cadisch. Environmental Modelling & Software, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 17 August 2011. Abstract: In this article we investigate if qualitative soil fertility datasets derived during participatory processes can be combined with a corresponding land use change model (i) to improve the understanding of the social-ecological complexity of land use change and (ii) to allow testing of alternative scenarios even in data-poor environments. To test this hypothesis, a participatory assessment approach was combined with the spatially explicit, soil fertility driven FALLOW (Forest, Agroforest, Low-value Landscape Or Wasteland?) model. For a case study village in Northwest Vietnam, participatory evaluations with two age groups of farmers were employed in an iterative way to derive qualitative and quantitative model input data to test scenarios of current and improved management on upland soil fertility evolution with FALLOW. The indigenous colour-based soil quality classification was successfully integrated into the Trenbath FALLOW soil module. The model baseline scenario was validated by calculating the goodness-of-fit of model outputs with land cover maps (Fn 0.78) from remote sensing. Model scenario analysis suggested a masking effect of ongoing soil fertility decline by use of fertilizers and hybrid crop varieties, indicating a resource overuse that becomes increasingly irreversible without external interventions. Simulations further suggest that success of introduction of improved cropping management methods becomes less effective with increasing soil degradation and cannot fully restore initial soil fertility. We conclude that the coupled semi-quantitative approach is useful at the village level as it generated meaningful insights into local land use change dynamics without the need for long-term and data-intensive studies. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Child injury prevention in Vietnam: achievements and challenges. S Boufous, M Ali, HT Nguyen, M Stevenson, TC Vu, DT Nguyen, R Ivers, CV Pham, and AT Nguyen. Int J Inj Contr Saf Promot, August 16, 2011. Abstract: As with other South Asian countries, injury is becoming a leading cause of death and morbidity among children in Vietnam. In response to the increasing burden of child injury, government and non-government agencies in Vietnam have combined efforts during the last decade to develop and implement various child injury prevention strategies and programmes. This article provides, through a review of relevant documents and interviews with major stakeholders, an overview of these efforts and highlights major challenges to child injury prevention in the country. The findings point to notable achievements in terms of increasing awareness of injury facing children at all levels in the community and developing a sound injury prevention policy framework in a relatively short period of time. However, much needs to be done to implement necessary environmental and legislative changes, strengthen child injury surveillance and injury prevention research; and to improve access to health services. The insight into the experience of Vietnam could benefit other low- and middle-income countries with a high burden of child injury. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Coffee and Climate Change Desk Study: Impacts of Climate Change in the Pilot Country Vietnam the Coffee & Climate Initiative. Jeremy Haggar. 27/06/2011. Summary of findings: -- i. Climate change data available due to strong international support regarding preparation of 2nd National Communication to the UNFCCC, published in December 2010 -- ii. Since 1960s mean annual temperature increased by 0.4°C, most rapidly in the dry season Nov – Jan and Feb – Mar and more rapid in the South of Viet Nam -- iii. No consistent decrease or increase of rainfall patterns observed since 1960s -- iv. Viet Nam is currently suffering from damages caused by the unusual extreme drought that affected the country in 2009/10 -- v. According to GCM temperature is expected to increase by 1.4 to 4.2°C by 2090s, number of hot days (above 25°C) is expected to increase by 23 to 55% by 2090s, mainly in wet season, for the Central Highlands, where coffee is grown, number of hot days are expected to raise to 94 in 2020, 134 in 2050 and 230 in 2100, impact on Robusta is not yet analysed but should be considered well -- vi. GCM indicate increasing rainfalls (-1 to +33% by 2090s), mainly in wet season, but this is expected to be offset by predicted decrease of rainfall in dry season (-62 to 23% by 2090s),
total rainfall is expected to increase by 2 to 14% by 2090s, mainly due to increasing extreme weather events from June to October -- vii. National impact scenarios predict serious impacts on water resources, coastal zones and agricultural production map of Viet Nam; river flows in the South are expected to decline, groundwater is expected to drop up to 11 m compared to the current level, sea level is expected to rise by 0.18 to 0.56m, leading to saltwater intrusion, high risk of floods, serious social and economic damages and high pressure on land -- viii. Viet Nam is the world's largest Robusta producer, coffee (mainly Robusta covering 95% of total production) is grown on more than 500,000 ha, mainly in the Central Highlands, high yield and productivity (3.5 t/ha) is due to intensive monoculture going hand in hand with deforestation, land degradation, water over-exploitation and intensive use of fertilizer -- ix. Intensive unsustainable cultivation practices make coffee plantations and farmers highly vulnerable to already perceived and in the near future expected climate change, main problem is over-irrigation and inefficient water use -- x. The 2010/11 harvest output is expected to decline by 20% compared with previous harvest due to extreme drought period and delayed rainfalls -- xi. Numerous national and international climate change activities exist, the Ministry for Agriculture is implementing the Action Plan Framework on Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture, but without any specific focus on coffee production -- xii. Few coffee research institutions are beginning to investigate in coffee and climate change issues, data on impacts and suitability scenarios are not available at all -- xiii. Proposed adaptation measures for the coffee sector range from efficient irrigation / water management strategies, over application of sustainable cultivation practices and diversification of the production system and farmers' income to profound research and capacity development -- xiv. In order to develop a toolkit for adaptation practices numerous climate change activities and institutions involved in the issue should absolutely be involved. Free full text http://www.coffeeandclimate.org/tl_files/Themes/CoffeeAndClimate/Country%20profiles/Report%20Coffee%20Climate_Pilot%20Vietnam_Haggar%20Schepp.pdf.

Corporate Ownership Structure and Organizational Culture in A Transition Economy: The Case of Vietnam.
Thi Quy Vo, Duc Khuong Nguyen. International Journal of Economics and Finance Vol. 3, No. 4; September 2011. Abstract: This paper investigates the impact of ownership structure changes on the organizational culture of firms in the Vietnamese context. We first identify the dimension of the organizational cultures of two groups of firms, namely state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and privatized firms (PFs), using principal component analysis, and then compare them to answer the question of whether organizational structure varies among firms with different ownership structures. By analyzing the information collected from a structured questionnaire that was developed and sent to managers, staffs, and workers in both state-owned and privatized companies, we show that the people and market orientations in PFs differ significantly from those in SOEs. However, no significant difference is found between the integration and performance orientations of these two groups. Suggestions are offered for an appropriate management of organizational culture values in Vietnamese firms. Free full text http://www.ccsenet.org/journal/index.php/ijef/article/viewFile/11804/8305.

Cost-effectiveness of tobacco control policies in Vietnam: the case of personal smoking cessation support.
Hideki Higashi, Jan J. Barendregt. Addiction, Accepted, unedited article, available online 2011. Abstract: -- Aims: To examine the cost-effectiveness of personal smoking cessation support in Vietnam. -- Design, setting and participants: We followed up the population aged 15 and over in 2006 to model the costs and health gains associated with five interventions: physician brief advice; nicotine replacement therapy (patch and gum); Bupropion; and Varenicline. Threshold analysis was undertaken to determine the price levels of pharmaceuticals for the interventions to be cost-effective. A multi-state life table model was constructed such that the interventions affect the smoking cessation behaviour of the age cohorts, and the resulting smoking prevalence defines their health outcomes. A healthcare perspective was employed. -- Measurements: Cost-effectiveness is measured in 2006 Vietnamese Dong (VND) per disability-adjusted life year (DALY) averted. We adopted the WHO thresholds of being “cost-effective” if less than 3 times GDP per capita (VND 34,600,000) and “very cost-effective” if less than GDP per capita (VND 11,500,000). -- Findings: The cost-effectiveness result of physician brief advice was VND 1,583,000 per DALY averted (Int. $493), which was “very cost-effective”. Varenicline dominated Bupropion and nicotine-replacement therapies, although it did not
fall within the range of being “cost-effective” under different scenarios. The threshold analysis revealed that prices of pharmaceuticals must be substantially lower than the levels from other countries if pharmacological therapies are to be cost-effective in Vietnam. -- Conclusions: Physician brief advice is a cost-effective intervention and should be included in the priority list of tobacco control policy in Vietnam. Pharmacological therapies are not cost-effective, and so they are not recommended in Vietnam at this time unless pharmaceuticals would be produced locally at substantially lower costs in the future. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Diffusion, transmutation, and regulatory regime in socialist market economies: telecoms reform in China and Vietnam. Yukyung Yeo & Martin Painter. The Pacific Review, Volume 24, Issue 4, 2011, pages 375-395. Abstract: Marketization and state restructuring are proceeding apace in China and Vietnam. China and Vietnam are not, however, converging upon the global regulatory model, even allowing for customary national variations. Rather, they are building up distinctive forms of regulatory regimes aiming to maintain the party-state's control over key state sectors, while at the same time integrating with the global economy and conforming to international norms and standards. This study argues that the regulatory model being adopted in Vietnam and China is the product of a specific kind of transition from a command to a market economy within an authoritarian political regime. While diffusion theories are of use in identifying external driving forces for the reform effort, these theories are of limited value for unveiling the dynamics of local contexts. Indigenous incentives, opportunity structures, and the experimental nature of public policy explain why, despite their exposure to global reform movements and commitment to multilateral institutions, China and Vietnam are likely to end up not with just a variety of the same regulatory regime, but a different one. The case of telecommunications regulation is used to illustrate this. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Entrepreneurial value creation through green microfinance: Evidence from Asian microfinance lending criteria. Geoffrey R Archer, Lisa Jones-christensen. Asian Business & Management. Houndmills: Aug 2011. Vol. 10, Iss. 3; p. 331 (26 pages). Abstract: Microfinance has proliferated as both a poverty alleviation tool and catalyst for entrepreneurs running small-scale businesses with support from microloans. This article examines four rationales for incorporating concern for the natural environment into the practice of microfinance and suggests a typology to categorize microfinance sustainability initiatives as preserving, evolving, sustaining or restoring. Using a binomial descriptive content analysis of publicly available lending criteria, we investigate the incidence of ‘green microfinance’ in a sample of 40 Asian microfinance institutions (MFIs) – all members of the Banking with the Poor Network in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. We conclude that despite the existence of viable and strategic rationales to support the proliferation of ‘green’ microfinance, very few MFIs actually embed such a commitment into the structure of their financial products. This disconnect reveals that current microfinance practice in Asia, to the extent that it may ignore the natural environment, may correspondingly endanger the health and livelihoods of the very people it is designed to help. We consider this study as investigative and in need of replication in other
regions; however, it reveals key contradictions while also suggesting strategic redirections for the microfinance field in Asia and elsewhere. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Foreign Direct Investment in Real Estate Projects and Macroeconomic Instability. By: Thanh Nga Nguyen. ASEAN Economic Bulletin, Apr 2011, Vol. 28 Issue 1, p74-96, 23p; Abstract: One of the main determinants of Vietnam’s high economic growth for more than two decades has been its capability to attract foreign direct investment (FDI). FDI has contributed to economic growth through increasing manufacturing exports, creating employment and enhancing total factor productivity. However, this paper argues that the inflow of FDI into the country’s real estate and construction sectors stimulated by the property market bubble has contributed to macroeconomic instability. Although the government’s policy space to deal with these effects is limited, it should enhance its supervision and encourage FDI into labour-intensive manufacturing sectors. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=63894097&site=ehost-live.

From knowing it all to learning to engage – Experiences from Australian interventions in agricultural research and development in Vietnam. Nicetic, Oleg, Rae, Debbie and van de Fliert, Elske (2010). In: Ika Darnhofer and Michaela Grötzer, Proceedings of the 9th European IFSA Symposium. 9th European IFSA Symposium, Vienna, Austria, (573-584). 4-7 July 2010. Abstract: The Australian Assistance in Development organisation (AusAID) funded three projects over the last ten years as part of the Collaboration for Agriculture and Rural Development Program (CARD) with the initial objective to introduce Integrated Pest Management (IPM) based on mineral spray oil into citrus production in Vietnam. This objective later evolved from IPM to a broader Integrated Crop Management (ICM) approach and eventually to the introduction of procedures for Good Agricultural Practice (GAP). In this paper we discuss the evolution of the collaborative approaches in the consecutive projects, departing from making Vietnamese researchers introduce a preconceived, externally developed concept in their local socio-economic and natural environments, to gradually facilitating the local partners to review potential innovations, test and adapt them, and develop management systems that suit the local conditions. This process resulted in linkages and interactions amongst local and international experts across disciplinary boundaries and between local stakeholders themselves. The final outcome of 15 years of collaborative work extended far beyond IPM, ICM and GAP resulting in the improved capacity of all stakeholders including farmers, extension and technical personnel from government organisations, non-government organisations and private industry, scientists from research institutes and universities and representatives of local governments to respond to the local specific needs of farmers and the policy requirements of agricultural and rural development in Vietnam. The major outcome for Australian researchers was the realisation that humans (farmers) with their culture, habits and behaviours are a crucial part of the system in which our knowledge and technologies are to be utilised. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Generalized Trust and Trust in Institutions in Confucian Asia. By: Tan, Soo; Tambyah, Siok. Social Indicators Research, Oct 2011, Vol. 103 Issue 3, p357-377, 21p; Abstract: This study examines generalized trust and trust in institutions in Confucian Asia, covering six countries namely, China, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam, and one dependent region, Hong Kong. Using data from the 2006 AsiaBarometer Survey, our study affirms the reliability and validity of using a two-item scale to measure generalized trust. Our analysis suggests that due to demographic differences, there are variations in the level of generalized trust of countries in Confucian Asia, despite the fact that these societies share a similar background in Confucian philosophy. The relationships between generalized trust and political trust, and between generalized trust and trust in public institutions, are weak but positive. The positive relationship between generalized trust and trust in economic institutions is only significant for some of the economies, while trust in international institutions has the weakest relationship with generalized trust for all societies. We conclude the paper with research implications. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

food importers and exporters alike. Vietnam is a major exporter of rice, and rice is also a key item in domestic production, employment and consumption. Accordingly, rice price shocks from the world market have general equilibrium impacts and as such, their implications for household welfare are not known ex ante. In this paper we first present a simple framework for understanding the direct and indirect welfare effects of a global market shock of this kind. Second, we quantify the transmission of the price shock from global indicator prices to domestic markets. Third, we then use an applied general equilibrium (AGE) model to simulate the effects of domestic price changes in more detail. Fourth, a recursive mapping to a large nationally representative living standards survey permits us to identify in detail the ceteris paribus effects of the shock on household incomes and welfare. In this analysis, interregional and intersectoral adjustments in the labor market emerge as key channels transmitting the effects of global price shocks across sectors and among households. Free full text http://www.aae.wisc.edu/pubs/sps/pdf/stpap559.pdf.

**Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) as a vehicle for transformation to sustainable citrus production in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam.** Nicetic, Oleg, van de Fliert, Elske, Va Chien, Ho, Mai, Vo and Cuong, Le (2010). In: Ika Darnhofer and Michaela Grötzer, Building sustainable rural futures. The added value of systems approaches in times of change and uncertainty. 9th European IFSA Symposium, Vienna Austria, (1893-1901). 4-7 July 2010. Abstract: Pressure from the emerging Vietnamese middle class for access to “safe food” has prompted changes in the traditional food supply chain from: individual farmer → middle man → traditional markets (formal, informal and hawkers) to: farmers organised in cooperatives or less formal farmer groups → supermarkets. This process has gained significant government support resulting in the introduction of policies and support for “safe vegetable production” and recently the establishment of Vietnamese Good Agricultural Practice (VietGAP) standards. VietGAP is a government decree laying out the principles for sustainable and safe agricultural production supported by certification and auditing systems. These consumer driven market transformations together with government policies has increased the pressure on farmers to adopt more sustainable production practices. This paper examines GAP as a framework to secure food safety and sustainable production, and farmer field schools (FFSs) as a platform for GAP learning and establishment of GAP collective action and practices under specific Vietnamese smallholder conditions where the GAP process is strongly driven by government. Our results indicate that a participatory approach to GAP implementation resulted in successful joint government-private sector intervention in citrus production. It is, however, too early to draw conclusions about the sustainability of GAP certification since the economic benefits for the GAP certified farmers in comparison to non-certified farmers are not yet clear. Regardless of the sustainability of GAP certification, improvements in economic, social, human and environmental capital as a result of citrus FFSs conducted in the GAP implementation process will have long term positive effects on sustainable citrus production in the Mekong Delta. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Groups Excluded from "Representative" Household Surveys.** By: Pfau, Wade Donald; Giang Thanh Long. ASEAN Economic Bulletin, Apr2011, Vol. 28 Issue 1, p68-73, 6p; Abstract: The Vietnam Living Standard Surveys (VLSS), a part of the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study Household Surveys, are supposed to be representative of the entire population in Vietnam. However, we uncover an anomaly that the amount of remittances received from domestic sources is significantly larger than the amount of remittances sent to domestic sources, implying that the survey is at least not representative of remittance senders. By further exploring a unique characteristic of the survey questions about remittances, we determine that, in particular, female and urban-dwelling remittance senders are underrepresented in the survey. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=63894096&site=ehost-live.

**How widespread are nonlinear crowding out effects? The response of private transfers to income in four developing countries.** John Gibson, Susan Olivia, Scott Rozelle. Applied Economics. London: 2011. Vol. 43, Iss. 27; p. 4053. Abstract: This article investigates the relationship between household income and private transfers received in developing countries. If private transfers are unresponsive to household income, there is less likelihood of expansions in public social security crowding out private transfers. Most literature finds that private transfers are unresponsive, but this may be because responses have been obscured by the methods that ignore nonlinearities. Threshold regression techniques find such nonlinearity in the Philippines and scope for
serious crowding out, with 30–80% of private transfers potentially displaced for low-income households (Cox et al., 2004). To see if these nonlinear effects occur more widely, semiparametric and threshold regression methods are used to model private transfers in four developing countries – China, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam. The results reported in this article suggest that nonlinear crowding out effects are not important features of transfer behaviour in these countries. The transfer derivatives under a variety of assumptions only range between 0 and −0.08. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply. Free working paper full text http://iis-db.stanford.edu/pubs/21675/do_public_transfers_crowd_out_private_transfers.pdf.

Impact of applying human resource management practices on equitized state-owned enterprises' financial performance in Vietnam. Long Pham. Journal of International Business Research. Cullowhee: 2011. Vol. 10, Iss. 2; pg. 79, 12 pgs. Abstract: Vietnam has become one of the fastest growing economies. The economic renovation policy initiated in 1986, aims to transform Vietnam into a market oriented economy. The economic renovation has created profound changes for enterprises, making human resource management (HRM) a vital matter. One of the most important aims set up by the State has been to restructure the state-owned enterprises (SOEs) through equitization processes. The State believes that equitized state owned enterprises (ESOEs) will contribute to Vietnam's economic growth since ESOEs have been applying management practices utilized in developed countries. This paper focuses on HRM practices, and proposes a relationship between these practices and ESOEs' financial performance. Full text is available upon request.

Impact of Educational Intervention Concerning Awareness and Behaviors Relating to Avian Influenza (H5N1) in a High-Risk Population in Vietnam. Toshie Manabe, Pham Thi Phuong Thuy, Vu Van Can, Jin Takasaki, Dinh Thi Thanh Huyen, Nguyen Thi My Chau, Takuro Shimbo, Bui Thi Thu Ha, Shinyu Izumi, Tran Thuy Hanh, Ngo Quy Chau, Koichiro Kudo. PLoS ONE 6(8): 2011. Abstract: -- Background: Early initiation of treatment is essential for treatment of avian influenza A/H5N1 viral infection in humans, as the disease can lead to rapid development of severe pneumonia which can result in death. Contact with infected poultry is known to be a significant risk factor for contraction of H5N1 infection. However, handling and encountering poultry are a part of most peoples' daily lives, especially in rural communities in Vietnam where epidemic outbreaks among poultry have been continuously reported. Enhancing proper knowledge relating to H5N1 and to the importance of early initiation of treatment are crucial. The aim of this study was to develop an effective educational program to enhance awareness of H5N1 and motivate people to access to health care earlier when H5N1 infection is suspected or likely. -- Methodology and Principal Findings: A study was conducted in two agricultural communities (intervention and control groups) in the Ninh Binh province in Vietnam, where epidemic outbreaks of avian influenza have recently occurred in birds. A unique educational intervention was developed and provided to the intervention group, and no intervention was provided to the control group. A knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) survey was conducted in both groups with a face-to-face interview by trained local healthcare workers at time points before and after the educational intervention. KAP scores were compared between the different time points and between the groups. How educational intervention influenced awareness relating to H5N1 and accessibility of healthcare in the population was analyzed. The study indicated an increased awareness of H5N1 and increased reliance on local health care workers. -- Conclusions: The novel educational program which was developed for this study impacted awareness of H5N1, and resulted in more people seeking early access to healthcare, and also resulted in earlier medical intervention for patients with H5N1 avian influenza infection in Vietnam. Free full text http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0023711.

Impacts of flood on health: epidemiologic evidence from Hanoi, Vietnam. Tran Huu Bich, La Ngoc Quang, Le Thi Thanh Ha, Tran Thi Duc Hanh, and Debarati Guha-Sapir. Glob Health Action. 2011; 4. Abstract: -- Background: Vietnam is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. The country suffers from many kinds of natural disasters, of which the most common and serious one is flooding. Long and heavy rainfall during the last days of October and the first week of November 2008 resulted in a devastating flood unseen for over three decades in the capital city of Hanoi. It caused a substantial health impact on residents in and around the city and compromised the capacity of local health services. -- Objective: The aim of this study is to ascertain the vulnerability and health impacts of the devastating flood in Hanoi by identifying the differences in
mortality, injuries, and morbidity patterns (dengue, pink eye, dermatitis, psychological problems, and hypertension) between flood affected and non-affected households. -- Design: A cross-sectional study was carried out involving 871 households in four selected communes (two heavily flood affected and two comparatively less affected) from two severely flooded districts of Hanoi. Participants were interviewed and information collected on the social, economic, and health impacts of the devastation within 1 month after the flood. -- Results: The self-reported number of deaths and injuries reported in this study within 1 month after the heavy rainfall were a bit higher in severely affected communes as compared to that of the less affected communes of our study. The findings showed higher incidences of dengue fever, pink eye, dermatitis, and psychological problems in communes severely affected by flood as compared to that of the controlled communes. -- Conclusions: For people in flood prone areas (at risk for flooding), flood prevention and mitigation strategies need to be seriously thought through and acted upon, as these people are exposed to greater health problems such as psychological issues and communicable diseases such as pink eye or dermatitis. Free full text http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3160808/.

Incorporation of Diverse Stakeholder Groups’ Preferences into the Sanitation Planning Process in the Small Towns of Vietnam – An Application of the Analytic Hierarchy Process. Paper prepared for the Small Sustainable Solutions 4 Water (SSS4Water) Meeting, Venice, 18-22 April 2011. Pham Ngoc BAO, Toshiya ARAMAKI, Keisuke HANAKI. Abstract: Decision making in sanitation planning is often complex, with inherent trade-offs among socio-political, environmental, technical, and economic factors. The selection of appropriate and sustainable sanitation systems for municipal wastewater treatment involves multiple criteria with conflicting stakeholder preferences. To fulfill conflicting yet complementary objectives, a system analysis technique called the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) has been employed as a decision support tool to aid decision makers in sanitation planning process in developing countries. AHP- in combination with life cycle assessment (LCA) and a proposed set of multi-dimensional criteria—has worked as an effective decision support tool for the sustainability assessment and selection of appropriate wastewater treatment system with a capacity of 1200m3/d, in a case study in Toan Thang, a small town in Vietnam. Results from this case study have indicated that the design and selection of any wastewater treatment and management system should be integrated into community needs. Moreover, the public’s understanding of trade-offs is critical in gaining public support for long-term sustainability of the solution. The findings from this study have validated AHP as an effective and flexible tool for group decision making in sanitation planning, as well as proven AHP as good communication tool among diverse stakeholder groups. Free full text http://www.incaweb.org/events/SSS4/files/paper/teatro_hall_20.april.2011/SESSION_Planning%20and%20policy/1_INCO_1.PDF.

“Informal” Credit Systems in Fishing Communities: Issues and Examples from Vietnam. Kenneth Ruddle. Human Organization, Vol. 70, No. 3, 2011, Abstract: Exemplification of informal credit and local financial systems since the 1940s has discredited the assumptions that these either do not exist or, if they do, that they impose harsh conditions on borrowers. Nevertheless, those erroneous ideas remain tenacious. A sample of 403 marine fisheries stakeholders in five provinces of Vietnam demonstrates that, lacking collateral acceptable to the formal sector, fisheries households depend on the informal financial system. Credit is pieced together generally from several formal and informal sources to finance fishing boats and operations. Credit demand and supply in capture fisheries communities still requires comprehensive examination, especially for countries like Vietnam, for which this is the first study. The role of informal credit systems is examined, the associated patron-client relationship revisited, and additional research needs suggested. Research on financial systems should be broad and integrated, focusing on the varied interlocking contexts of individuals and institutions and aimed at transcending misconceptions like the dichotomy between formal and informal. Free full text http://sfaa.metapress.com/index/V4810K37717H9G01.pdf.

Labour-management relationships in transitional economies: convergence or divergence in Vietnam and Indonesia? By: Collins, Ngan; Nankervis, Alan; Sitalaksmi, Sari; Warner, Malcolm. Asia Pacific Business Review, Jul2011, Vol. 17 Issue 3, p361-377, 17p, 2 Charts; Abstract: Western labour-management relationships (both formal and informal), their respective rights, obligations and negotiating frameworks, have been well-
established, understood, and supported by a complex set of associated legislation for decades. However, in many developing countries, including Vietnam and Indonesia, historical, socio-cultural, ideological or political factors constrained the development of such formalized employee relations until very recent times. This paper explores the different paths taken by Vietnam and Indonesia towards a modern employee relations system, with its concomitant positive and adverse consequences. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Making a Living the Hmong Way: An Actor-Oriented Livelihoods Approach to Everyday Politics and Resistance in Upland Vietnam. Sarah Turner. Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Available online 11 Aug 2011. Abstract: Ethnic minority households in upland northern Vietnam are shaping culturally appropriate rural livelihoods in highly pragmatic ways, as they negotiate the everyday realities of economic liberalization, intertwined with centralized and authoritarian socialist political structures. Notions of “social interface” from actor-oriented analyses, everyday politics, and covert forms of everyday resistance provide a heuristic device to understand the nuanced decision-making processes underlying such livelihoods. Ethnographic data reveal how Hmong ethnic minority individuals and households augment agricultural livelihoods by navigating new economic opportunities, while also resisting unwanted reliance on the market. Based in Sa Pa district, Lào Cai province, the research in this article identifies three particular diversification strategies—cardamom cultivation, textile trade, and tourism trekking—that currently form the foremost cash component of Hmong livelihoods that are otherwise largely subsistence based. Livelihood decision-making processes among these upland rural dwellers are mediated by a complex and multifaceted social interface involving state policy, the actions of local officials, and ethnically embedded social relations, negotiations, and struggles that, in turn, are shaped by everyday politics. The case points to the value of incorporating such findings into alternative discourses of upland development to support the design of more appropriate livelihood and development policies. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Multidimensional welfare distributions: empirical application to household panel data from Vietnam, Patricia Justino. Applied Economics, Available online: 17 Jun 2011. Abstract: This article explores the empirical application of theoretical multidimensional welfare distribution analysis techniques to real household welfare distributions. The article operationalizes recent conceptual developments in multidimensional distribution theory and assesses their usefulness for the measurement of multidimensional household inequality. The results strongly highlight the importance of bringing nonmonetary aspects of household welfare into the forefront of inequality analysis. Agreement over the various approaches to the measurement of multidimensional inequality entails, however, nontrivial decisions that may limit the practical usefulness of these measures. We suggest that the use of multidimensional inequality ranges and the application of restrictive dominance criteria to multidimensional welfare distributions may open significant scope for further developments in the empirical analysis of multidimensional inequality. Full text available upon request.

National coordination of the JSPS Coastal Marine Science Program in Vietnam. Tran Duc Thanh. in S. Nishida, M. D. Fortes and N. Miyazaki, eds. Coastal Marine Science in Southeast Asia —Synthesis Report of the Core University Program of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science: Coastal Marine Science (2001–2010), pp. 201–209. TERRAPUB 2011. Introduction (1st paragraph): Fostering international cooperation through implementation of cooperative projects among research institutions and foreign counterparts has been considered as a priority task in the globalization of marine research activities in Vietnam. After the country was liberated from France in 1945, initially most cooperation projects focused on baseline studies of marine environmental conditions at the multidisciplinary level including physical, geological, chemical, and biological oceanography in the East Sea and Tonkin Gulf (1960s–1970s). The foreign counterparts in this period mostly came from China, the USA and Russia with several Vietnamese scientists joining research cruises for sampling and analysis, which were conducted primarily by the foreign scientists. Free full text http://www.terrapub.co.jp/onlineproceedings/aos/nishida/pdf/nishida_201.pdf.

rise in self-funded students is largely the result of Vietnam’s increasingly affluent middle-class choosing overseas study over a domestic tertiary system that is lacking in both capacity and quality. A key consequence of this rise in international student mobility is the trend for Vietnamese students to remain abroad post graduation. This trend poses significant challenges for the Vietnamese government which must develop policy that will allow the country to capitalize on the many positive consequences associated with increased international student mobility, while minimizing any potential negative ramifications. This chapter considers the factors that have led to the growth in overseas study in Vietnam and examines various policy responses that aim to manage international student mobility. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Revisiting Exports and Foreign Direct Investment in Vietnam. Thanh, Vo Tri; Duong, Nguyen Anh. Asian Economic Policy Review, June 2011, v. 6, iss. 1, pp. 112-31. Abstract: Since 1986, Vietnam has undertaken various reform measures in the trade and foreign investment area. This paper finds significant contributions of world trade, and competitiveness and liberalization effects to Vietnam's export growth over the period 1997-2008. Vietnam's exports became more competitive and better complemented the import demand of Vietnam's trade partners. In addition, dynamic comparative advantage became evident in many products, but significant room remains for improving export competitiveness. Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows also increased and helped stimulate Vietnam's exports. FDI inflows have increased in both the short- and long-term, yet are only of a limited magnitude. This necessitates more effective measures to enhance the linkages between FDI and domestic enterprises. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1748-3131.2011.01187.x/pdf.

Risk Management Networks of Ethnic Minorities in Viet Nam. Fischer, Isabel; Beuchelt, Tina; Dufhues, Tom; Buchenrieder, Gertrud. Asia-Pacific Development Journal, December 2010, v. 17, iss. 2, pp. 93-118. Abstract: The utilization of informal social networks is an important risk management strategy of vulnerable households in South-East Asia. To gain insight on this issue, a social network analysis (SNA) was implemented to assess risk management networks of ethnic minority farm households in the northern uplands of Viet Nam. The results from the analysis suggest that kinship relations and the level of wealth play an essential role in enabling basic network services to function. This paper also points out that effective networks require investments to fulfil the requested mutual obligations and that subsequently, social networks among poor farmers are relatively limited. The findings of the analysis show, not surprisingly, that networks cannot completely buffer severe shocks. Consequently, policy measures to reduce the costs of investing in social capital of poor farmers as well as improved access to appropriate social security systems are essential. These findings are applicable to other upland areas of South-East Asia. Free full text http://www.unescap.org/pdd/publications/apdj_17_2/4_Fishcher_Beuchelt_Dufhues_Buchenrieder.pdf.

Social work and policy transfer: Reflections on introducing vocational qualifications in Vietnam. Irene Stevens, Raymond Taylor, Nguyen Thi Thai Lan. International Social Work September 2011 vol. 54 no. 5, pp.647-661. Abstract: This paper compares contemporary developments in social work in Vietnam with the United Kingdom (UK). Three areas of comparison form the focus of the paper: the role of the paraprofessional, the potential of vocational education and the different expectations of social work in the 21st century. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The determinants of the Vietnamese economics competitiveness: A lesson for developing countries. Van Ha NGUYEN and Xavier GALIEGUE. Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Working Papers No. 12, 2011. Abstract: Vietnam has been very successful for the last two decades, since the adoption of “Doi moi” in 1986. Over the last two decades, an economic growth rate in Vietnam has been one of the highest worldwide (with GDP growing by respectively 8% per year). The increase of the Vietnamese share of world trade is the highest of all major Asian exporters (including China) since the mid-1990s. « Why is Vietnam so competitive with respect to other Asian exporters? » This paper considers Vietnam's competitiveness, its definition and measurement. The major characteristic of East Asian economic development is rapid industrialization. It has been accelerated by export orientation and a specialization pattern that has evolved from simple (ie garment, shoes, toys, etc.) to more sophisticated products. Countries have used their comparative advantage to catch up industrialized economies. According to Okita (1985) the great diversity among the Asian
nations in their stages of development and resource endowments “works to facilitate the flying geese pattern of shared development as each is able to take advantage of its distinctiveness to develop with a supportive division of labour.” The “flight of wild geese” image has acquired different meanings over time. It was first used to describe the life cycle of industries (Akamatsu, 1962); it has been successively extended to the evolution of industrial structure, then to the shift of industries from one country to another. According to this latter meaning, as Japan and the other East Asian countries leave industries in which they have no comparative advantage, later industrialized countries are able to move in these industries and join the “flying geese” formation. The textile & clothing industry offers an example of the shift of industries in Asia, from Japan to Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan etc. then to Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand etc. and now to China, Vietnam, etc. In this paper, we also analyze Vietnam's potential for sustainable growth and international integration. Our paper draws on international foreign trade databases and uses traditional indicators of trade specialization and competition. Free full text http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/NguyenVanHa/THE%20DETERMINANTS%20OF%20THE%20VIETNAM%20ECONOMICS%20COMPETITIVENESS.pdf.

The Effects of Economic Crises on Families Caring for Children: Understanding and Reducing Long-term Consequences. Parama Sigurdsen, Samantha Berger, Jody Heymann. Development Policy Review. Oxford: Sep 2011. Vol. 29, Iss. 5; p. 547 Abstract: This article examines case examples of some of the consequences for children and families of average and severe economic and social disruptions, including the economic losses and failure of social supports during the transition after perestroika in Russia, the experience of poor families during economic retrenchment in Mexico, the massive asset loss in the capital of Honduras after a natural disaster, the dramatic economic contraction in Vietnam after the war, and the impact of the AIDS pandemic on both economic and social institutions in Botswana. It then considers social supports which have made a difference in acting as a buffer against the effect of economic downturns, drawing on primary data from in-depth interviews with 2,000 families around the world, survey data on 55,000 households, and analysis of policies in all 192 members of the United Nations. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-7679.2011.00546.x/pdf.

The effects of industrialization on economic and employment structure changes in Vietnam during economic transition. Tran Quang Tuyen and Doan Thanh Tinh. VNU Journal of Science, Economics and Business 27 (2011) 82-93. Abstract. This paper presents the effects of industrialization on economic and employment structure during the economic transition in Vietnam. Although Vietnam has made a significant progress in changing economic structure in which the share of agricultural contribution in GDP has dramatically decreased over the last two decades, the employment structure changed slowly. Consequently, majority of labour force is still in the agricultural sector. The economic reform has failed to shift redundant workers away from agricultural sector since most of the country’s investment has been allocated to capital-intensive industries. Therefore, policy adjustments are needed to absorb more redundant workers from agricultural sector and improve living standards for rural households. Full text http://tainguyenso.vnu.edu.vn/jspui/bitstream/123456789/14092/1/Bai%20Tran%20Quang%20Tuyen.pdf.

The effects of price on household demand for food and calories in poor countries: are our databases giving reliable estimates? John Gibson, Scott Rozelle. Applied Economics. London: 2011. Vol. 43, Iss. 27; p. 4021. Abstract: Food price policy relies heavily on estimated price elasticities of food demand to help balance the nutritional and economic objectives in poor countries. Economists use either unit values (ratios of household expenditure to quantity purchased) or community prices (enumerated from vendors in local markets) as proxies for market prices when estimating price elasticities with household survey data. Biases are believed to result from using unit values, due to measurement error and quality effects, but evidence on this issue is lacking and even less is known about community prices. This article provides an empirical evidence from Vietnam, which suggests that economists should exercise caution when estimating price elasticities from household surveys. A 14-food demand system is estimated alternatively with unit values or community prices, and the elasticity of calories with respect to rice prices is calculated. This elasticity is more than twice as large (−0.54 versus −0.22)
when community prices are used rather than unit values. Hence, conclusions about the nutritional effects of rice price increases appear sensitive to data choices made by economists. More generally, this discrepancy suggests that the household survey databases commonly used by economists may not provide reliable estimates. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The Impact of Training on Firm Performance in a Transitional Economy: Evidence from Vietnam. Nguyen Ngoc Thang & Truong Quang. Research and Practice in Human Resource Management, 2011, 19(1), 11-24. Abstract: Although research on the relationship between training and firm performance in developed country abounds, little has been done hitherto to estimate the impact of training on firm performance in an emerging country context. This study is among the first research to examine the level at which employers perceived and utilised training as a means to improve employee productivity and organisational performance in transitional economies. The data were collected from 196 companies across industries to measure the level of impact of training on firm performance in Vietnam. The research results indicate that manufacturing companies that implemented training in 2006 had increased sales and productivity, while training had a non statistically significant effect on sales and productivity of non manufacturing companies. In addition, manufacturing companies that implemented training programmes after 2005 achieved an annual increase in both sales and productivity between 2005 and 2006, but there is no statistically significant effect on 2005 and 2006 percentage change in sales and productivity of non manufacturing companies if these companies provided training after 2005. Based on these findings practical implications for managers and suggestions for future research are discussed. Free full text http://rphrm.curtin.edu.au/2011/issue1/vietnam.html.

Understanding the ‘four directions of travel’: qualitative research into the factors affecting recruitment and retention of doctors in rural Vietnam. S Witter, BT Ha, B Shengelia, and M Vujicic. Hum Resour Health, August 17, 2011; 9(1): 20. ABSTRACT: BACKGROUND: Motivation and retention of health workers, particularly in rural areas, is a question of considerable interest to policy-makers internationally. Many countries, including Vietnam, are debating the right mix of interventions to motivate doctors in particular to work in remote areas. The objective of this study was to understand the dynamics of the health labour market in Vietnam, and what might encourage doctors to accept posts and remain in-post in rural areas. METHODS: This study forms part of a labour market survey which was conducted in Vietnam in November 2009 to February 2010. The study had three stages. This article describes the findings of the first stage - the qualitative research and literature review, which fed into the design of a structured survey (second stage) and contingent valuation (third stage). For the qualitative research, three tools were used - key informant interviews at national and provincial level (6 respondents); in-depth interviews of doctors at district and commune levels (11 respondents); and focus group discussions with medical students (15 participants). RESULTS: The study reports on the perception of the problem by national level stakeholders; the motivation for joining the profession by doctors; their views on the different factors affecting their willingness to work in rural areas (including different income streams, working conditions, workload, equipment, support and supervision, relationships with colleagues, career development, training, and living conditions). It presents findings on their overall satisfaction, their ranking of different attributes, and willingness to accept different kinds of work. Finally, it discusses recent and possible policy interventions to address the distribution problem. CONCLUSIONS: Four typical 'directions of travel' are identified for Vietnamese doctors - from lower to higher levels of the system, from rural to urban areas, from preventive to curative health and from public to private practice. Substantial differences in income from formal and informal sources all reinforce these preferences. While non-financial attributes are also important for Vietnamese doctors, the scale of the difference of opportunities presents a considerable policy challenge. Significant salary increases for doctors in hard-to-staff areas are likely to have some impact. However, addressing the differentials is likely to require broader market reforms and regulatory measures. Free provisional PDF http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/pdf/1478-4491-9-20.pdf.

developing economy, using an applied general equilibrium model linked to a household survey database. The burden of the tax, applied primarily to fossil fuels, is passed forward by non-traded industries and backward by industries selling into the world market. It causes efficiency and competitiveness losses equivalent to those of a real exchange rate appreciation, and since export industries are in general highly labor-intensive, is regressive and thus poverty-increasing. The budget-neutral use of increased tax revenues to raise spending on anti-poverty programs can offset most of the losses of poor households, but does not create new jobs. The extent of overall losses and their distribution is sensitive to some parameters, such as labor supply response, about which little is currently known in a developing-country context. Free full text http://www.aae.wisc.edu/pubs/sps/pdf/stpap561.pdf.

Vietnam’s energy sector: A review of current energy policies and strategies. Tien Minh Do, Deepak Sharma. Energy Policy, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 30 August 2011. Abstract: Since the introduction of market-oriented economy in 1986, Vietnam has made noticeable socio-economic progress. In this progress, the energy sector has played a vital role. This role is likely to deepen in the years to come as Vietnam strives to achieve even higher levels in economic progress. Such deepening in the role of energy, this paper argues, will heighten concerns about the security of energy supply, and economic, environmental, social and political consequences. In order to address these issues, Vietnam has over the last decade, developed a suite of energy policies. A deeper review of these policies suggests that they are typified by economic-growth orientation, exclusive focus on a single-sector or single issue, and largely neglect the significance of cross-sectoral and cross-thematic issues arising from the interdependencies between energy, economy, and the polity at large. The existing energy policy settings are, therefore, unlikely to be able to provide a satisfactory redress to the challenges noted above. This paper provides an overview of the current energy policies with a view to identify areas where further policy effort is needed in order to facilitate a sustainable development of the Vietnamese energy sector. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301421511006070.

Vulnerability and poverty dynamics in Vietnam. By: Imai, Katsushi S.; Gaiha, Raghav; Kang, Woojin. Applied Economics, 10/1/2011, Vol. 43 Issue 25, p3603-3618, 16p, 5 Charts, 4 Graphs; Abstract: Drawing upon the Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey (VHLSS) data that cover the whole of Vietnam in 2002 and 2004, ex ante measures of vulnerability are constructed. These are then compared with static indicators of poverty (i.e. the headcount ratio in a particular year). Detailed analyses of the panel data show that (i) in general, vulnerability in 2002 translates into poverty in 2004; (ii) vulnerability of the poor tends to perpetuate their poverty and (iii) sections of the nonpoor but vulnerable slip into poverty. Durable reduction in poverty is conditional on (i) accurate identification of the vulnerable, (ii) their sources of vulnerability and (iii) design of social safety nets that would enable the vulnerable to reduce risks and cope better with rapid integration of markets with the larger global economy. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply. Free discussion paper version, University of Manchester, UK, 2007 http://www.socialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/disciplines/economics/research/discussionpapers/pdf/EDP-0708.pdf.

Workplace Dispute Resolution in Vietnam: Perspectives on a Developing Nation. Richard D Fincher. Dispute Resolution Journal. New York: May-Jul 2011. Vol. 66, Iss. 2; pg. 11, 5 pgs. Abstract: Since the end of the US-Vietnam war in 1975, the political and economic relationship between the two countries has evolved from bitterness to friendship. The US Agency for International Development (USAID) is an independent federal agency that helps developing countries by supporting economic growth, agriculture and trade; global health; and democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance. Since 2001, USAID has provided various kinds of assistance in Vietnam. In 2009, the agency expanded the scope of its technical assistance to include an industrial relations project titled "Supporting Implementation of Labor Laws and Promotion of Sound Industrial Relations in Vietnam". This project encompassed several themes: dispute resolution, labor inspection, collective bargaining, and industrial relations education. There are currently around 100 part-time mediators who have been trained by the International Labor Organization and USAID, with differing levels of skills and experience. Vietnam should establish a Labor Arbitration Center, with regional offices and credible administrative procedures, transparency and trained arbitrators. Full text is available upon request.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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A scenario-based approach to assess Ho Chi Minh City’s urban development strategies against the impact of climate change. Harry Storch and Nigel K. Downes. Cities, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 9 August 2011. Abstract: This paper presents an approach to quantifying current and future city-wide flood risks to Ho Chi Minh City. Here urban planning scenarios linking urban development and climate change explore the main driving forces of future risk. According to the redefined role of urban environmental planning in times of climate change, spatial planning needs to go beyond traditional planning approaches to bring together, draw upon and integrate individual policies for urban adaptation strategies for land-use planning. Our initial research results highlight that the spatiotemporal processes of urban development, together with climate change, are the central driving forces for climate-related impacts. The influence of planned urban developments to the year 2025 on future flood risk is seen to be significantly greater than that of projected sea-level rise to the year 2100. These results aid local decision making in an effort to better understand the nature of future climate change risks to the city and to identify the main driver of urban exposure. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S026427511100093X.

Applying "Theory Of Reasoned Action" To Explain Inter-Firm Cooperation: Empirical Evidence From Vietnamese Enterprises. Nguyen Phuc Nguyen. International Journal of Management and Information Systems. Littleton: Third Quarter 2011. Vol. 15, Iss. 3; p. 61 (21 pages) Abstract: Inter-firm cooperation has received attention in recent years due to its benefit. However, little has been studied about the role of behavior intention and process by which affects cooperation behavior. From studying influencing factors which come from environmental and organizational sets, the paper will draw clear picture about the determinants of inter-firm cooperation. Based on research survey from Vietnamese enterprises, the results have confirmed the mediator role of cooperation intention which is the heart of theory of reasoned action (TRA) in making inter-firm cooperation. The results also revealed the effect of partner’s trust and government direction on this type of relationship. The interesting finding has stemmed from the role of relationship benefit and social influences on inter-firm behavior. The former and the later have impacted on inter-firm behavior in different ways. Free full text http://journals.cluteonline.com/index.php/IJMIS/article/view/4643.

Can Tourism Save the Vietnamese Dong? Working paper. Bechter, Clemens and Jentzsch, Stefan (July 30, 2011). Abstract: In 2011, Vietnam has devalued its currency three times. For years, the Vietnamese Dong (VND) has been weakening against the Euro and the U.S. dollar as well as currencies of neighboring countries. Confidence in the VND is low – even within Vietnam; locals prefer to invest in real estate, gold or the U.S. dollar. Despite several devaluations, Vietnam remains vulnerable to inflation and is facing a widening trade deficit. Inflation may reach 14% in 2011. Imports grew 30% in 2010 and the trade deficit of 2011 may widen to US$ 5 billion. Value-added production is low due to the high import content of Vietnam's exports which has prompted policymakers to shift focus from textile and footwear output to tourism. In the coming five years the tourism and travel industry could become the country's major foreign exchange earner. There has been recent significant growth in tourist arrivals, although their share of total GDP remains modest. The authors analyzed
the strength and weaknesses as well as opportunity and threats of Vietnam’s tourism industry. The research was based on in-depth interviews and may be summarized as Grounded Theory (GT) approach. The findings suggest that community based tourism and cooperation within the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) offer great potential. Inbound-wise the Russian segment looks very promising. Major investment in the development of human resources is essential to complement infrastructure investments in hotels, resorts, casinos etc. Competing against neighboring countries such as Thailand and China will require a service attitude that Vietnam has been lacking so far. Tourism has the potential to bring the trade balance back into equilibrium either by making foreign independent travelers stay on average 3 days longer or by increasing the number of incoming tourists by 50%. In both scenarios the tourism industry is still underutilized compared to Malaysia or Thailand. Available at SSRN http://ssrn.com/abstract=1898887.

Child injury prevention in Vietnam: achievements and challenges. S Boufous, M Ali, H Nguyen, M Stevenson, R Ivers, C P Viet, A Nguyen. Paper prepared for the IEA World Congress of Epidemiology, 7–11 August 2011, Edinburgh International Conference Centre, Edinburgh, Scotland. Abstract: -- Introduction As with other South Asian countries, injury is becoming a leading cause of death and morbidity among children in Vietnam. In response, government and non-government agencies in Vietnam have combined efforts during the last decade to develop and implement various child injury prevention strategies and programs. This study provides an overview of the burden of child injury, reviews relevant prevention strategies, and makes recommendations for child injury prevention in Vietnam. -- Methods A review of available information related to child injury prevention in Vietnam, including peer reviewed studies, policy documents and reports from various sources, was conducted using commonly utilised databases (Medline, CINAHL, Cochrane Library, etc). Relevant grey literature was also solicited during semi-structured interviews with representatives of key stakeholders, including Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor, WHO, UNICEF, Vietnam Red Cross, Counterpart International, Hanoi School of Public Health. -- Results Drowning is the leading cause of fatal injury in Vietnamese children followed by road traffic crashes, falls, poisoning, burns and animal bites. There have been notable achievements in terms of increasing awareness of injury facing children at all levels in the community and developing a sound injury prevention policy framework in a relatively short period of time. However, much needs to be done to implement necessary environmental and legislative changes, strengthen child injury surveillance and injury prevention research; and to improve access to health services. -- Conclusion The insight into the experience of Vietnam could benefit other low and middle income countries with a high burden of child injury. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Cooperative Behavior, Social Capital and Development: Evidence from the Mekong River Delta in Vietnam. Pham Khanh Nam. Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA), Research report No. 2010-RR11. Abstract: In developing communities, good governance is recognized as a key tool to tackle climate change and drive rural development. To shed light on this important issue, a new EEPSEA study from Vietnam has looked at two ‘good governance’ practices – leveraging social influences and social capital– to see whether they are appropriate policy tools for the country. The research is the work of a team led by Pham Khanh Nam from the Faculty of Development Economics at the University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City and the Environmental Economics Unit at the University of Gothenburg. -- The study finds that social influence has a significant and substantial effect on the amount of money people are willing to contribute to a specific rural development project. This shows that using social influence is a good way to facilitate policy implementation. The study also finds that, in general, social capital at the individual level does not affect how farmers adapt to the climate change challenge. In Vietnam, there are only limited resources available to tackle development challenges. This study shows how good governance can be best used to address existing financial and human resource constraints. Free full text http://idl-bnc.idrc.ca/dspace/bitstream/10625/46204/1/132696.pdf.

Corporate social responsibility: A comparison between Vietnam and China. K. C. John Wei. International Journal of Governance, vol. 1 (2011) Iss. 1 (July). First paragraph: The anti-sweatshop movement has targeted corporations for allowing sub-standard Labour conditions in the factories that produce their brand-name merchandise. Underlying this campaign is the notion that corporations should be held to socially responsible
standards. Many major Western multinationals have responded, in self-protection, by drawing up corporate codes of conduct. But despite the anti-sweatshop movement’s success in this, Labour standards in the export sector of the developing world continue to decline. We continue to witness a “race to the bottom”, in which countries of the South lowers their own Labour standards and wages in the Labour-intensive export industries in order to remain competitive and provide a “good” investment climate for foreign investors (Greider, 2001; Ross & Chan, 2002). This in turn sometimes drives down Labour standards of the corresponding industries in the developed world (Esbenshade, 2001; Kwong, 1998; Ross, forthcoming). Free full text http://www.ijgmagzine.com/index.php/ijg/article/viewFile/11/10.

Development of Automotive Industries in Vietnam with Improving the Network Capability. Truong Thi Chi Binh, Nguyen Manh Linh. In How to enhance innovation capability with internal and external sources. Edited By Patarapong Intarakumnerd, June 2011. Abstract: As a latecomer, the automobile industry started in Vietnam just 20 years ago. Although the country has made great efforts to promote the industry, the production scale is relatively small, with only 5,000-7,000 units per year by introducing backward and simple production, painting and welding technologies. The localization rate of the automobile industry remains low, currently only reaching about 5-10%. More than 90% of automobile parts and components are imported from parent companies or foreign suppliers. While bulky seats and some labor-intensive parts have been localized, the most valuable parts are imported. Compared with the motorcycle industry, the market size of the automobile industry in Vietnam is smaller and the growth rate is lower, which limits the strategic options to overcome obstacles. Trucks and buses have a higher localization rate than passenger cars since local firms can supply parts for passenger cabins and storage cabins. The linkage of local businesses to large manufacturers is very limited. Although MNCs in the automotive sector entered the Vietnam market nearly two decades ago, most of the important parts still are imported from other branches of parent companies or from foreign suppliers. This report seeks to understand the innovative activities, internal and external factors and the obstacles for firms to lay a foundation for the automotive industry in Vietnam. Free full text http://www.eria.org/pdf/research/y2010/no9/ALLFILE-Final.pdf#page=297.

Disability from Japanese encephalitis in Cambodia and Viet Nam. Susan L. Hills, Nguyen Van Cuong, Sok Touch, Hoang Hong Mai, Sann Chan Soeung, Tran Thi Huong Lien, Chham Samnang, Ly Sovann, Pham Van Diu, Luc Duy Lac, Seng Heng, Vu Minh Hung, John J. Grundy, Chea Huch, Penny Lewthwaite, Tom Solomon, and Julie A. Jacobson. Journal of Tropical Pediatrics. 2011; 57(4):241-244. Abstract: A cohort of Japanese encephalitis (JE) survivors in Cambodia and Viet Nam were assessed at least 4 months after hospital discharge in order to understand the extent of disability after JE. We used a simple assessment tool which focuses on the impact on daily life. In total, 64 disability assessments were conducted: 38 in Cambodia and 26 in Viet Nam. In Cambodia, 4 (11%) children had severe sequelae, suggesting the children would likely be dependent, 15 (39%) had moderate sequelae and 17 (45%) had mild sequelae. In Viet Nam, two (8%) persons had severe sequelae, five (19%) had moderate sequelae and eight (31%) had mild sequelae. In many JE-endemic areas there are no multi-disciplinary teams with sophisticated equipment to assess patients after JE disease. This assessment tool can assist with patient management and generate data to support the need for programmes to prevent disease and improve outcomes for survivors. Full text http://tropej.oxfordjournals.org/content/57/4/241.full.pdf

Do Recruitment Ties Affect Wages? An Analysis using Matched Employer-Employee Data from Vietnam. Anna Folke Larsen, John Rand, Nina Torm. Review of Development Economics. Oxford: Aug 2011. Vol. 15, Iss. 3; p. 541. Abstract: This paper examines the extent to which recruitment ties affect individual wage outcomes in small and medium scale manufacturing firms. Based on a unique matched employer–employee dataset from Vietnam the authors find that there is a significant positive wage premium associated with obtaining a job through an informal contact, when controlling for standard determinants of wage compensation. Moreover, they show that the mechanism through which informal contacts affect wages depends on the type of recruitment tie used. The findings are robust across location, firm size categories, and different worker types. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9361.2011.00626.x/full.
Does Parental Disability Matter to Child Education? Evidence from Vietnam. Nguyen Viet Cuong, Daniel Mont. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, no. 5743, August 2011. Abstract: This paper examines the effect of parental disability on school enrollment and educational performance for children in the 2006 Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey. Results from instrumental-variables regressions indicate that children of parents with a disability have a lower enrollment rate in primary and secondary school of about 8 percentage points: 73 percent compared with 81 percent. However, the association of parental disability with educational performance is small and not statistically significant. The conclusion of the paper is that to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary school as well as increased coverage of secondary education, the government should have policies and programs that either directly support the education of children with disabled parents and/or have policies that support disabled adults, thus lessening the incentive for their children not to attend school. Free full text http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/08/01/000158349_20110801083520/Rendered/PDF/WPS5743.pdf.

Evaluation Outcomes: Capacity Building for Emergency Medical Services along National Highway No. 5 in Hai Duong Province, Vietnam - October 2009. P Bollinger, S Baird. Prehospital and Disaster Medicine. Solana Beach: May 2011. Vol. 26, Iss. S1; p. s95 (2 pages). Abstract: -- Background: This project was designed to reduce secondary injury of road traffic accidents (RTA) victims in Hai Duong (HDRC) province in Vietnam in collaboration with the Red Cross with funding from Medical Teams International (MTI). The approximate number of beneficiaries was 601,820, including the 1,820 direct beneficiaries who received first responder training and emergency treatment. The 600,000 indirect beneficiaries is the population along a 45km corridor of National Highway #5 crossing Hai Duong province. -- Methods: In late October 2009 an evaluation team from MTI reviewed the training of Vietnam Red Cross volunteers in Hai Duong province. The pre-evaluation activities (review of patient contact log books and patient interviews) were conducted by the MTI-Vietnam staff. 58 trained lead volunteers and 20 community members participated in this evaluation. Additionally 92 patients who had been treated by the volunteers were also interviewed. -- Results: Findings included: a) the volunteers who received training stated an increase in their confidence to respond to emergencies, b) a 65% increase of Red Cross volunteers, c) a increased awareness of EMS within the province, d) greater community engagement at emergency scenes, and e) broad respect from the community towards the HDRC volunteers. -- Discussion: Considerations for the future include: a) development of a continuing education program, b) increase of supplies to volunteers, c) more training involving multi casualty incidents, d) development of a communications protocol between volunteers and other healthcare providers and e) limit CPR training to drowning related events. -- Conclusion: The outcomes exceeded the planned goals: knowledge and retention of course materials and skills is good, confidence levels of volunteers increased and those that are involved in emergency events in Hai Duong province are safer. The profile of EMS and first responders as a critical component of community health has been measurably raised among key stakeholders and the community. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Foreign Direct Investment in Real Estate Projects and Macroeconomic Instability. Thanh Nga Nguyen. ASEAN Economic Bulletin. Singapore: Apr 2011. Vol. 28, Iss. 1; p. 74 (23 pages) Abstract: One of the main determinants of Vietnam's high economic growth for more than two decades has been its capability to attract foreign direct investment (FDI). FDI has contributed to economic growth through increasing manufacturing exports, creating employment and enhancing total factor productivity. However, this paper argues that the inflow of FDI into the country's real estate and construction sectors stimulated by the property market bubble has contributed to macroeconomic instability. Although the government's policy space to deal with these effects is limited, it should enhance its supervision and encourage FDI into labour-intensive manufacturing sectors. Full text http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/asean_economic_bulletin/v028/28.1.nguyen.pdf.

Gendered networks and migration decision-making in Northern Vietnam. Lan Anh Hoang. Social & Cultural Geography, Volume 12, Issue 5, 2011 , pages 419-434. Abstract: This paper examines the gender aspect of migrant networks, particularly the different ways networks are expected to assist men's or women's migration during migration decision-making processes. Through the case study of a farming community in Northern
Vietnam, it shows that migrant networks are not gender neutral and, more importantly, men and women capitalise on different functions of networks to facilitate their migratory endeavours. Whilst men tend to be connected to relatively more extended networks primarily for practical support, women are more likely to be tied to family networks, which provide them with not just information and practical support but also social protection. These gender-specific expectations and uses of migrant networks have important implications for men’s and women’s mobility. The paper provides new insights into the way migration choices are made by men and women and at the same time underscores the importance of understanding migrant networks in researching migration. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**International comparative study of 3R and waste management policy developments.** Shin-ichi Sakai, Hideto Yoshida, Yasuhiro Hirai, Misuzu Asari, et al. The Journal of Material Cycles and Waste Management. Dordrecht: Aug 2011. Vol. 13, Iss. 2; p. 86 Abstract: Reduce, reuse, and recycle (3R) policies form the basis of waste management and global warming countermeasures globally, so we conducted a comparative study of 3R and waste management policies in the European Union (EU), USA, Korea, Japan, China, and Vietnam. An international workshop for 3R and waste management policymakers was held in Kyoto, Japan, and a bibliographic survey was also conducted to collect data. 3R policies are clearly given priority in the hierarchy of waste management in every country studied. Thermal recovery, which includes power generation from waste heat and methane gas collected from organic waste, is also a priority; this is consistent with the increased use of countermeasures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In the EU, waste management is characterized by practical and effective 3R policies through the development of realistic regulations and by the policymakers’ desire to simplify management systems. The policy ideal in China, however, is the development of a circular economy that targets reductions in the amount and hazardousness of waste. Limits on the number of final disposal sites, strategies for procuring resources, and GHG emission countermeasures are closely linked with 3R policies, and further development of 3R policies in parallel with such issues is expected. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/r43l6424w0883721/.

**Labour–management relationships in transitional economies: convergence or divergence in Vietnam and Indonesia?** Ngan Collins, Alan Nankervis, Sari Sitalaksmi & Malcolm Warner. Asia Pacific Business Review, Volume 17, Issue 3, 2011, pages 361-377. Abstract: Western labour–management relationships (both formal and informal), their respective rights, obligations and negotiating frameworks, have been well-established, understood, and supported by a complex set of associated legislation for decades. However, in many developing countries, including Vietnam and Indonesia, historical, socio-cultural, ideological or political factors constrained the development of such formalized employee relations until very recent times. This paper explores the different paths taken by Vietnam and Indonesia towards a modern employee relations system, with its concomitant positive and adverse consequences. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Looking for avian influenza in remote areas: A case study in Northern Vietnam.** K. Trevennec, V. Chevalier, V. Grosbois, J.M. Garcia, H. Ho Thu, C. Berthouly–Salazar, J.S.M. Peiris and F. Roger. Acta Tropica, Article in Press, Uncorrected Proof, Available online 6 August 2011. Abstract: Epidemiological surveys of avian influenza infections rarely focus on backyard poultry systems in remote locations because areas with low levels of poultry production are considered to have little influence on the emergence, re-emergence, persistence or spread of avian influenza viruses. In addition, routine disease investigations in remote areas often are neglected due to the lower availability and relatively high cost of veterinary services there. A bank of avian sera collected in 2005 from ethnic minority households in Ha Giang province (Northern Vietnam), located on the Chinese border, was analysed to estimate the seroprevalence of avian influenza virus (AIV) during a H5N1 epidemic and to identify potential risk factors for infection. The results suggest that the chicken population had been exposed to AIV with a seroprevalence rate of 7.2% [1.45; 10.5]. The H5 and H9 subtypes were identified with a seroprevalence of 3.25% [2.39; 4.11] and 1.12% [0.61; 1.63], respectively. The number of inhabitants in a village and the distance to the main national road were the most influential risk factors of AIV infection, and high-risk clusters were located along the road leading to China. These two results suggest a virus spread through commercial poultry exchanges and a possible introduction of AIV from southern China. Remote areas
and small-scale farms may play an under-estimated role in the spread and persistence of AIV. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Making Class and Gender: (Market) Socialist Enframing of Traders in Ho Chi Minh City. Ann Marie Leshkowich. American Anthropologist. Washington: Jun 2011. Vol. 113, Iss. 2; p. 277 Abstract: Over the past four decades, petty traders in Bˆen Tha`nh market (Ho Chi Minh City) and Vietnamese officials have experienced and propelled rapid economic, political, and social transformations entailing reconfigurations of class and gender. Exploring the co-construction of class and gender through state and individual narratives and performances, I here make three contributions to anthropological scholarship on socialism and late, post-, and market socialism. First, I highlight the importance of associative gendered logics to government efforts to deploy new, morally compelling notions of class. Second, I demonstrate that socialist constructions of gender and class are not simply imposed on resistant subjects but also internalized as meaningful structures of sentiment, even among those otherwise ambivalent toward state authority. Third, I reveal that state socialist logics provide fertile ground for those enframed to exercise strategic essentialism (Spivak 1995) that affords symbolic or material advantage, even as it might also reproduce marginality. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1548-1433.2011.01330.x/pdf.

More than just trees: Assessing reforestation success in tropical developing countries. Hai Dinh Le, Carl Smith, John Herbohn and Stephen Harrison. Journal of Rural Studies, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 6 August 2011. Abstract: Rural communities in many parts of the tropics are dependent of forests for their livelihoods and for environmental services. Forest resources in the tropics have declined rapidly over the past century and therefore many developing countries in the tropics have reforestation programs. Although reforestation is a long-term process with long-term benefits, existing evaluations of the success of these programs tends to focus on short-term establishment success indicators. This paper presents a review of reforestation assessment that highlights the need to not only consider short-term establishment success, but also longer-term growth and maturation success, environmental success and socio-economic success. In addition, we argue that reforestation assessment should not be based on success indicators alone, but should incorporate the drivers of success, which encompasses an array of biophysical, socio-economic, institutional and project characteristics. This is needed in order to understand the reasons why reforestation projects succeed or fail and therefore to design more successful projects in future. The paper presents a conceptual model for reforestation success assessment that links key groups of success indicators and drivers. This conceptual model provides the basis for a more comprehensive evaluation of reforestation success and the basis for the development of predictive systems-based assessment models. These models will be needed to better guide reforestation project planning and policy design and therefore assist rural communities in tropical developing countries to alleviate poverty and achieve a better quality of life. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Nationwide shifts in the double burden of overweight and underweight in Vietnamese adults in 2000 and 2005: two national nutrition surveys. Do TP Ha, Edith JM Feskens, Paul Deurenberg, Le B Mai, Nguyen C Khan and Frans J Kok. BMC Public Health 2011, 11:62. Abstract: -- Background: In developing countries, overweight prevalence is increasing while underweight prevalence is still high. This situation is known as the double nutrition burden. Both underweight and overweight are related to increased risk of chronic non-communicable diseases, reduced well-being and quality of life. This study aims to compare the prevalence of overweight and underweight among Vietnamese adults in 2000 and 2005. -- Methods: The study was based on two nationally representative surveys, the National Nutrition Survey 2000 (14,452 subjects) and the National Adult Obesity Survey 2005 (17,213 subjects). Adults aged 25-64 years were sampled to be nationally representative. Multiple multinomial logistic regression analysis was used to investigate the association of underweight and overweight with socio-economic indicators. -- Results: The distribution of BMI across the population and population groups indicated a shift towards higher BMI levels in 2005 as compared to 2000. The nationwide prevalence of overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²) and obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²) was 6.6% and 0.4% respectively in 2005, almost twice the rates of 2000 (3.5% and 0.2%). Using the Asian BMI cut-off of 23 kg/m² the overweight prevalence was 16.3% in 2005 and 11.7% in 2000. In contrast, the underweight prevalence (BMI < 18.5 kg/m²) of 20.9% in 2005 was lower than the rate of 25.0% in 2000. Women were more
likely to be both underweight and overweight as compared to men in both 2000 and 2005. Urban residents were
more likely to be overweight and less likely to be underweight as compared to rural residents in both years. The
shifts from underweight to overweight were clearer among the higher food expenditure levels. -- Conclusions:
The double nutrition burden was clearly present in Vietnam. The distribution of BMI across the population
groups generally indicated a shift towards higher BMI levels in 2005 as compared to 2000. The prevalence of
overweight was increased while the declined level of undernutrition was still high in 2005. The shifts of
underweight to overweight were most obvious among population groups with higher food expenditure levels.

Newborn care and knowledge translation: Perceptions among primary healthcare staff in northern Vietnam.
Leif Eriksson, Nguyen T Nga, Dinh P Hoa, Lars-Åke Persson, Uwe Ewald and Lars Wallin. Implementation
Science 2011, 6:29. Abstract: Background: Nearly four million neonatal deaths occur annually in the world
despite existing evidence-based knowledge with the potential to prevent many of these deaths. Effective
knowledge translation (KT) could help to bridge this know-do gap in global health. The aim of this study was
to explore aspects of KT at the primary healthcare level in a northern province in Vietnam. -- Methods: Six
focus-group discussions were conducted with primary healthcare staff members who provided neonatal care in
districts that represented three types of geographical areas existing in the province (urban, rural, and
mountainous). Recordings were transcribed verbatim, translated into English, and analyzed using content
analysis. -- Results: We identified three main categories of importance for KT. Healthcare staff used several
channels for acquisition and management of knowledge (1), but none appeared to work well. Participants
preferred formal training to reading guideline documents, and they expressed interest in interacting with
colleagues at higher levels, which rarely happened. In some geographical areas, traditional medicine (2) seemed
to compete with evidence-based practices, whereas in other areas it was a complement. Lack of resources, low
frequency of deliveries and, poorly paid staff were observed barriers to keeping skills at an adequate level in the
healthcare context (3). -- Conclusions: This study indicates that primary healthcare staff work in a context that
to some extent enables them to translate knowledge into practice. However, the established and structured
healthcare system in Vietnam does constitute a base where such processes could be expected to work more
effectively. To accelerate the development, thorough considerations over the current situation and carefully
targeted actions are required. Free full text http://www.implementationscience.com/content/pdf/1748-5908-6-
29.pdf.

Physician Shortages in Rural Vietnam: Using a Labor Market Approach to Inform Policy. Marko Vujicic,
Bakhuti Shengelia, Marco Alfano, Ha Bui Thu. Social Science & Medicine, In Press, Accepted Manuscript,
Available online 24 July 2011. Abstract: This paper investigates labor market dynamics for physicians in
Vietnam, paying particular attention to geographic distribution and dual job holding. The analysis is based on a
survey of a random sample of physicians in 3 regions in 2009-10. We found that the labor market for
physicians in Vietnam is characterized by very little movement among both facility levels and geographic areas.
Dual practice is also prominent, with over one-third of physicians holding a second job. After taking account of
the various sources of income for physicians and controlling for key factors, there is a significant wage
premium associated with locating in an urban area. This premium is driven by much higher earnings from dual
job holding rather than official earnings in the primary job. There are important policy implications that
emerge. With such low job turnover rates, policies to increase the number of physicians in rural areas could
focus on initial recruitment. Once in place, physicians tend to remain in their jobs for a very long time. Lastly,
findings from an innovative discrete choice experiment suggest that short-term training and monetary
incentives are the most effective instruments to recruit physicians to work in rural areas. Full text

Potential collusion and trust: Evidence from a field experiment in Vietnam. Torero, Maximo; Viceisza, Angelino.
IFPRI Discussion Paper 01100, June 2011. Abstract: We conduct framed trust games using contract dairy
farmers in Vietnam as first movers to assess the impact of potential collusion on trust. Disaggregated analysis
suggests that female farmers are more likely to trust overall, but are also more responsive to the addition of a
third party and potential collusion. A third party induces them to trust at higher levels, but potential collusion
between the trustee and the third party also induces them to trust at lower levels. Our findings corroborate well with existing studies on gender differences in decision making, which suggest that women’s social preferences are more context-specific than men’s. Free full text http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01100.pdf.

Preliminary Risk Assessment Posed by Formaldehyde Residues in Clothing to Vietnamese Consumers. Van Nam Thai, Akihiro Tokai. Journal of Environmental Protection, 2011, 2, 379-386. ABSTRACT: The assessment of potential health risks posed by formaldehyde in clothing to consumers is of increasing concern worldwide. Because of this, it is necessary to develop an exposure model that can realistically mimic clothes wearing conditions. This study aims to preliminarily develop a health risk assessment model for formaldehyde in clothing, and then to assess the potential health risk posed by formaldehyde in textiles to adults and infants in Vietnam using the model. Finally, this study aims to examine the plausibility of the adopted permissible values for formaldehyde in clothing in Vietnam. In the model, two exposure factors for dermal exposure and overall exposure routes, i.e. sweat type and perspiration area, were considered. The margins of exposure (MOE) were calculated to estimate the health risks from worst case and average exposures. The assessment shows that acute exposure via inhalation can pose health risks to Vietnamese consumers in both cases. In regards to chronic exposure, dermal exposure is about four (for infants) and seven (for adults) times higher than exposure via inhalation, but no risks were found for average exposure. If a MOE of 100 is defined as ‘safe’ used, dermal and total chronic exposure to worst case cause potential risks, whereas no health risks were found for exposure to average case. With the model, the adopted Vietnamese permissible values for formaldehyde in clothing were assessed as not posing a health risk to Vietnamese consumers, hence they are accepted. Full text available upon request.

Primary English language education policy in Vietnam: insights from implementation. Hoa Thi Mai Nguyen. Current Issues in Language Planning, forthcoming, available online: 14 Jul 2011. Abstract: The introduction of English in primary education curricula is a phenomenon occurring in many non-English-speaking countries in Asia, including Vietnam. Recently, the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) in Vietnam issued guidelines for the piloting of an English as a foreign language (EFL) primary curriculum in which English is taught as a compulsory subject from Grade 3; however, there is limited research on the practices required to successfully implement this policy. This paper reports on a study that looked at the implementation of the primary English language policy in terms of the policy goals in two primary schools, one private and the other public, in Hanoi to shed light on the practice of EFL teaching at the primary level in Vietnam. The research was conducted as an exploratory case study with data collected from multiple sources, including classroom observations and interviews with different stakeholders. The results revealed variation in the implementation of primary English education between the two schools, with the private school providing better outcomes. The language planning issues discussed in this study, including teacher supply, training and professional development, resourcing, teaching methods, and materials, have been raised in previous educational research in Vietnam. However, despite being a new start to primary English, the 2010 programme seems to have done little to improve policy implementation in these areas, hindering the effectiveness of teaching English in schools. This study suggests a number of ways the current situation might be improved. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Randomised primary health center based interventions to improve the diagnosis and treatment of undifferentiated fever and dengue in Vietnam. Hoang L Phuong, Tran TT Nga, Phan T Giao, Le Q Hung, Tran Q Binh, Nguyen V Nam, Nico Nagelkerke and Peter J de Vries. BMC Health Services Research 2010, 10:275. Abstract: -- Background: Fever is a common reason for attending primary health facilities in Vietnam. Response of health care providers to patients with fever commonly consists of making a presumptive diagnosis and proposing corresponding treatment. In Vietnam, where malaria was brought under control, viral infections, notably dengue, are the main causes of undifferentiated fever but they are often misdiagnosed and inappropriately treated with antibiotics. This study investigate if educating primary health center (PHC) staff or introducing rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) improve diagnostic resolution and accuracy for acute undifferentiated fever (AUF) and reduce prescription of antibiotics and costs for patients. -- Methods: In a PHC randomized
intervention study in southern Vietnam, the presumptive diagnoses for AUF patients were recorded and confirmed by serology on paired (acute and convalescence) sera. After one year, PHCs were randomized to four intervention arms: training on infectious diseases (A), the provision of RDTs (B), the combination (AB) and control (C). The intervention lasted from 2002 until 2006. -- Results: The frequency of the non-etiologic diagnosis "undifferentiated fever" decreased in group AB, and - with some delay- also in group B. The diagnosis "dengue" increased in group AB, but only temporarily, although dengue was the most common cause of fever. A correct diagnosis for dengue initially increased in groups AB and B but only for AB this was sustained. Antibiotics prescriptions increased in group C. During intervention it initially declined in AB with a tendency to increase afterwards; in B it gradually declined. There was a substantial increase of patients' costs in B. -- Conclusions: The introduction of RDTs for infectious diseases such as dengue, through free market principles, does improve the quality of the diagnosis and decreases the prescription of antibiotics at the PHC level. However, the effect is more sustainable in combination with training; without it RDTs lead to an excess of costs. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/10/275.

Shift-share analysis to measure arrivals competitiveness: the case of Vietnam, 1995-2007. Vu, Jo; Turner, Lindsay. Tourism Economics, Volume 17, Number 4, August 2011 , pp. 803-812(10). Abstract: Vietnam has been recognized as a significant new tourist arrivals market in Asia. This study examines tourist arrivals in Vietnam compared with Thailand and China from 1995 to 2007. Shift-share analysis is used to test whether the emerging Vietnam market is impacting on the growth of the Thai or China markets. The findings indicate that shift-share analysis is a useful management tool when applied to measuring the competitive effect between rival markets. This analysis shows that Vietnam is increasingly specialized in attracting tourists from the Americas, Australasia and Europe, and that it has a competitive advantage over Thailand. It is also interesting to note that, since 1995, Vietnam increasingly has been losing ground in attracting more tourists from neighbouring Asian countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Suicide prevention in Vietnam. Huong Tran Thi Thanh and Duc Pham Thi Minh. in Oxford Textbook of Suicidology and Suicide Prevention, 2011, chapter 112. Abstract: Although the highest suicide rates are currently found in Eastern Europe, the largest number of suicides take place in Asia (Bertolote 2001). Unfortunately, in Vietnam, as in many other Asian countries, national strategies for suicide prevention have not yet been developed. Suicide was among the ten leading causes of death in Vietnam during 2002, and according to the Ministry of Health, the estimated suicide rate (based on hospital records of mortality is 0.98/100,000 (Ministry of Health in Vietnam 2002). The real suicide rate in Vietnam is still unknown, because the number of deaths reported by the Ministry of Health is based only on hospital data. However, most suicides occur outside the hospital system. There is no national system to monitor causes of death, including suicide, in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The impact of oil prices, real effective exchange rate and inflation on economic activity: Novel evidence for Vietnam. Viet Trung Le and Nguyen Thi Thuy Vinh. Discussion Paper No DP2011-09, Research Institute for Economics & Business Administration, Kobe University, March 2011. Abstract: The goal of this paper is to examine the impact of oil prices on Vietnam's economic activity using vector autoregressive (VAR) modeling and cointegration techniques. We use monthly data for the period 1995-2009 and include inflation and the real effective exchange rate as additional determinants of economic activity. We find evidence of a long-run relationship between oil prices, inflation, exchange rate, and economic activity. The results suggest that both oil prices and the real effective exchange rates have strongly significant impact on economic activity. An increase in oil price or depreciation may enhance economic activity. Vietnamese economic activity is influenced more by changes of value of Vietnamese currency than the fluctuations of oil prices. Inflation has a positive impact on economic activity however its impact is not highly significant. This suggests that moderate inflation is helpful rather than harmful to economic activity. Free full text http://www.rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp/academic/ra/dp/English/DP2011-09.pdf.

Vietnam: Water Policy Dynamics under a Post-Cold War Communism. Adam Fforde. Water Alternatives 2010, 3(3): 552-574. ABSTRACT: Vietnam is widely seen as a development success, with rather rapid economic growth and a reported reduced role of the state, yet presents many paradoxes to conventional analytical frameworks. Two of relevance are accounts that stress a combination of a strongly hegemonic regime with weak internal sovereignty in terms of both the internal coherence of the apparat and its interactions with the rest of Vietnamese society, and also associated accounts that deny much role to intentionality in explaining apparent development success. This article will contextualise accounts of political intention and policy development towards water issues in Vietnam through an examination of two main empirics: the evolution of formal policy, understood as documents of the state, as well as of political intention, understood as documents of the ruling Party; and the by now extensive series of ‘active’ case studies that have examined donor as well as other projects in the sector. It will examine the notion, in the contexts suggested by the Vietnamese experience, that attempts to explain Vietnamese water policy, which have shown a tendency to shift away from assumptions that an analytical framework’s categories may easily and without too much risk be extended across different contexts. Rather, comparisons of Vietnamese experience across contexts will tend, if they are to be persuasive, to shift to the use of languages that reflect ontological fluidity, in that what things mean is expected to change over time, without reference to an imagined transcendental and universal ‘real’. In this sense, Vietnamese water policy may be usefully understood as an example of how ‘success gives voice to the local’. Full text available upon request.

Vietnamese Domestic Tourism: An Investigation of Travel Motivations. Huong Thanh Bui & Lee Jolliffe. ASEAS - Austrian Journal of South-East Asian Studies, 2011, 4(1), 10-29. Abstract: This article approaches domestic tourism in Vietnam from a native Asian perspective aiming to examine Vietnamese domestic travel motivations. This quantitative study is based on a self-administered questionnaire to survey 230 Vietnamese domestic travellers. Results highlight the significant roles of the employer sponsoring the trip, family, travel promotion, and favourable weather in determining travel, in addition to their motivations to seek time for leisure and recreation. Moreover, the study detected a perception gap between the tourist’s demand and the travel agent’s supply. The behaviour of Vietnamese domestic travellers reflects the characteristics of a transition economy and reveals certain aspects which are also peculiar to other Asian countries. Free full text http://www.seas.at/aseas/3_2/ASEAS_4_1_A2.pdf.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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Links provided hereunder are accessible on WB intranet only, except otherwise specified. Please contact VDIC librarian at nvu2@worldbank.org if you need full text of the article/s listed below, for private study, scholarship or research purposes. We can only provide full text of those without the note “Fee may apply”.

A new approach to energy-efficient treatment of wastewater produced by the fish industry in Vietnam. N. Trautmann, M. Beier, L.-C. Phan and K.-H. Rosenwinkel. Water Science & Technology Vol 64 No 1 pp 279–285 © IWA Publishing 2011. ABSTRACT: Economic growth in Vietnam in the last few years has brought about an increasing demand for energy and has had a severe environmental impact. Fish processing is one of the fastest-growing industries that discharge organically-polluted wastewater. To counter these environmental problems, new technologies for energy-efficient treatment are needed. By coupling innovative nitrogen removal systems with anaerobic treatment processes, it is possible to realise such technologies. In the present project, a combined deammonification and anaerobic carbon removal system is presented. Special requirements to enable reliable treatment are discussed, taking industrial wastewater characteristics into consideration. To evaluate energetic efficiency, energy balance calculations based on data from a fish-processing factory are made. The determined specific energy consumption and production rates show that energy recovery is possible, even when COD and nitrogen removal efficiencies of over 90% are achieved. Depending on the pre-treatment employed, energy recovery rates ranging from 0.6 to 2.5 kWh/mt raw fish can be reached. Free full text http://www.iwaponline.com/wst/06401/0279/064010279.pdf

Agricultural Value Chains and Commercial Transition in Quang Binh Province, Vietnam. Quan, T.T. Woodford, K.B. ACTA HORTICULTURAE 2011 NUMB 895, page(s) 229-238. Abstract: The transition to commercial agriculture is investigated in two communes from three ecological zones (mountain, plains, coastal) in Quang Binh Province, Vietnam. Field investigations were undertaken in late 2006 - early 2007 and again in 2008. One commune in each zone had good road infrastructure and associated market access, while the other had poor road access and was more distant from the market. Two rural households were selected from poor, medium and high wealth categories in each commune, providing 36 case households. Sixteen of the 36 case households were undertaking some form of value adding through processing or marketing of crops or livestock. Improved production technologies for basic food crops that underpin food security led to the release of production resources which were then allocated to commercial crops. Entrepreneurial households typically reached out towards markets to first sell their own produce and then began trading the outputs of, and in some cases selling inputs to, fellow households, while still retaining their own production activities. These households often gained first mover status through a special skill set, but then had to provide either lower cost or additional services such as credit to protect their competitive advantage. Successful traders typically required access to working capital, some form of transport, access to market information and trading networks. Input supply chains tended to develop in parallel to, but more slowly than output supply chains. Factors influencing supply chain development included road access and telecommunications, plus commodity-specific factors. Rice supply chains were impacted by non-market institutional factors. In the mountain communes, there were particular issues relating to poverty, ethnic minorities, environmental sustainability, land tenure and physical distance from markets. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Antibiotic contaminants in coastal wetlands from Vietnamese shrimp farming. Hoang Thi Thanh Thuy, Le Phi Nga and Tu Thi Cam Loan. Environ Sci Pollut Res Int. 2011 Jul;18(6):835-41. Abstract: BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Shrimp culture has been expanded rapidly in recent years in coastal wetland zone of Vietnam due to favorable natural conditions. However, this industry has caused several negative impacts to the environment. One of the critical issues is the excessive application of antibiotics including human medicines. These chemicals could be released from shrimp ponds and then accumulated and contaminated of the ecosystem. This review article discusses a whole range of findings that address various aspects of the usage, occurrence and potentially environmental risks of antibiotics released from shrimp farming, with emphasis on the South Vietnam coastal wetland. METHODS: The published information on the usage and occurrence of antibiotics in Vietnamese shrimp farming has been reviewed. A global comparison was also carried out. This follows by a brief overview of the transport and fate of these antibiotics in the environment. RESULTS: Several antibiotics commonly used in Vietnamese shrimp culture have been detected in wastewater and sediment of the ponds, as well as in surrounding coastal wetlands, resulting in the existence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. However, their transport and fate could not be clearly defined. CONCLUSIONS: The well-documented accumulation of antibiotics in mud and sediments in Vietnamese coastal wetlands potentially poses serious risks for the local wetland ecosystems. Thus, research on the transport and fate of antibiotics' residues from the ponds into the surrounding environment is urgently needed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Assessing water resources management and development in Northern Vietnam. A. Castelletti, F. Pianosi, X. Quach, and R. Soncini-Sessa. Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 8, 7177–7206, 2011. Abstract: In many developing countries water is a key renewable resource to complement carbon-emitting energy production and support food security in the face of demand pressure from fast-growing industrial production and urbanization. To cope with under-5 going changes, water resources development and management have to be reconsidered by enlarging their scope across sectors and adopting effective tools to analyze current and projected infrastructure potential and operation strategies. In this paper we use system analysis and optimal control to assess the current reservoir operation and planned capacity expansion in the Red River Basin (Northern Vietnam), and to evaluate the potential improvement by the adoption of a more sophisticated information system. Results show that the current operation can only be relatively improved by advanced optimization techniques, while investment should be put into enlarging the system storage capacity and exploiting additional information to inform the operation. Free full text http://www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/8/7177/2011/hessd-8-7177-2011.pdf

Child Schooling, Child Health and Rainfall Shocks: Evidence from Rural Vietnam. Thuan Q. Thai, Evangelos M. Falaris. MPIDR WORKING PAPER WP 2011-011, JULY 2011. Abstract: We study the effect of early life conditions, proxied by rainfall shocks, on schooling and height in rural Vietnam. Our measure of rainfall shock is defined as deviations from the long-run average. Vietnamese rural dwellers engage in rain-fed crop production, mostly irrigated paddy rice. Sufficient annual rainfall could play an important role in the harvest and thus, the household income. Nutritional deficiencies resulting from the household's income shocks may have negative consequences on health. We find that negative rainfall shocks during gestation delays school entry and slows progress through school. In addition, negative rainfall shocks in the third year of life affects adversely both schooling and height. The effects differ by region in ways that reflect differing constraints on families that are shaped by regional economic heterogeneity. We predict that policies that help rural families smooth income shocks will result in increases in human capital and in substantial cumulative returns in productivity over the life course. Free full text http://www.demogr.mpg.de/papers/working/wp-2011-011.pdf.

Environmental Tax Reform in Vietnam: An Ex Ante General Equilibrium Assessment. Dirk Willenbockel. May 2011. Introduction: Vietnam is planning to implement a new environmental tax law in 2012. The objective of the study is to provide a predictive quantitative evaluation of the impacts of the proposed draft environmental tax law of Vietnam on producer and user prices, sectoral output and employment, the commodity structure of demand, government tax revenue, CO2 emissions and household welfare. The assessment is based on a multi-sectoral computable general equilibrium (CGE) model calibrated to a new social accounting matrix that represents the current structure of the Vietnamese economy. The model distinguishes 33 production sectors, 20
household groups, and incorporates a sophisticated treatment of energy substitution in production, allowing substitution possibilities between liquid fuels and gas, coal, and electricity as well as technology switches towards less energy-intensive modes of production. Free full text http://ecomod.net/system/files/EcoMod2011_VietnamEcoTax_0.pdf.

Gender differences in remittance behavior: Evidence from Vietnam. By: Niimi, Yoko; Reilly, Barry. Singapore Economic Review, Jun2011, Vol. 56 Issue 2, p215-237, 23p, 7 Charts; Abstract: This paper investigates the role of gender in remittance behavior among migrants using the 2004 Vietnam Migration Survey data. The gender dimension to remittance behavior has not featured strongly in the existing literature and our findings thus contain novel appeal. In addition, we use estimates from both homoscedastic and heteroscedastic tobit models to decompose the raw gender difference in remittances into treatment and endowment components. We find little evidence that gender differences in remittances are attributable to behavioral differences between men and women, and this finding is invariant to whether the homoscedastic or heteroscedastic tobit is used in estimation. Full text http://www.worldscinet.com/ser/56/preserved-docs/5602/S0217590811004237.pdf.

Getting to the real story: what Vietnamese business people wish foreigners understood about doing business in emerging and transition countries like Vietnam – before they start. Nancy K. Napier, Vuong Quan Hoang. Int. J. Human Resources Development and Management, Vol. 11, Nos. 2/3/4, 2011. Abstract: Knowledge sharing typically examines organisational transfer of knowledge, often from headquarters to subsidiaries, from developed country sites to emerging country sites, or from host to local employees. Yet, recent research, such as Prahalad’s Bottom of the Pyramid, raises the question of reverse transfer of knowledge, or whether knowledge could and should be transferred from local sites to home country sites within an organisation. As several emerging economies build their capabilities in knowledge, research and development, marketing, and the like, it only makes sense to consider what type of knowledge and how to transfer it in reverse or bi-directional manners. This reflection paper takes one step back in the process. Rather than focusing on what knowledge transfer may make sense within an organisation, we consider, through a series of small case studies and experience, what types of knowledge are important for foreigners to know at the initial stages of engagement abroad as they consider whether to do business in an emerging country. Free full text http://www.vietnamica.net/op/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/IJHRDM1102-0406-HOANG.Abstract.pdf.

Impact of climate change and water use to produce rice in the coastal land of the Red River delta: Case study in Kimson District, Ninh Binh Province, Vietnam. Paper prepared for the 25th ICID European Regional Conference, May 16-20, 2011, Groningen, the Netherlands. Nguyen Van Dung, Nguyen Tat Canh, Ngo Thanh Son, Ngo Thi Dung, Nguyen Thi Giang and Vu Thi Xuan. ABSTRACT: In Vietnam 82% of the surface water is used for agriculture, 11% for aquaculture, 5% for the industry and 3% for domestic use. Due to climate change as well as economic development coastal average temperature of Kim Son District was 23.9 ºC in the period 2001-2009. It was 0.8 ºC higher than the average temperature of many years. Besides the monthly average rainfall decreased to 17.1 mm per month compared the with same period of previous years. Above reasons lead to make fresh water from upstream to downstream less and sea water has invaded deeply into the estuary with a high salt concentration to 6.03%±2.08 and the culvert was opened in 2 to 4 hours per day and 4-7 days per month to take water when the salt concentration changed from 0.20 to 1.00%o. Therefore, it is impossible to open the gate to irrigate tellerring during the spring. There are 1,500 hectares of rice area in Kim Son District suffering from drought and salinity, included 180 hectares of rice lost completely and 40 hectares of land must be replanted 1 to 3 times by farmers but the yield was only 1.3 to 1.8 tons/ha, which reduced from 52.5% to 70.3% compared with the yield of un-salt land, meanwhile extra costs for purchasing of young rice and others changed variedly from 2.2 to 17.1 million VND per hectare. Free full text http://www.icid2011.nl/files/pdf/Paper%20I-II-12%20Dung%20et%20al.pdf.

Intentional injury in young people in Vietnam: prevalence and social correlates. Le LC, Blum RW. MEDICC Rev. 2011 Jul;13(3):23-8. Abstract: INTRODUCTION Violent acts in young people constitute one of the most serious forms of violence in any society. Violence by young people in schools, on the streets, and in their families has been documented in many studies worldwide. Homicide and non-fatal assaults involving young
people have been reported as a great global burden of premature death, injury and disability. Adolescents and young people are both the main victims and perpetrators of such violence. In Vietnam, an emerging pattern of health problems in adolescents related to intentional injury and violence is drawing increasingly more attention from government and the public. OBJECTIVE Describe the situation of intentional injury among Vietnamese youth, including risk and protective factors, in order to suggest policy implications. METHODS The 2003 Survey Assessment of Vietnamese Youth was used as a data source, providing a nationally representative sample of 7584 youth aged 14-25 years, resident in 42 of the country's 61 provinces. This sample was drawn from the 45,000 households in the 2002 Vietnam Living Standards Survey, with a multi-staged and stratified design, using the probability-proportional-to-size method to maintain representativity. Data were analyzed using bivariate and multivariate statistical techniques. RESULTS Of the sample of young people, 2.2% reported injury resulting from violent behavior by a family member and 8.0% by non-family members, the latter demonstrating a significantly higher rate among males than females (13.6% vs. 2.4%). Characteristics of youth most likely to hurt others included: male sex, inebriation at some point, victims of intentional injury, group riot participants and carriers of weapons. Youth who had been members of mass social organizations or clubs in the community were half as likely to hurt other people as those who were unaffiliated with such groups. Females were almost four times more likely than males to attempt suicide. Other risk factors for suicide attempts were past inebriation (OR 2.7, 95% CI 1.3-5.4), ever having been a victim of intentional injury by a family member (OR 3.3, 95% CI 1.1-11.5) or ever having had feelings of hopelessness (OR 6.5, 95% CI 3.3-13.6). CONCLUSIONS Prevalence of violence and self-harm among Vietnamese youth is comparatively less than in Western and other Asian countries. Risk and protective factors appear similar to those found in most populations. In particular, this study indicated a possible protective effect of membership in social groups. National policy for injury prevention should include strategies to reduce violence and self-harm within this population group. Free full text http://www.medicc.org/mediccreview/index.php?issue=17&id=205&a=va.

Meeting the challenge of China: the Vietnamese garment industry in the post MFA era. Kenta Goto, Kaoru Natsuda, John Thoburn. Global networks 2011 VOL 11; NUMBER 3, page(s) 355-379. Abstract: Although China has diversified into sophisticated, higher value-added exports, it is still a formidable competitor in global markets for basic labour-intensive products. It is the world's largest exporting country of textiles and garments, the archetypical driver of industrial growth both in developed countries in the past and in most newly industrializing countries more recently. When the export restrictions under the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) ended at the start of 2005, it was predicted that China would greatly increase its market shares at the expense of most competitors, except perhaps India. Vietnam has proved to be an effective competitor in the garment industry in markets where China is dominant. In this article, we investigate how key export-oriented garment suppliers of Vietnam have been coping with competitive challenges in the post MFA era at a time when global buyers have been reorganizing their international production networks. We emphasize the influence of different global value chains on upgrading since Vietnamese suppliers switched to the US market after the implementation of the US Bilateral Trade Agreement in 2001. We note the uneven performance of Vietnamese garment suppliers, with some lagging behind others in upgrading and competitiveness, and their different responses to Vietnam's growing labour shortages. We base the article mainly on interviews conducted over the 2001–2008 period with garment companies and global buyers in Vietnam, Hong Kong and China. Full text available upon request.

Migrant Parents and the Psychological Well-Being of Left-Behind Children in Southeast Asia. Elspeth Graham, Lucy P. Jordan. Journal of Marriage and Family, Volume 73, Issue 4, pages 763–787, August 2011. Abstract: Several million children currently live in transnational families, yet little is known about impacts on their health. We investigated the psychological well-being of left-behind children in four Southeast Asian countries. Data were drawn from the CHAMPSEA study. Caregiver reports from the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) were used to examine differences among children under age 12 by the migration status of their household (N = 3,876). We found no general pattern across the four study countries: Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. Multivariate models showed that children of migrant fathers in Indonesia and Thailand are more likely to have poor psychological well-being, compared to children in nonmigrant
households. This finding was not replicated for the Philippines or Vietnam. The paper concludes by arguing for more contextualized understandings. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Migration and Displacement Triggered by Floods in the Mekong Delta. Olivia Dun. International migration 2011 VOL 49; SUPP/1, page(s) e200-e223. Abstract: The links between environmental change and migration is a theme which has caused much public debate. This debate is driven partially by the lack of empirical research on the linkages and relationship between environment and migration. This article offers a contribution to the limited literature which examines the ways in which migration is linked to environmental push factors. Initial research into the current dynamics of population displacement and migration linked to flooding in the upper reaches of the Vietnamese Mekong Delta was carried out in late 2007. Annual cyclical flooding in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam is a regular event and essential to the livelihoods of people living in the region. Over the last decade, however, there have been unusually large flooding events in the Mekong Delta region which have adversely impacted the lives and livelihoods of local communities. The research aimed to determine whether flooding could be considered a cause for migration or displacement. Results show that the impacts of regular flooding of the Mekong Delta can trigger independent household or individual migration decisions and are a cause for government-initiated resettlement of households. This research contributes to an increased understanding of the role of environmental change/degradation in causing displacement and migration, since forced migration and migration studies have more commonly focused on economic, political and social reasons for population displacement. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Political Connections and Investment in Rural Vietnam. Thomas Markussen, and Finn Tarp. UNU-WIDER Working Paper No. 2011/37, July 2011. Abstract: This paper uses household panel data from rural Vietnam to explore the effects of having a relative in a position of political or bureaucratic power on farmers' agricultural investment decisions. Our main result is that households significantly increase their investment in land improvement as a result of relatives moving into public office. Connections to office holders appear to be important for investment because they strengthen de facto land property rights and improve access to off-farm employment and to informal loans. The findings underline the importance of informal networks for economic behaviour in environments with developing institutions and markets. They also suggest the presence of an untapped potential for economic development: if households without connections could obtain equally strong property rights and access to credit and insurance as the well-connected households, investment levels would rise substantially. Free full text http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/working-papers/2011/en_GB/wp2011-037/_files/85898796245450760/default/wp2011-037.pdf.

Population-Level Approaches to Universal Health Coverage in Resource-Poor Settings: Lessons from Tobacco Control Policy in Vietnam. Hideki Higashi, Tuan A. Khuong, Anh D. Ngo, Peter S. Hill. MEDICC Review, July 2011, Vol 13, No 3. ABSTRACT: Population-based health promotion and disease prevention approaches are essential elements in achieving universal health coverage; yet they frequently do not appear on national policy agendas. This paper suggests that resource-poor countries should take greater advantage of such approaches to reach all segments of the population to positively affect health outcomes and equity, especially considering the epidemic of chronic noncommunicable diseases and associated modifiable risk factors. Tobacco control policy development and implementation in Vietnam provides a case study to discuss opportunities and challenges associated with such strategies. Free full text http://www.medicc.org/mediccreview/articles/mr_208.pdf.

Reassessing The Impact Of Vinashin's Default. Asia Monitor: South East Asia Monitor Volume 1, Aug2011, Vol. 22 Issue 8, p1-4, 2p; Abstract: The article discusses the impact of Vinashin Shipbuilding Industry Group's default on the banks in Vietnam. Moody's Investors Service Inc.'s report says that Vinashin's debt owes approximately 3.0 % in commercial bank's individual loan portfolios. It states that banks having strong balance sheets and risk management are expected to give optimal risk-to-reward for their investors. It adds that excessive leverage of Vietnam Commercial Bank for Industry and Trade (CTG) may weaken banks' stability. Full text available upon request (title).
Submergence risks and farmers’ preferences: Implications for breeding Sub1 rice in Southeast Asia. D.O. Manzanilla, T.R. Paris, G.V. Vergara, A.M. Ismail, S. Pandey, R.V. Labios, G.T. Tatlonghari, R.D. Acda, T.T.N. Chi, K. Duangsila, I. Siliphouthone, M.O.A. Manikmas, D.J. Mackill. Agricultural Systems, Volume 104, Issue 4, April 2011, Pages 335-347. Abstract: Rice (Oryza sativa L.) provides a life support system to millions of resource-poor farmers in rainfed environments; however, yields are very low because of various biotic and abiotic stresses. Submergence caused by typhoons and floods is one of the major reasons for production losses. Because of the complexity of these ecosystems, the breeding framework necessitates adequate feedback and a more in-depth understanding of the ecological and socioeconomic conditions in these flood-prone areas. Within this purview, this study validated the performance in farmers’ fields of lines with the SUB1 gene that confers tolerance of submergence for up to two weeks. The SUB1 gene was incorporated through marker-assisted backcrossing, MABC. The evaluation was conducted through participatory approaches to gain understanding of the risks as well as farmers’ preferences for these varieties. A baseline survey of 658 farm households accomplished during 2008, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and adaptability trials were conducted, with focus on farmers commonly affected by submergence in four Southeast Asian countries: the Philippines, Lao PDR, Indonesia, and Southern Viet Nam. The study further examined farmers’ criteria in evaluating new varieties through the participatory varietal selection (PVS) process. Results showed that varying conditions of submergence can influence farmers’ criteria and preferences for rice cultivars. Depending on the timing of flood with respect to growth stage, shorter duration and shallow flashfloods can result in less than 10% production losses while deeper and stagnant water with two weeks’ duration and >100 cm depth can cause damage ranging from 40% to 77%. Major findings of PVS trials and preference analysis indicated that farmers prefer rice cultivars that are tolerant of submergence, have early to medium maturity relative to their commonly grown varieties, are resistant to pests and diseases, and are resistant to lodging, among other traits. To enhance adoption, male and female farmers should be involved in the evaluation process. The results of this study can contribute to enhancing breeding programs to develop appropriate varieties that reduce production losses, improve income, and ultimately reduce poverty incidence in submergence-prone areas. Full text is available upon request.

The diversity of some local upland rice cultivars in Northern of Vietnam. Paper prepared for the 2011 International Conference on Life Science and Technology. Chu Hoang Lan, Nguyen Tuan Anh, Chu Hoang Mau. IPCBEE vol.3 (2011) © (2011) IACSIT Press, Singapore. Abstract— Droughts have been occurring commonly in the recent years while upland rice became potential crops because of its high drought tolerance. In this study, we have evaluated the diversity of some local upland rice cultivars in Northern Vietnam in order to preserving and developing the genetic resources of upland rice. Forty seven local upland cultivars were collected from mountainous provinces in Northern Vietnam and classified into two subspecies: indica (33 cultivars) and japonica (14 cultivars). We have evaluated the diversity of these cultivars by studying some morphological and qualitative characteristics of grains. Out of these 47 cultivars, 12 cultivars were selected to evaluate the genetic diversity by RAPD technique. The genetic similarity and different coefficients of these cultivars were determined by using NTSYSpc-2.02i program. The dendrogram is established with four groups and the genetic distances between cultivars range from 7.69% to 34.0%. The genetic diversity coefficient of these cultivars is 52.37%. The reactivity for drought of these 12 upland rice cultivars was shown in the diversity of drought tolerant phenotype. These cultivars were divided into 4 groups according to the relative drought tolerance index. The difference coefficients range from 1.003% to 9.394% and the phenotypic diversity coefficient is 73.15%. Free full text http://www.ipcbee.net/vol3/48-L5010.pdf.

The impact of voluntary health insurance on health care utilization and out-of-pocket payments: New evidence for Vietnam. Cuong Viet Nguyen. Health Economics, Article first published online: 21 JUL 2011. SUMMARY: Vietnam aims to achieve full coverage of health insurance in 2015. An increasing type of health insurance in Vietnam is voluntary health insurance. Although there are many studies on the implementation of voluntary health insurance in Vietnam, little is known on the causal impact of voluntary health insurance. This paper measures the impact of voluntary health insurance on health care utilization and out-of-pocket payments using Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys in 2004 and 2006. It was found out that voluntary health insurance helps the insured people increase the annual outpatient and inpatient visits by around 45% and 70%,...
respectively. However, the effect of voluntary health insurance on out-of-pocket expenses on health care services is not statistically significant. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hec.1768/pdf.

The Vietnam Case. By: NGOC TRAN, ANGIE. Harvard International Review, Summer2011, Vol. 33 Issue 2, p60-65, 6p; Abstract: The author discusses the causes and implications of the changes in the domestic and international labor migration in Vietnam and how they relate to a broader global framework of labor. She examines the complex role of the Vietnamese government and recruitment agencies in supporting the human rights of skilled laborers, and the establishment of codes of conduct toward Vietnamese workers in multinational companies. The author also looks into the ethical dimensions of protecting Vietnamese migrants working overseas. Full text available upon request.

Towards eco-agro industrial clusters in aquatic production: the case of shrimp processing industry in Vietnam. Pham Thi Anh, Tran Thi My Dieu, Arthur P.J. Mol, Carolien Kroeze and Simon R. Bush. Journal of Cleaner Production, Article in Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 12 July 2011. Abstract: The concept of industrial ecology has been applied in this research to study possibilities to develop an eco-industrial cluster model for fishery production industry in Vietnam. By learning from experiments of other developed countries, we apply the principles of Industrial Ecology and of Ecological Modernization in the context of Vietnam. We design a physical-technological conceptual model for minimizing waste in agro-industries, with a case study of frozen shrimp production. The results indicate that it is possible and feasible to develop an eco-industrial cluster including aquaculture, fishery processing companies, by-product plants, and wastewater treatment units. By doing so, aquaculture and industry can cooperate for environmentally sound development. Actors and institutions that may govern the proposed eco-industrial cluster of shrimp processing industry are also analysed in this paper. The economic feasibility of the designed eco-agro industrial cluster for fish production in Vietnam depends on the energy savings and effective revenues gained from selling the produced valuable materials, such as Chitosan and animal feed. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652611001946.

Vietnam's Growing Pains. By: SOWINSKI, LARA L.. World Trade: WT100, Jun2011, Vol. 24 Issue 6, p44-46, 3p; Abstract: The article discusses the opportunities and challenges facing Vietnam as an economic hub for manufacturers. It states that the country has gained the attention of clothing, apparel and footwear business executives in their search for cost-effective production opportunities. APL Managing Director in Vietnam Barry Akbar elaborates on the potential of the country but raises the need to improve infrastructure to accommodate any significant amount of cargo. Free full text http://digital.bnpmedia.com/display_article.php?id=733070.

Vietnam's state-owned enterprise reform: An empirical assessment in the international multimodal transport sector from the Williamson's TCE perspective. Phuc Nguyen, Lin Crase. Asia Pacific Journal of Marketing and Logistics, Vol. 23 Iss: 3, 2011 pp.411 - 422. Abstract: Purpose – Under the pressure of competition from non-state-owned enterprises (non-SOEs) since the Renovation in 1986, the Government of Vietnam has sought to reform state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in order to improve their productivity and efficiency. Whilst the theoretical efficiency benefits from the SOE reform have interested many, this study seeks to add empirical insights to this debate using Williamson's transaction cost economics (TCE). -- Design/methodology/approach – Organizational integration and transaction costs – two dimensions of firm efficiency – were compared between SOEs and non-SOEs using multivariate analyses of variance (MANOVA). The analysis was conducted in the context of the within-firm logistics processes of international multimodal transport (IMT) in Vietnam. -- Findings – SOEs were as efficient as non-SOEs along organizational integration and transaction costs dimensions. -- Research limitations/implications – Results of the study contribute to the ongoing research on SOEs reform in Vietnam. They add tentative support to the reform process, although the study also highlights the need for further research incorporating the wider motivation for the SOE reform and/or the broader influence of competition and private ownership. -- Originality/value – This study assesses the efficiency of the SOE reform in Vietnam from a perspective that has never been done before, Williamson's TCE. Full text available upon request.
Why is school reform sustained even after a project? A case study of Bac Giang Province, Vietnam. Eisuke Saito, Thi Diem Hang Khong and Atsushi Tsukui. Journal of Educational Change 2011. Abstract: This paper reports on a case study of schools in Vietnam wherein teachers are engaged in school reform activities known as professional teacher meetings (PTMs), which is based on an approach called lesson study for learning community (LSLC). The PTMs under LSLC were introduced in 2006, but the teachers involved are still conducting the activities despite scarcity of resources, particularly technical ones. This study addresses the following research question: Why have teachers continued to organize PTMs after the project ended? Three aspects will help address the research question. First, teachers had faith in the effectiveness of the PTMs. Second, enthusiasm and support of seniors and authorities such as school principals could have also helped sustain the PTMs. Third, the need to maintain a respectable reputation before external parties could also be an important factor. Full text available upon request.
A critical overview of industrial energy decoupling programs in six developing countries in Asia. Ralph A Luken, Stefano Piras. Energy Policy. Kidlington: Jun 2011. Vol. 39, Iss. 6; p. 3869 Abstract: In reviewing the journal literature on the decoupling of energy use and industrial output in the Asian region, particularly with respect to developing countries, we found little information about most country programs other than for China and India and only one article that compared the programs of these two countries. For this reason, we used diverse sources to identify the key programmatic features that have contributed, but clearly are not totally responsible for, decoupling achievements of two countries (China and Thailand) and then, on the basis of these findings, reviewed emerging industrial energy decoupling programs in four other countries (India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam). We found that the design of the two successful on-going decoupling programs have common features, which are setting an explicit target for decoupling of energy use and industrial output, a government program that offers financial incentives and imposes specific auditing and reporting requirements and involvement of the manufacturing sector in designing and implementing targets as they apply to individual enterprises. We also found that the emerging programs in the other four countries lack some or all of these essential programmatic features. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301421511003120.

Analyzing the legal basis of land use planning regarding the ethnic minorities in Vietnam. Vuong Xuan Tinh. 2011. Introduction: Land plays a very important role for farmers, especially ethnic minority farmers - whose living resources mainly based in agriculture. During the implementation of Innovation since 1986, the development and implementation of land policies to match with the conditions of the market economy and the process of industrialization and modernization of the country is considered a breakthrough in Vietnam. In this context, many land policies have been issued, with separated or related provisions for ethnic minorities (Vuong Xuan Tinh, 2007). The policy was reflected in legal documents, such as Land laws, resolutions, decisions, decrees, circulars of the National Assembly, Government and Ministries related to land use. -- One important content of land policies is land use planning. It is the concretization of general policies into practice, implemented from central to local levels. Thus, the success or failure of land policies depends substantially on the construction and implementation of land use planning. -- This report will analyze the legal basis of land use planning related to ethnic minorities in Vietnam. The content of the report is a review of the national legal documents, and within certain range there will have examples of Central Highlands area serving for the activities of the Vietnam UN - REDD Programme. Free full text http://indigenouspeoplesissues.com/attachments/article/11271/Vietnam-FPIC2011.pdf.

Characteristics of agricultural cooperatives and its service performance in Bac Ninh province, Vietnam. Nguyen Mau Dung. ISSAAS Journal, Volume 17 Number 1 (June 2011). Abstract: The current characteristics of agricultural cooperatives in Bac Ninh Province of Vietnam were investigated and the performances of their service activities were empirically assessed. The study found that most of the agricultural cooperatives in Bac Ninh province were village-based transformed cooperatives with very small capital. All agricultural
cooperatives there provide multiple services to farm household. However, most of them focused on irrigation, extension, seed supply and field protection services while very few provided marketing and credit services. Farmers’ comparative opinions on service offered by the cooperatives and the private individuals proved that the cooperatives played the important role in providing irrigation, field protection, extension, and crop varieties supply services, but only a small role in land preparation, fertilizers and pesticide supply, and a very infinitesimal role in marketing and credit services. The lack of qualified staff and shortage of capital were currently serious problem in most of the agricultural cooperatives in Bac Ninh. The improvement of the management capacity if the cooperative staff and accessibility of the cooperatives to financial sources as well as the enhancement of their marketing services to support farm household would be the essential ways to fortify the cooperatives’ roles in the future.

Climate change and its impact on agriculture in Vietnam. Tran Duc Vien. ISSAAS Journal, Volume 17 Number 1 (June 2011) 17-21. Introduction (excerpt): Climate change is expected to have a considerable impact on Vietnam’s fishery and aquaculture sectors, which accounted for 3.9 percent of GDP in 2005. The numbers of tropical fish with a low commercial value (except for tuna) would increase and the numbers of sub-tropical fish with a high commercial value would decrease. Coral reefs are expected to degenerate and fish living in these habitats are expected to disappear. Moreover, sharp decrease in plankton would lead to migration of fish and reduction in fish body mass. As a result, it is estimated that the economic sea production capacity of Vietnam would be reduced by at least one third. Due to a rise in seawater level, aquaculture farms will have to be relocated and saline water intrusion and reduction of the mangrove are will create loss of habitat for fresh water creatures (MONRE, 2003).

Damming Rivers in Vietnam: A Lesson Learned in the Tây Bac Region. Nga Dao. Journal of Vietnamese Studies. Berkeley: Summer 2011. Vol. 6, Iss. 2; p. 106 (35 pages). Abstract: This paper draws on legal documents, policy analyses, secondary data collection, and primary empirical data on dam construction on the Đa [Black] River to highlight uneven power and development both between Vietnam’s lowlands and uplands and within its upland areas. It examines how the Northwest’s ecological, cultural and agrarian landscapes have been shaped by state development policies and, in turn, how outcomes have contributed—if at all—to reshaping state policy. The paper also explores real and calculated costs of hydropower to examine accounting practices and how project costs are distributed among stakeholders. Full text available upon request. (ProQuest)

Determinants of health-related quality of life in adults living with HIV in Vietnam. Tran BX, Ohinmaa A, Nguyen LT, Nguyen TA, Nguyen TH. AIDS Care. 2011 Jun 29. [Epub ahead of print]. Abstract: Health-related quality of life (HRQL) is a good indicator to monitor and evaluate healthcare services for adults with HIV/AIDS. This study described HRQL of adults with HIV and its determinants, and compared it with HRQL for the general population. A cross-sectional study with a national multistage sampling of households with and without HIV-positive people was conducted in 2008. Six provinces were purposively selected to represent areas of the country and progressions of HIV epidemics. Households were sampled with probability-proportional-to-size, following the selection of rural and urban districts. A total of 820 HIV-positive and HIV-negative adults (mean age: 32.5; 38.7% female) were interviewed. Among 400 HIV-positive people, 52.3% had a history of injecting drugs, and 56.3% were at AIDS stage and receiving antiretroviral treatment (ART). HRQL was measured using the EuroQOL five-dimension questionnaire (EQ-5D). Multiple regression models were purposefully constructed to examine the determinants of HRQL. The EQ-5D index and visual analog scale (VAS) score in less advanced HIV people (0.90, 69.3) and AIDS patients (0.88, 65.2) were significantly lower than those of the general population (0.96, 81.6) (p<0.001). The frequency of reported problems across EQ-5D dimensions in the HIV population (2.4-30.9%) was significantly higher than in the general population (0.7-12.1%). Compared to ART patients, those at earlier HIV stages reported having problems at similar proportions across four HRQL dimensions, except pain/discomfort, where ART patients had a significantly higher proportion. Injecting drug users taking ART perceived lower HRQL score than non-injecting drug users. Multiple regression determined that joblessness (p<0.01) and inaccessibility to health services (p<0.05) were
associated with lower HRQL. In addition, involvements in self-help groups significantly improved HRQL among HIV-positive participants (p<0.05). The findings highlight the need to improve the health service referral system and enhance psychological and social supports for patients in early stages of HIV infection in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Development of pandemic influenza vaccine production capacity in Viet Nam. L.K. Hoa, L.V. Hiep, L.V. Be. Vaccine, Volume 29, Supplement 1, 1 July 2011, Pages A34-A36. Abstract: The Institute of Vaccines and Medical Biologicals (IVAC), a state-owned vaccine manufacturer, initiated research into avian influenza vaccines in the early 1990s in response to the threat of a highly pathogenic avian influenza pandemic. Successful results from laboratory studies on A(H5N1) influenza virus attracted seed funds and led to participation in the WHO technology transfer project to enhance influenza vaccine production in developing countries. IVAC’s goal is to produce 500,000 doses of inactivated monovalent whole-virion influenza vaccine per year by 2012, and progressively increase capacity to more than 1 million doses to protect essential populations in Viet Nam in the event of an influenza pandemic. The WHO seed grants, supplemented by other international partner support, enabled IVAC to build in a very short time an influenza vaccine manufacturing plant under Good Manufacturing Practice and relevant bio-safety standards, a waste treatment system and a dedicated chicken farm for high-quality eggs. Much of the equipment and instrumentation required for vaccine production has been installed and tested for functional operation. Staff have been trained on site and at specialized courses which provided comprehensive manuals on egg-based manufacturing processes and bio-safety. Following process validation, clinical trials will start in 2011 and the first domestic influenza vaccine doses are expected in 2012. Full text is available upon request.

Dioxin concentrations in breast milk of Vietnamese nursing mothers - a survey four decades after the herbicide spraying. TT Pham, M Nishijo, T Kido, H Nakagawa, S Maruzeni, R Naganuma, NA Nguyen, Y Morikawa, LV Hoang, AH Tran, HN Nguyen, SK Le, K Tawara, and H Nishijo. Environ Sci Technol, June 30, 2011. Abstract: In an operation by United States Armed Forces during 1961 to 1971, large quantities of herbicides were sprayed in South Vietnam. These herbicides contained 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TetraCDD), the most toxic congener of dioxins. Several decades after the herbicide spraying ceased, dioxin concentrations in the environment and human remained elevated in the sprayed areas. Breast milk samples from 520 nursing mothers residing in areas including the hot spots as well as the sprayed and unsprayed areas were collected to quantify the levels of dioxins. The total toxic equivalents of 2,3,7,8-substituted PCDDs/PCDFs in breast milk of mothers living in the hot spots, and the sprayed and unsprayed areas were 14.10 pg/g lipid, 10.89 pg/g lipid, and 4.09 pg/g lipid for primiparae and 11.48 pg/g lipid, 7.56 pg/g lipid, and 2.84 pg/g lipid for multiparae, respectively, with significant differences in the values among the three areas. In the hot spots, dioxin levels were highly correlated with the residency of mothers after adjustment for their age and parity. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Does the financial protection of health insurance vary across providers? Vietnam’s experience. Ardeshir Sepehr, Sisira Sarma, Umut Oguzoglu. Social Science & Medicine, In Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 30 June 2011. Abstract: Using household panel data from Vietnam, this paper compares out-of-pocket health expenditures on outpatient care at a health facility between insured and uninsured patients as well as across various providers. In the random effects model, the estimated coefficient of the insurance status variable suggests that insurance reduces out-of-pocket spending by 24% for those with the compulsory and voluntary coverage and by about 15% for those with the health insurance for the poor coverage. However, the modest financial protection of the compulsory and voluntary schemes disappears once we control for time-invariant unobserved individual effects using the fixed effects model. Additional analysis of the interaction terms involving the type of insurance and health facility suggests that the overall insignificant reduction in out-of-pocket expenditures as a result of the insurance schemes masks wide variations in the reduction in out-of-pocket sending across various providers. Insurance reduces out-of-pocket expenditures more for those enrollees using district and higher level public health facilities than those using commune health centers. Compared to the uninsured patients using district hospitals, compulsory and voluntary insurance schemes reduce out-of-pocket expenditures by 40 and 32%, respectively. However, for contacts at the commune health centers, both
the compulsory health scheme and the voluntary health insurance scheme schemes have little influence on out-of-pocket spending while the health insurance scheme for the poor reduces out-of-pocket spending by about 15%. Full text is available upon request.

**Engaging the Challenges of Alleviating Wife Abuse in Northern Vietnam.** Lynn Kwiatkowski. Practicing Anthropology, Volume 33, Number 3, Summer 2011, Pages: 32 - 37. Abstract: In recent years, gender-based violence has become highly visible and recognized by the Vietnamese state and the public more broadly. This article addresses the space that has recently widened, with the Vietnamese state's 1986 đổi mới or renovation policies, for local innovation and global influence on approaches to curtailing wife abuse and assisting women abused by their husbands. Anthropology can help us to understand some of the constraints and contradictions that can arise in such a space of innovation. For instance, ethnographic research reveals how local Vietnamese non-governmental organizations (VNGOs), state institutions, and international organizations in Vietnam can cooperate to develop and implement new and potentially beneficial programs for abused women. Yet, at the same time, frontline practitioners struggle to implement these new approaches, with cultural lenses that limit acceptance of new ideologies, few resources that provide long-term support to abused women, or, in some cases, little exposure to the new ideas. Anthropological research can assist in identifying the cultural and structural constraints experienced by individuals working with abused women and community members, and the contradictions that can arise between the shaping and the implementing of policy addressing wife abuse, particularly globally influenced ideologies and practices introduced into a society. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Financial development and economic growth in Vietnam.** By: Anwar, Sajid; Nguyen, Lan. Journal of Economics & Finance, Jul 2011, Vol. 35 Issue 3, p348-360, 13p; Abstract: By making use of a panel dataset that covers 61 provinces of Vietnam over the period 1997 to 2006, this paper examines the link between financial development and economic growth. Our analysis, which is based on endogenous growth theory, reveals that financial development has contributed to economic growth in Vietnam. We find that high ratio of credit to Gross Provincial Product (GPP) has accelerated economic growth in Vietnam. We also found a strong positive link between financial development and economic growth when alternative measures of financial development were used. The impact of foreign direct investment on economic growth will be stronger if more resources are invested in financial market development. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=61978448&site=ehost-live.

**First- and second-order adaptation to natural hazards and extreme events in the context of climate change.** Jörn Birkmann. Natural Hazards. Dordrecht: Aug 2011. Vol. 58, Iss. 2; p. 811  Abstract: This paper deals with coping and adaptation processes to natural hazards and (potential) climate change impacts. Selected response measures to natural hazards are critically reviewed with respect to the actual and potential consequences that these measures might imply for additional adaptation needs and changes within social-ecological systems. In this context, the author introduces the concept of first- and second-order adaptation processes in order to underline the cascade process that adaptation implies, the potentials for failure, and the limits of adaptation. Important aspects of first- and second-order adaptation processes as well as the issue of the limits of adaptation are illustrated based on observations and empirical work conducted in Vietnam. In its final part, the paper discusses the findings in light of selected theoretical approaches that might help to understand how stabilization and destabilization processes are influenced or even triggered by adaptation measures. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Governance and Civil Society Action in Vietnam: Changing the Rules From Within—Potentials and Limits.** Jörg Wischermann. Asian Politics & Policy, Volume 3, Issue 3, pages 383–411, July 2011. Abstract: Various contemporary studies suggest a gathering structural political crisis in Vietnam, asserting that thorough political transformation is inevitable and that this may well lead to regime change. This article takes issue with such perspectives. Using an alternative approach that understands civil society as a particular mode of action and interaction and not as a fixed entity, the results of three case studies of the potential for shifts in functional areas of governance (legitimate rule, security, and welfare) show that civil society action from within the state
apparatus effects changes in governance. Those processes of change were initiated more or less simultaneously from above and below. Such possibilities for political change open the way to a far wider discussion on the nature of political progress under nondemocratic regimes, which invites comparison not only with a range of contemporary experiences, but also the political histories of many Western countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Impacts of the global economic crisis on foreign trade in lower-income economies in the Greater Mekong Sub-region and policy responses: the case of Vietnam and its implications for Lao PDR and Cambodia.** Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, Working Paper Series, No. 102, May 2011. Nguyen Manh Hung, Pham Sy An. Summary: The outbreak of the global financial crisis, the fluctuation of commodity prices, and the economic slowdown of the major trading partners in 2008 and the early 2009 has brought about one of the most difficult challenges to lower-income economies in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS, i.e. Vietnam, Lao PDR and Cambodia) since the Asian financial crisis of 1997-1998. Foreign trade, including both export and import, severely declined, leading to serious contraction of economic growth. This research seeks to better understand the impacts of the global economic crisis on Vietnam’s foreign trade and policy responses, and from this, draw inferences for Lao PDR and Cambodia. To this aim, it asks the following questions: • To what extent was the foreign trade of Vietnam affected by the global economic crisis? • What were the policies by the Vietnamese government to arrest and reverse the decline in foreign trade? • What lessons can the Vietnamese experience offer to Lao PDR and Cambodia? Free full text http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/pub/wp10211.pdf.

**Knowledge Transfer in Offshore Outsourcing: A Case Study of Japanese and Vietnamese Software Companies.** Nguyen Thu Huong, Umemoto Katsuhiro, Dam Hieu Chi. Journal of Global Information Management. Hershey: 2011. Vol. 19, Iss. 2; p. 27 Abstract: This paper discusses the knowledge transfer process in offshore outsourcing. The focus is a case study of software offshore outsourcing from Japan to Vietnam. Initial results confirm that willingness to cooperate and good impressions facilitate the knowledge transfer process. In addition, communication barriers, cultural differences, lack of equivalence in individual competence, and lack of common rules slow down the transfer process. The study also identifies the Bridge System Engineer (Bridge SE)-a type of coordinator who mediates and enhances the relationship between Japanese clients and Vietnamese service providers. Employing a Bridge SE is an effective way to fill the communication gap, the cultural gap, and generally improve the business relationship. Bridge SEs use their background of higher education and long-term residence in Japan to give advice to Vietnamese software teams on Japanese cultural characteristics, such as the apology culture and the separation between work and private time. In other situations, Bridge SEs use their IT background and communication skills to verify and adjust communication contents before information is sent from one side to another. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Land tenure systems and rental determination in a suburban villate in Hanoi, Vietnam.** Phan Vu Quynh Chi and Akimi Fujimoto. ISSAAS Journal, Volume 17 Number 1 (June 2011). ABSTRACT: The long term development of Vietnamese agriculture depends on the efficient and effective use of land. In Vietnam, farmlands operated formerly by communes were redistributed among their members in the 1980s under Doimoi Policy. Land and related policies have direct effects on the livelihood of rural populations through influences on land tenure, farm size, fragmentation of land holdings, land use, and land credit markets. The average farm size in Red River Delta ranges from 0.2 ha to 0.3 ha per household and the plots of cultivated land are scattered over an average of 6 places. For the near future, food crops and rice are still the dominant crops but changes in land use are undoubtedly occurring. Low profitability cash crops have been abandoned in favor of crops offering higher returns such as horticultural crops. This paper aims to clarify the current land tenure systems, including the pattern of land holding and the existing tenancy contracts of the farm households, and to investigate the recent changes in land use systems for agricultural production. Data were collected by a questionnaire survey, conducted in February 2008 in Da Ton Commune, Gia Lam District, Hanoi. It was found that about 75% of households had farm land area of under 0.36 ha, and the total number of land plots of the 35 households investigated was 204, of which 70% were smaller than 0.09 ha in size. This commune experienced drastic changes in land use patterns and recently there emerged tenancy contracts. More than 70% of contracts were for
fruit land. It was considered that tenancy contracts were influenced not only by economic factors but also by social factors. Free full text http://www.issaas.org/journal/v17/01/journal-issaas-v17n1-18-chi_fujimoto.pdf.

**Resource use, cattle performance and output patterns on different farm types in a mountainous province of northern Vietnam.** Le Thi Thanh Huyen, Pera Herold, André Markemann and Anne Valle Zárate. Animal Production Science 51(7) 650-661 (2011). Abstract: This study compares the use of resources, cattle performance and outputs on three different cattle-keeping farm types (mixed small farms, mixed medium farms with a collective use of natural pastures, and specialised large farms). The purpose was to evaluate the potential for beef production on household farms, where cattle keeping is integrated with cropping, compared with specialised large beef cattle farms. Data were collected by using farmer interviews, participatory rural appraisal tools and cattle body measurements, and analysed by linear models using SAS software. -- Household farms raised cattle at very low input levels. Medium farms had lower costs for cattle keeping than small farms in the lowlands (0.11 Vietnamese Dong × 106/farm.year compared with 1.20 Vietnamese Dong × 106/farm.year). High inputs were observed on all large farms. Only the local Yellow cattle was found in the highlands. Yellow cattle was less fertile in the highlands than in the lowlands (age at first calving of 3.2 years and calving interval of 16.3 months compared with 2.8 years and 12.6 months, respectively). Performances of exotic breeds varied according to feeding and breeding management of large farms. Crossbred Laisind cattle had a better productive adaptability than exotic beef breeds. Cattle were used mainly for working and manure by small farms. The stock value was highest on medium farms. Low outputs on large farms were a result of high feed costs, inappropriate management and the failure of markets. Results from simulations identify the medium mixed farms with access to natural pasture showing a potential for the development of beef production, provided that access to markets and cattle management is improved. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Semicentralised water supply and treatment: options for the dynamic urban area of Hanoi, Vietnam.** SOPHIE SCHRAMM. Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management (JEAPM) Volume: 13, Issue: 2(2011) pp. 285-314. Abstract: Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam, is experiencing rapid urbanisation coupled with high economic growth rates. This situation is both a challenge and an opportunity for the upgrading of existing technical infrastructures. Regarding wastewater treatment, the situation in Hanoi today is characterised by a lack of wastewater treatment plants, processing only a small fraction of the accumulating wastewater. Prevalent means of sanitation are septic tanks installed under buildings for the collection of domestic wastewaters, with overflowing liquids draining into the groundwater in an uncontrolled manner. This decentralised means of sanitation is therefore currently not able to clean domestic wastewaters in an effective way. This paper explores circumstances under which a semi-centralised approach can offer a sustainable solution to cope with these challenges in Hanoi. The approach has been designed to meet the challenges of fast growing urban areas around the world. Full text available upon request.

**Sino-Vietnamese Relations in the Early Twenty-first Century.** Joseph Y S Cheng. Asian Survey. Berkeley: Mar/Apr 2011. Vol. 51, Iss. 2; pg. 379, 27 pgs. Abstract: Sino-Vietnamese relations since the mid-1980s represent an interesting case for studying how economic considerations can transform two conflicting states into peaceful accommodation in an asymmetrical bilateral relationship. The Chinese leadership's pursuit of a peaceful international environment for economic development has been followed by its Vietnamese counterpart. Full text is available upon request.

**Sources and leaching of manganese and iron in the Saigon River Basin, Vietnam.** Nguyen Thi Van Ha, Satoshi Takizawa, Kumiko Oguma and Nguyen Van Phuoc. Water Science & Technology Vol 63 No 10 pp 2231–2237 (2011). ABSTRACT: High concentrations of manganese and iron in the Saigon River are major problems for the water supply in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Viet Nam. To identify their sources and leaching processes, we surveyed water quality along the Saigon River and ran batch leaching tests using soil and sediment samples. Two important leaching processes were identified: acidic leaching from acid sulfate soil (ASS) in the middle reaches of the river, and Mn dissolution and Fe reduction from sediments in the downstream reaches. Low pH caused the concurrent release of Fe and Mn from the ASS. In contrast, anoxia caused the release of Fe but not Mn from the sediments, whereas low pH facilitated Mn dissolution. Sediments are a more important source of
Mn because of their higher Mn contents (10 times) and release rates (14 times) than those from ASS. Free full etxt http://www.iwaponline.com/wst/06310/wst063102231.htm.

Stand structure and natural regeneration of degraded forestland in the northern mountainous region of Vietnam. Su Young Woo, Hung Trieu Thai, Pil Sun Park. Landscape and Ecological Engineering. Dordrecht: Jul 2011. Vol. 7, Iss. 2; p. 251 Abstract: Vietnam experienced significant alterations of forest environments during the last half of the twentieth century, and reforestation efforts have increased since the 1990s. This study developed comparisons of naturally regenerated and plantation forestlands in northern Vietnam in order to gain a better understanding of reforestation options for the dual objectives of biodiversity and commercial tree production. Stand structure of secondary natural forest after logging and shifting cultivation were investigated at two study sites (Hoa Binh Province and Phu Tho Province). Natural regeneration of seedlings between the secondary natural forests and nearby mixed species plantations were measured and compared. The dominant tree species consisted of Aporosa villosa, Ficus racemosa, Machilus bonii and Vernicia montan at the Hoa Binh site and Cinnamomum parthenoexylum, Ormosia balabasae and Lithocarpus gigantophyllus at the Phu Tho site, which are mostly pioneer species. The secondary natural forests had higher abundance and diversity indices of seedlings than the mixed species plantations. Soil fertility of the secondary natural forests was better than that of the mixed species plantations (P < 0.05). An important finding is that, for the study sites examined, secondary natural forest resulted in more diverse and better-stocked forests than plantation forestry, implying that in areas where reforestation is undertaken the silvicultural potential of natural regeneration should not be underestimated. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Technical efficiency analysis of rice production in Vietnam. Hyunh Viet Khai and Mitsuyasu Yabe. ISSAAS Journal, Volume 17 Number 1 (June 2011). Abstract: The measurement of efficiency in agricultural production determines the efficiency level of households in their farming activities. Farmers in developing countries do not use all potential technological resources, thus making inefficient decisions in their agricultural activities. Therefore, this paper made an effort to measure the technical efficiency (TE) of rice production and identified some determinants of technical efficiency of rice farmers in Vietnam. The Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey 2005-2006 (VHLSS 2006) was analyzed using stochastic frontier analysis method in the Cobb-Douglas production function. The calculated technical efficiency in the study was around 81.6 percent. The study demonstrated that the most important factors having and education. These play the important role in terms of TE score change, while agricultural policies did not help farmers cultivate rice more efficiently. Free full text http://www.issaas.org/journal/v17/01/journal-issaas-v17n1-15-khai_yabe.pdf

The Long-term Impact of War on Health and Well-being in Northern Vietnam: Some Glimpses from a Recent Survey. Bussarawan TEERAWICHITCHAINAN, Kim Korinek. Prepared for an oral presentation at the 2011 Annual Meeting of Population Association of America (Session 176: Impacts of Conflicts and Natural Disasters II), Washington, DC, March 31-April 2, 2011. Abstract: War is considered one of the most intransigent obstacles to development; yet, the long-run effects of war on individual health have rarely been examined in the context of developing countries. Based on unique data recently collected as a pilot follow-up to the Vietnam Longitudinal Survey, this study examines health status of northern Vietnamese war cohorts (those who entered adulthood during the Vietnam War and now represent Vietnam’s older-adult population). To ascertain whether and how war impacts old-age physical and mental health, we compare multi-dimensional measures of health among war survivors, including civilians, combatants, noncombatants, and nonveterans involved in militia activities. Multivariate results suggest that despite prolonged exposure to war and trauma, combat and noncombat veterans are not significantly different from their civilian counterparts in terms of self-rated, functional, and mental health in older adult years. That we do not observe war’s adverse effects for veterans might be explained by the encompassing extent of war in northern Vietnamese society. Free full text http://paa2011.princeton.edu/download.aspx?submissionId=110121.

The principal-agent problems in health care: evidence from prescribing patterns of private providers in Vietnam. Ha Nguyen. Health Policy and Planning 2011; 26: i53–i62. Abstract: The principal-agent problem in health care asserts that providers, being the imperfect agents of patients, will act to maximize their profits at the
expense of the patients’ interests. This problem applies especially where professional regulations are lacking and incentives exist to directly link providers’ actions to their profits, such as a fee-for-service payment system. The current analysis tests for the existence of the principal-agent problem in the private health market in Vietnam by examining the prescribing patterns of private providers. I show that: (1) private providers were able to induce demand by prescribing more drugs than public providers for a similar illness and patient profile; (2) private providers were significantly more likely to prescribe injection drugs to gain trust among the patients; and (3) patients’ education as a source of information and empowerment has enabled them to mitigate the demand inducement by the providers. The hypotheses are supported with evidence from the Vietnam National Health Survey 2001–02, the first and, so far, only comprehensive health survey in the country. Full text http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/26/suppl_1/i53.full.pdf.

The role of traditional fishermen communities and related changes in natural resource management of the Tam Giang lagoon, Vietnam. Huu Ngu NGUYEN and Doo-Chul KIM. Journal of Environmental Science for Sustainable Society, Vol. 4 (2011) pp.13-24. Abstract: This paper clarifies the role of traditional fishermen communities and related changes in natural resource management of the Tam Giang Lagoon. The results of this study show that the “Van”, a traditional community of fishermen, was organized based on geographical closeness, and kinships sharing common experiences of fishing in the Tam Giang Lagoon. The “Van” were self-adjusted, its members able to manage and exploit the fisheries resources of the lagoon. Since resource management has always been associated with the “Van” communities, the government has since come to rely on the “Van” as a nucleus with which to manage the lagoon. -- The “Doi Moi”, an open-door policy initiated by the Vietnamese Government in 1986 has been fueling rapid changes in the rural society of Vietnam. The most significant change in natural resource management was the establishment of Land Law 1993 which allowed the allocation of lands to households. Consequently, resources which were previously shared by the communities around the lagoon have been changing to household ownership. This increase in private ownership has reduced the common fishing ground of the Sampan people and thus narrowed their access to the natural resources on which they based their livelihood. This is one of the major reasons behind the marginalization of the Sampan people, who have sacrificed their position of being the greatest beneficiaries of the lagoon’s resources, to being the poorest. Free full text http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/jesss/4/0/4_13/_article.

The social relations of catfish production in Vietnam. Ben Belton, David C. Little, and Le Xuan Sinh. Geoforum, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 30 June 2011. Abstract: The growth of intensive export-oriented Pangasius catfish production in Vietnam’s Mekong Delta is unparalleled in terms of rapidity and scale by any other agricultural sector, with production climbing from a low base to more than 1 million tons in a single decade. This paper examines the effects of this remarkable change on the rural class structure in locations where catfish farming has boomed, and analyses the role of local state-society relations in mediating outcomes resulting from the integration of local actors into the global value chain. We conclude that private economic activity is deeply embedded in informal relations with the state bureaucracy in Vietnam, with the result that the expansion of catfish aquaculture has generally acted to reproduce and entrench existing class relations rather leading to a radical reconfiguration of the rural class structure. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001671851100039X.

The Unintended Consequences of Successful Resource Mobilization: Financing Development in Vietnam. Jay K. Rosengard, Trần Thị Quê Giang, Dinh Vũ Trang Ngân, Huỳnh Thế Du, and Juan Pablo Chauvin. Fulbright Economics Teaching Program and Harvard Kennedy School 2011. Executive Summary: The total amount of development finance generated by Vietnam has been exceptionally high from all significant sources using all standard measures of comparison. However, there are many potential unintended consequences of Vietnam’s successful resource mobilization, with significant implications for the future financing of development. There are several steps the government can take to mitigate these risks. -- The principal vulnerabilities created by Vietnam’s mobilization of substantial resources for development finance fall into two main categories: threats to macroeconomic stability caused by imbalances in the composition of funding; and risks for microeconomic management arising from imprudent financing structures. -- The most serious macroeconomic threats are:
public sector funds crowding out both access to and utilization of private sector funds; overleveraging of insufficient equity for unsustainable levels of debt; financial exclusion of low-income households and family enterprises; and flight of hot capital. -- The most serious microeconomic risks are: maturity risk from over-reliance on short-term financing for long-term investments; foreign exchange risk from over-use of foreign capital for investments in non-tradable goods; credit risk from debt-financed speculation in asset bubbles; and fiscal gap risk from public sector dependence on unsustainable revenue sources. -- The suggested ways of mitigating these vulnerabilities include: further deregulation and liberalization of the banking sector, coupled with government disengagement from commercial financing; further development of equity markets and more rigorous enforcement of prudential norms; further development of microfinance institutions, products, and delivery systems; introduction of market-based instruments to manage FPI speculative outflows, together with more effective monitoring of the private sector’s external debt; further development of domestic long-term debt instruments; better coordination of monetary and fiscal policy; and continued implementation of comprehensive tax reform. Free full text http://ash.harvard.edu/extension/ash/docs/financingdevelopment.pdf.


Pham Thi Anh, Tran Thi My Dieu, Arthur P.J. Mol, Carolien Kroeze and Simon R. Bush. Journal of Cleaner Production, Article in Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 12 July 2011. Abstract: The concept of industrial ecology has been applied in this research to study possibilities to develop an eco-industrial cluster model for fishery production industry in Vietnam. By learning from experiments of other developed countries, we apply the principles of Industrial Ecology and of Ecological Modernization in the context of Vietnam. We design a physical-technological conceptual model for minimizing waste in agro-industries, with a case study of frozen shrimp production. The results indicate that it is possible and feasible to develop an eco-industrial cluster including aquaculture, fishery processing companies, by-product plants, and wastewater treatment units. By doing so, aquaculture and industry can cooperate for environmentally sound development. Actors and institutions that may govern the proposed eco-industrial cluster of shrimp processing industry are also analysed in this paper. The economic feasibility of the designed eco-agro industrial cluster for fish production in Vietnam depends on the energy savings and effective revenues gained from selling the produced valuable materials, such as Chitosan and animal feed. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652611001946.

Vertical integration of tea markets in Vietnam.

Nguyen Viet Dang and Flordeliza A. Lantican. ISSAAS Journal, Volume 17 Number 1 (June 2011). Abstract: Tea is one of the strategic agricultural export commodities in Vietnam. This crop is highly concentrated in the north and part of the Central Highlands in the southern region of the country. The major players in the tea industry include tea farmers, processors, exporters and retailers. Using time-series data on prices in the different level/stages of the tea marketing channels, vertical integration of the tea markets was analyzed. For black tea channels, price pressure on the tea growers was a results of uncoordinated pattern among tea processors and inefficient coordination mechanism among tea growers. For green tea channels, the retailers played an important role in price transmission channeling price information, while the tea processors did not play a central role in price transmission in the tea markets. Furthermore, the export price of tea to Russia was highly integrates with the world tea commodity price index (TCPI), while those to Taiwan and Poland were not, implying that the export prices in the latter markets were not fully integrated with the world price. In order to enhance the integration of the tea markets, it is recommended to establish a tea auction center, improve the tea trade in the domestic markets, and enhance the market power of the tea growers and processors. Free full text http://www.issaas.org/journal/v17/01/journal-issaas-v17n1-21-lantican.pdf
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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Alcohol consumption behaviours and attitudes in Vietnam: An exploratory analysis. in Rebekah Russell-Bennett; Sharyn Rundle-Thiele (ed.) Proceedings of the International Non-Profit and Social Marketing Conference (INSM), Brisbane, Australia, 15 - 16 July 2010, pp. 143-147. Abstract: Alcohol-related problems have long been recognised as a major public health problem in the western world, but more recently increased attention has been paid to the role of alcohol as a public health problem in developing countries including Vietnam (Giang et al., 2008). Over recent years Vietnam has experienced sustained economic growth. This has led to an increase in the overall standard of living for the broader community, and with that an increase in the purchase and consumption of alcohol (Giang et al., 2008; Jernigan, 2001; Luong, 2009; Rehm et al., 2003). The purpose of this study is to provide a current state-of-play of available research into alcohol consumption behaviours and attitudes in Vietnam, with a view to uncovering the key issues and to posit possible future directions for research in this field. Existing research into alcohol in Vietnam can be grouped under three main issues: excess alcohol consumption, alcohol as a contributing factor to risky sexual activity and alcohol as a contributing factor to risky driving behaviour. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Antibiotic contamination and occurrence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in aquatic environments of northern Vietnam. Phan Thi Phuong Hoa, Satoshi Managaki, Norihide Nakada, Hideshige Takada, Akiko Shimizu, Duong Hong Anh, Pham Hung Viet, Satoru Suzuki. Science of The Total Environment, Volume 409, Issue 15, 1 July 2011, Pages 2894-2901. Abstract: The ubiquitous application and release of antibiotics to the environment can result in bacterial antibiotic resistance, which in turn can be a serious risk to humans and other animals. Southeast Asian countries commonly apply an integrated recycling farm system called VAC (Vegetable, Aquaculture and Caged animal). In the VAC environment, antibiotics are released from animal and human origins, which would cause antibiotic-resistant bacteria (ARB). This study evaluated occurrence of ARB in the VAC environment in northern Vietnam, with quantitative analysis of antibiotic pollution. We found that sulfonamides were commonly detected at all sites. In dry season, while sulfamethazine was a major contaminant in pig farm pond (475–6662 ng/l) and less common in city canal and aquaculture sites, sulfamethoxazole was a major one in city canal (612–4330 ng/l). Erythromycin (154–2246 ng/l) and clarithromycin (2.8–778 ng/ml) were the common macrolides in city canal, but very low concentrations in pig farm pond and aquaculture sites. High frequencies of sulfamethoxazole-resistant bacteria (2.14–94.44%) were found whereas the occurrence rates of erythromycin-resistant bacteria were lower (< 0.01–38.8%). A positive correlation was found between sulfamethoxazole concentration and occurrence of sulfamethoxazole-resistant bacteria in dry season. The sulfamethoxazole-resistant isolates were found to belong to 25 genera. Acinetobacter and Aeromonas were the major genera. Twenty three of 25 genera contained sul genes. This study showed specific contamination patterns in city and VAC environments and concluded that ARB occurred not only within contaminated sites but also those less contaminated. Various species can obtain resistance in VAC environment, which would be reservoir of drug resistance genes. Occurrence of ARB is suggested to relate with rainfall condition and horizontal gene transfer in diverse microbial community. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Assessing nutrient fluxes in a Vietnamese rural area despite limited and highly uncertain data. Nga Do-Thu, Antoine Morel, Hung Nguyen-Viet, Phuc Pham-Duc, Kei Nishida and Thammarat Kootattep 2011. Resources, Conservation and Recycling, Volume 55, Issues 9-10, July-August 2011, Pages 849-856. Abstract: Material flow analysis (MFA) is a useful methodology to describe and quantify complex systems based on the law of mass conservation. It was further adapted to suit the specific conditions in developing countries where the available data is scarce and uncertain. The ‘adapted MFA’ methodology optimises the number of parameters, describes these parameters as probability distributions and assesses the accuracy and uncertainty of the model values by Monte Carlo simulation. -- This study illustrates the first successful application of the ‘adapted MFA’ methodology in a small and low-income area including two neighbouring communes in rural northern Vietnam, where environmental sanitation and traditional agricultural practices are strongly interlinked and have an impact on the surrounding environment. Moreover, data on this area is typically scarce and uncertain. The obtained results reveal that the agricultural system was a significant source of nutrients (nitrogen (N) and phosphorous (P)), which affect the surrounding environment mainly due to the overuse of chemical fertilizers. Every year, there were 103 ± 39 tonnes of N released into the atmosphere, 25 ± 3 tonnes of N leached to the surface water and 14 ± 2 tonnes of P accumulated in the soil, all originating from the applied chemical fertilizers. In addition, the sanitation system was also a critical source of nutrients that enter the surface water. 69 ± 6 tonnes of N and 23 ± 4 tonnes of P came from households through effluents of on-site sanitation systems (such as latrines and septic tanks) and were directly discharged to surface water every year. Moreover, the whole system annually generated a large nutrient source (214 ± 56 tonnes of N; 58 ± 16 tonnes of P) in the form of wastewater, faecal sludge, animal manure and organic solid wastes. -- The validated MFA was used to model different scenarios for the study site. The first scenario demonstrated that if nutrient management is not improved, wastewater as well as faecal sludge and organic solid waste are expected to double in the year 2020 as compared to that in 2008. The second and third scenario revealed possible strategies to significantly reduce environmental pollution and reuse nutrient sources predicted to be available in the year 2020. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Banking Reform in Vietnam. in Asia Focus. Country Analysis Unit, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, June 2011. First paragraph: Vietnam’s banking sector is expected to have one of the highest growth rates in Asia during the next few years due to the country’s continued economic expansion, rising household incomes, and relatively low penetration of existing banking services. Over the past two decades, the Vietnamese government has undertaken a series of reforms to strengthen and modernize the sector as part of the country’s move towards a more open and market-oriented economy. Many of these reforms have also been motivated by Vietnam’s growing participation in international agreements and ongoing efforts to adopt international standards such as the Basel capital framework. Key reforms include a restructuring of the banking system, a gradual opening to foreign investment, the partial privatization of state-owned banking institutions, and measures to strengthen the capitalization of Vietnamese banks. This Asia Focus report provides an overview of Vietnam’s banking sector, reviews significant developments since the mid 1980s, and highlights key challenges to reform implementation. Free full text http://www.frbsf.org/publications/banking/asiafocus/2011/june-banking-reform-in-vietnam.pdf.

Community exposure to arsenic in the Mekong river delta, Southern Vietnam. Hoang Thi Hanh, Kyoung-Woong Kim, Sunbaek Bang and Nguyen My Hoa. Journal of Environmental Monitoring, 2011, Advance Article, First published on the web 08 Jun 2011. Abstract: We examined the daily inorganic arsenic (i-As) intake from drinking water and rice in 45 households (75 individuals) in the An Giang province, Southern Vietnam. The daily i-As intake ranged from 28–102 µg d−1, equivalent to the daily dose of 0.6–1.9 µg d−1 kg(body wt)−1. Increased As concentrations were observed in human hair in the study location. Approximately 67% (n = 44), 42% (n = 28), and 15% (n = 10) of the hair samples had As levels exceeding 1, 3, and 10 µg g−1, respectively. The total As concentrations in female and male hair correlated well with the total daily i-As intake. Measurement of As concentrations in the hair of people who were consuming or had previously consumed As from contaminated sources may help predict the onset of negative health effects. We suggested an application of the Bayes's theorem to calculate the probability that an individual in a population will acquire a negative health effect, given that the concentration of arsenic in the subject's hair has been determined. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Consumption insurance and illness in rural Thailand and Vietnam. Niels Kempery, Rainer Klumpz, Tobias Lechtenfeldx. Preliminary Version. February 2011. Abstract: Health shocks continue to pose a major threat to household welfare in developing countries. Drawing on a three-wave panel data set we examine how capable house-holds in Thailand and Vietnam are in insuring consumption against health shocks. We …nd that health shocks in Thailand as compared to Vietnam (i) cause lower medical consumption expenditures, (ii) have no e¤ect on the change of non-medical consumption expenditures and (iii) that households are more capable of smoothing income ‡uctuations due to health shocks. We argue en detail that our …ndings are the direct outcome of di¤erent health care policies in the two countries. Free full text http://pagesperso.dial.prd.fr/dial_pagesperso/dial_eve_shocks/pdf/200_Lenchtenfeld%20Tobias.pdf.

Developing a Bilateral Input-Output Table in the Case of Thailand and Vietnam: Methodology and Applications. Kim Kwangmoon, Francisco Secretario, Bui Trinh, Hidefumi Kaneko. Paper prepared for the 19th International Input-Output Conference, 13-17 June 2011, Alexandria, USA. Abstract: This paper attempts to measure and analyze the interdependent economic relations between the countries of Thailand and Vietnam, made possible by constructing a bilateral input-output (I-O) table linking the said two countries. It is an inter-regional type of I-O models that provides a compact and comprehensive accounting framework to quantify the economic inter-relationships among and between industries located in the study regions. -- This study is deemed to be a prototype of what the Association of Regional Econometrics and Environmental Studies (AREES) needs to support its ongoing efforts to develop an integrated database for its proposed research project, entitled: “Impact Analysis of Infrastructure Investment in the Indochina Region: An Input-Output (I-O) Approach”. One interesting observation of the results is the multiplier effect of export demand on the import requirements in production. While the import content of the production of export-oriented commodities cannot be directly measured from the I-O table, impact analysis revealed that production of export goods and services in Thailand was found to be more import-dependent than in Vietnam’s. It can thus be concluded that, in terms of net foreign exchange earnings, which is estimated as the difference between gross export receipts and calculated import “leakages”, appeared to be relatively more beneficial to Vietnam’s economy than to Thailand’s. Free full text http://www.iioa.org/files/conference-2/456_20110525041_Final_draft_KIM.Kwangmoon_IIOA.pdf.

Development of Driving Cycles for Motorcycles and Light Duty Vehicles in Vietnam. H.Y Tong, H.D Tung, W.T Hung and H.V Nguyen. Atmospheric Environment, Article in Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 21 June 2011. Abstract: The Centre for Environmental Monitoring of the Vietnam Environment Administration in Hanoi launched a 2–year emissions monitoring program which aimed at determining the emission factors and emission inventories for two typical types of vehicle in Hanoi. To achieve these objectives, developing driving cycles representative of the local driving conditions are of essential tasks before any emission testing can be conducted. Therefore, this paper presents the results of the development of two driving cycles for a motorcycle and a light duty vehicle (LDV) in Hanoi. On–road speed–time data were collected by two test vehicles along 10 routes in the urban areas of Hanoi. The collected data were analysed to characterise the typical driving patterns and characteristics. A unique driving cycle was therefore developed for each of the two types of vehicle for Hanoi (i.e. CEMDC and CECDC). The cycles were developed by a random selection process to match the overall summary statistics. The CEMDC and CECDC cycles are the first set of driving cycles developed for Hanoi which can be applied to the next stage of the program for emission testing to determine the emission factors for Hanoi as well as for government’s emission control testing. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Eco-industrial park: from theory to practice: Case study in Kinh Mon District, Hai Duong Province, Vietnam. Nguyen Thi Hoang Lien, Dao Thi Thanh Huyen, Pham Thanh Van, Ngo Thi Le Trang. VNU Journal of Science, Earth Sciences 27 (2011) 1-12. Abstract: Operating eco-industrial park (EIP) based on industrial ecology theory has emerged since 1970s to reduce the impact of waste and save natural resources. It is especially meaningful for developing countries like Vietnam to reach sustainable development goals. The study is based on the theory of industrial ecology, the previous studies of applicable capacity in Vietnam condition
and the development orientations in Hai Duong province – the study area. The aim of this research is to develop an EIP model in Kinh Mon district, Hai Duong province which have been developing material industry quite fast, along with the degradation of the environment. Kinh Mon EIP has been developed with Hai Duong thermal power plant (2x600MW) in focus, along with a paper mill, an unbaked material factory, a fly ash treatment factory and Hoang Thach cement factory’s supporting; constituting a symbiotic system. The model has a material cycle among the factories, which can reduce resources demands and industrial waste emitted to the environment – one of the EIP’s aims. The model has many advantages, especially the high applicability in this particular case because it is based on actual needs of the province, as well as the availability of natural resources. Free full text http://news.vnu.edu.vn/khtd_1_11/1.pdf.

Ecological Factors Associated with Dengue Fever in a Central Highlands Province, Vietnam. HV Pham, HT Doan, TT Phan, and NN Tran Minh. BMC Infect Dis, June 16, 2011; 11(1): 172. ABSTRACT: BACKGROUND: Dengue is a leading cause of severe illness and hospitalization in Vietnam. This study sought to elucidate the linkage between climate factors, mosquito indices and dengue incidence. METHODS: Monthly data on dengue cases and mosquito larval indices were ascertained between 2004 and 2008 in the Dak Lak province (Vietnam). Temperature, sunshine, rainfall and humidity were also recorded as monthly averages. The association between these ecological factors and dengue was assessed by the Poisson regression model with adjustment for seasonality. RESULTS: During the study period, 3,502 cases of dengue fever were reported. Approximately 72% of cases were reported from July to October. After adjusting for seasonality, the incidence of dengue fever was significantly associated with the following factors: higher household index (risk ratio [RR]: 1.66; 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.62-1.70 per 5% increase), higher container index (RR: 1.78; 95% CI: 1.73-1.83 per 5% increase), and higher Breteau index (RR: 1.57; 95% CI: 1.53-1.60 per 5 unit increase). The risk of dengue was also associated with elevated temperature (RR: 1.39; 95% CI: 1.25-1.55 per 20°C increase), higher humidity (RR: 1.59; 95% CI: 1.51-1.67 per 5% increase), and higher rainfall (RR: 1.13; 95% CI: 1.21-1.74 per 50 mm increase). The risk of dengue was inversely associated with duration of sunshine, the number of dengue cases being lower as the sunshine increases (RR: 0.76; 95% CI: 0.73-0.79 per 50 hours increase). CONCLUSIONS: These data suggest that indices of mosquito and climate factors are main determinants of dengue fever in Vietnam. This finding suggests that the global climate change will likely increase the burden of dengue fever infection in Vietnam, and that intensified surveillance and control of mosquito during high temperature and rainfall seasons may be an important strategy for containing the burden of dengue fever. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

EIB To Outperform. (cover story) Asia Monitor: South East Asia Monitor Volume 1, Jul2011, Vol. 22 Issue 7, p1-4, 2p; Abstract: The article evaluates four commercial banks in Vietnam including Vietnam Export Import Commercial Bank (EIB), Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam (VCB), and Saigon Thuong Tin Commercial Bank, to determine which can deal with the expected challenges in the banking sector. It notes that the monetary tightening of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) has resulted to risk in profitability of the banking industry. It relays that EIB outperformed the group because of its strong return-on-asset (ROA) ratios. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=61263494&site=ehost-live.

Epidemics as Politics with Case Studies from Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. Tuong Vu. GLOBAL HEALTH GOVERNANCE, VOLUME IV, NO. 2 (SPRING 2011). Abstract: Severe epidemics caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and avian influenza viruses have recently killed hundreds of people while causing chaos and panic in many countries. These epidemics have distinct characteristics that make their politics significant and interesting, although both health policy analysts and political scientists have neglected the phenomenon. In this article, I propose an analytical framework that treats epidemics as political processes divided into four phases: “pre-political,” “announcement,” “mitigation,” and “rebuilding” phases. I then apply the framework to the case studies of Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, and show how level of democracy, level of centralization in the state structure, and the social construction of risks shaped government responses to epidemics in these cases. The cases suggest that global health governance should not ignore politics at the national level and the redistributive impact of epidemics originating from or transmissible through livestock. Free full text http://ghgj.org/TuongVu.pdf.

Equity-based entry modes of the Greater Chinese Economic Area’s foreign direct investments in Vietnam. Bih-Lian Shieh and Tzong-Chen Wu. International Business Review, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 25 June 2011. Abstract: In January 2007, Vietnam became the 150th member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Vietnam is located in the heart of Asia and has a resource-rich economy, which offers it a significant advantage in attracting foreign direct investments (FDIs). The research focuses on equity-based entry mode choices adopted by multinational corporations (MNCs) in the Greater Chinese Economic Area (GCEA) for entering Vietnam. The statistical results indicate that equity-based entry modes are significant when FDI firms entering Vietnam originate from the GCEA, which includes Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore. However, the interaction results show that industry does not have a moderating effect on the relationship between location and entry mode, whereas it is not found that industrial cluster is specific to any one location. The generalized model has implications for the theoretical and managerial perspectives of both the host and the home countries. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S096959311100117X.

GIS-Based management of urban tree and green spaces in Vietnam cities. Tran Hung, Pham Khanh Chi. Paper prepared for the Conference "Future Cities are Green" 16-17 December 2010, Hanoi, within the framework of the "German Year in Vietnam 2010". ABSTRACT: Vietnam’s cities and towns are growing fast with urban population growth of 8.9% per year demanding tremendous efforts to improve living conditions of the urban population. While the government has numerous investment programs to improve urban infrastructures and environmental standards, the urban green spaces are yet to get sufficient consideration in city planning and management. Through two examples of GIS-based management of urban tree and green spaces in Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh cities, this paper discusses the potential and challenges in using GIS technology in urban infrastructure management in Vietnam. Free full text http://www.yepat.uni-greifswald.de/greenercities/images/stories/PDFs/8.pdf.

Governance issues for a New Tourism Region: The Mekong. Semone, P.; Laws, E.; Ruhanen, L.; Wang Zhuo; Scott, N. in Tourist destination governance: practice, theory and issues (Editors: Laws, E.;Richins, H.;Agrusa, J.;Scott, N.) Stylus Publishing 2011 pp. 25-38. Abstract: This chapter focuses on what may be termed ‘new tourist destination countries’: Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, part of the Greater Mekong Subregion, and discusses the numerous challenges these countries face in their governance as emerging tourist destinations. This chapter explains that these challenges are primarily the result of exceedingly high levels of tourist visitation to a few specific attractive destinations within each country and the corresponding intense pressures of revenue and development infrastructure growth. These pressures are exacerbated by control issues and variability of government structures in the provision and capability of addressing these dynamic challenges. Since these countries have become more open to development and visitation and have moved further toward a free market economy, increasingly strong governance frameworks have been required to address the numerous challenges brought about by this increase in tourism. The chapter explores the high level of diversity in the methods in which these emerging economies address tourist destination governance, including a discussion of
control, degree of accepted input, flexibility and the role of the private sector in decision making and policy making. This chapter also acknowledges the importance of further efforts being placed on responsibilities, frameworks, planning and monitoring, as well as further understanding the complex and unique pressures that tourism places on regional areas that are in various stages of development. Finally, the chapter explores the question of broader integration beyond borders in addressing effectively the challenges that tourist destination development create within the context of tourism governance. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Green cities by urban farming - a model for cities in Vietnam. Simone Krause, Volkmar Keuter. Paper prepared for the Conference "Future Cities are Green" 16-17 December 2010, Hanoi, within the framework of the "German Year in Vietnam 2010". ABSTRACT: Fifty per cent of the world population lives in cities. The degree of urbanization in industrial countries and part of the emerging countries is around 75%. In Vietnam this demographic burden is concentrated in the two big cities: Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. As a matter of fact, the population pressure and progressing urbanization drive the search for solutions to secure food supply and food quality in cities. From today’s point of view there is no sustainable concept on how to realize and secure food supply corresponding to food standards of the “rich world” with 10 billion people worldwide (UN 2009). Urban farming could be a chance for cities to guarantee their population’s supply with healthy food. Urban farming means the production of crop and livestock goods within cities and towns. In the economic and environmental view important reasons to further the urban farming approach are: contribution to climate protection, environment and nature protection, the supply of organic agriculture, the reduction of transport ways and costs and closing loops of material flow processes. From the view of urban planning who focus on the social life urban farming contributes to urban beautification, to the upgrade of structurally weak urban quarters and thus to increasing the quality of life in cities. Urban farming will design cities to be green cities in the future. This contribution will open up possibilities of urban farming concepts for Vietnamese cities. Different concepts will be presented and suitable concepts for Vietnamese cities will be discussed. The focus will be put on vertical farming including roof top farming. Free full text http://www.yepat.uni-greifswald.de/greenercities/images/stories/PDFs/14.pdf.

Greenhouse gas emission mitigation potential of rice husks for An Giang province, Vietnam. Pham Thi Mai Thao, Kiyo H. Kurisu, Keisuke Hanaki. Biomass and Bioenergy, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 12 June 2011. Abstract: To evaluate the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission mitigation potential of rice husk utilization, a life cycle inventory analysis was conducted for 18 scenarios. The allocation of fuels, other than rice husks, was decided based on the current demand for and supply of rice husks. To prevent the bulky nature of rice husks, briquette production is also discussed. In the power generation scenarios, the differences between two capacities (5 MW and 30 MW) were analyzed. The results of analysis reveal that CH4 and N2O emissions from open burning contribute largely to the current GHG emissions. Therefore, ceasing open burning alone has a large GHG mitigation potential. The use of briquettes, even though GHG is emitted during the production stage, can still contribute to GHG emission mitigation as the production is more efficient than rice husk burning or dumping. In the power generation scenarios, most GHG emissions were derived from the combustion process. Therefore, gasification which has a little combustion process is the most efficient GHG mitigator. Both the replacement of grid electricity by generated electricity, and the replacement of diesel oil by pyrolyzed oil show larger GHG mitigation potentials than what could be derived from open burning cessation alone. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Household Credit to the Poor and its Impact on Child Schooling in Peri-urban Areas, Vietnam. Tinh Doan, John Gibson and Mark Holmes. Waikato University, Department of Economics, Working Paper in Economics 10/11, June 2011. Abstract: This paper uses a novelty dataset of poor households in peri-urban areas in Vietnam to estimate impacts of small loans on child schooling. The Probit and Negative Binomial model estimates roughly indicate no strong evidence of the effect, especially of informal credit. Formal credit is likely to have positive impacts on child schooling, but its effect is not strong enough to be conclusive. The paper suggests that to obtain the target of sustainable poverty reduction, easing access to formal credit sources as well as exempting tuition and other school fees are necessary to keep poor children at schools longer. Free full text ftp://mngt.waikato.ac.nz/RePEc/wai/econwp/1110.pdf.
Impact of Medicated Feed on the Development of Antimicrobial Resistance in Bacteria at Integrated Pig-Fish Farms in Vietnam. Son Thi Thanh Dang, Andreas Petersen, Dung Van Truong, Huong Thi Thanh Chu, and Anders Dalsgaard. Applied and Environmental Microbiology, July 2011, p. 4494-4498, Vol. 77, No. 13. Abstract: Integrated livestock-fish aquaculture utilizes animal excreta, urine, and feed leftovers as pond fertilizers to enhance the growth of plankton and other microorganisms eaten by the fish. However, antimicrobial-resistant bacteria may be transferred and develop in the pond due to selective pressure from antimicrobials present in animal feed, urine, and feces. In an experimental pig-fish farm located in periurban Hanoi, Vietnam, nine piglets were provided feed containing 5 µg of tetracycline (TET)/kg pig weight/day and 0.45 µg of enrofloxacin (ENR)/kg pig weight/day during the second and fourth (last) months of the experiment. The aim of this study was to determine the association between the provision of pig feed with antimicrobials and the development of antimicrobial resistance, as measured in a total of 520 Escherichia coli and 634 Enterococcus strains isolated from pig manure and water-sediment pond samples. MIC values for nalidixic acid (NAL) and ENR showed that E. coli and Enterococcus spp. overall exhibited significant higher frequencies of resistance toward NAL and ENR during the 2 months when pigs were administered feed with antimicrobials, with frequencies reaching 60 to 80% in both water-sediment and manure samples. TET resistance for both indicators was high (>80%) throughout the study period, which indicates that TET-resistant E. coli and Enterococcus spp. were present in the piglets before the initiation of the experiment. PCR-based identification showed similar relative occurrences of Enterococcus faecium, Enterococcus faecalis, and other Enterococcus spp. in the water-sediment and manure samples, suggesting that Enterococcus spp. isolated in the ponds originated mainly from the pig manure. The development of antimicrobial resistance in integrated animal husbandry-fish farms and possible transfers and the impact of such resistance on food safety and human health should be further assessed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Indirect evidence of the contribution of prenatal sex selection practices to the high sex ratio at birth in Vietnam. Bang Nguyen Pham, Wayne Hall and Peter Stewart Hill. Journal of Population Research, published online 22 June 2011. Abstract: This paper reports indirect evidence that prenatal sex selection is a contributor to the recent increase in sex ratio at birth in Vietnam. The paper uses birth data from the Population Change Survey 2006 to assess the associations between sex ratio at birth and variables that predict increased opportunities to practise prenatal sex selection, including maternal knowledge of foetal sex before birth, the use of ultrasound for foetal sex determination, the gestation week when foetal sex was disclosed, and access to abortion services. The high sex ratio of most recent births was significantly associated with the use of ultrasound to determine the foetal sex in gestation weeks 12–22 and with access to family planning services that provide abortion. Prenatal sex selection in health facilities are likely to contribute to the recent increase in sex ratio at birth in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Informal pathbreakers: civil society networks in China and Vietnam. Wells-Dang, Andrew (2011). Ph.D. thesis, University of Birmingham. Abstract: This thesis re-conceptualises civil society as a process of cross-sectoral networking and alliance building among individual activists and organisations. Civil society networks are built on personal connections and develop into flexible, often informal structures that engage in path-breaking advocacy with authorities and elites. In the challenging political contexts of China and Vietnam, civil society networks have brought about significant social change. The findings of extensive fieldwork in both countries demonstrate a wider range of advocacy techniques and strategies than previously documented in one-party authoritarian political systems. Four in-depth qualitative case studies are presented to illustrate a range of network structures, histories and advocacy strategies: the Bright Future Group of people with disabilities (Vietnam), Women’s Network against AIDS (China), the Reunification Park public space network (Vietnam), and the China Rivers Network. Research questions concern how civil society networks form, how they operate, and what strategies they select to influence and interact with state actors and other stakeholders, as well as how network members evaluate the effectiveness of their actions. The thesis concludes with comparative evaluations of the case studies and recommendations for donors and international partners to support networks that form organically. Free full text http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/1631/.
Leading an International Nursing Partnership: The Vietnam Nurse Project. Crow, Gregory; Thuc, Le Ba. Nursing Administration Quarterly, July/September 2011 - Volume 35 - Issue 3 - p 204–211. Abstract: This article describes an international partnership between a US university in San Francisco, California, and a nursing school in Hanoi, Vietnam. The focus of the project is nursing education and practice. All successful partnerships require a great deal of trust, care, nurturing, and determination. However, regardless of the resources available, the first order of business must be to build trust and confidence between the players. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Mothers' preferences and willingness to pay for HPV vaccines in Vinh Long Province, Vietnam. Christine Poulos, Jui-Chen Yang, Carol Levin, Hoang Van Minh, Kim Bao Giang, Diep Nguyen. Social Science & Medicine, In Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 12 June 2011. Abstract: About 530,000 women develop cervical cancer worldwide and 275,000 die from the disease each year. Eighty percent of these deaths occur in developing countries. In Vietnam, cervical cancer has recently emerged as the most common cancer of women, and there are no national screening programs for cervical cancer. Since 2009, two different human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines have been licensed for use in Vietnam, but access to these vaccines is generally limited to people who live in urban areas. Studies have shown that HPV vaccination may be cost-effective in cervical cancer prevention in Vietnam, depending on vaccination costs. Given that current HPV vaccines are expensive and public health funding for supporting a rapid introduction of the vaccine is limited, expanding and sustaining access to the HPV vaccine may require alternative financing mechanisms, such as fees-based immunization services. -- A conjoint analysis study was conducted with mothers of girls 11 to 17 years of age in Vinh Long Province in Vietnam to estimate the mothers' private demand for HPV vaccines for their daughters and to measure the tradeoffs between vaccine fees and vaccine uptake. The results suggest that the demand for HPV vaccines was high, increased with vaccine effectiveness and duration of effectiveness, and decreased with vaccine cost. Vaccine effectiveness was the most important vaccine attribute to these mothers, followed by duration of effectiveness. The predicted probability of respondents buying an HPV vaccine that was 70% effective for 10 years varied by the price, ranging from 30% when the vaccine price was $353, to 68% when the vaccine cost $6 per course. As expected, demand and predicted purchase probability were higher among groups with higher socioeconomic status. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Patent Law and Public Health under the TRIPS Agreement Standards: How Does Vietnam Benefit from the WTO Membership? Anh L. T. Tran. The Journal of World Intellectual Property, Article first published online: 8 JUN 2011. Abstract: Being a full-fledged WTO member from January 2007, Vietnam started to gradually open its pharmaceutical market from 1 January 2007 with drug tariff reduction and to allow the foreign pharmaceutical companies to open their branches in Vietnam. Consequently, as the level of productions of drugs remains low, the price of pharmaceutical products in Vietnam’s market depends largely on the international market and foreign pharmaceutical companies. Indeed, these challenges require Vietnam to find solutions and one of them would be a legal response to the problems. The time has come to review the existing legal framework for pharmaceutical products and devise some ways of addressing the problems without undermining the obligations arising out of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and patent law concerning access to medicine and the price, importation and production of drugs in Vietnam. For this, an analysis of the manner in which the TRIPS Agreement provisions on patents have been implemented is called for so that some suggestions on how to use the provisions of “the TRIPS Agreement exceptions” and the TRIPS Agreement amendments could be made in order to improve the access to medicine by the people of Vietnam regardless of their level of income. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Perceived Stress and Avoidant Coping Moderate Disordered Gambling Among Emerging Adults in Vietnam. Ty W. Lostutter, Mary E. Larimer, Clayton Neighbors, and Linda M. Kaljee. Youth & Society June 17, 2011, first published on June 17, 2011. Abstract: Gambling research conducted in Asia has been limited, despite a continued growth of the gambling industry within the region. Outside Asia, research suggests emerging adults have high rates of gambling behavior and experience serious consequences. The current study examines gambling behavior within an emerging adult (ages 16-24) population in Vietnam. The study evaluates gambling
and tests a moderation model of stress and coping in relation to gambling. The rate of disordered gambling in this sample using the South Oaks Gambling Screen (SOGS, 3+) is 15%, slightly higher in comparison to samples of similar aged youth in other countries. Results also indicate avoidant coping moderated the relationship between gambling frequency and gambling problems, such that frequency was more strongly associated with gambling problems among individuals higher in avoidant coping. Etiological and epidemiological implications are discussed in the context of a developmental perspective on disordered gambling among Vietnamese emerging adults. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Public Information Notice: IMF Executive Board Concludes 2011 Article IV Consultation with Vietnam. On April 29, 2011, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) concluded the Article IV consultation with Vietnam. Background: Vietnam has weathered the global crisis well: GDP growth for 2010 is estimated at 6¾ percent, higher than the government’s target. But macroeconomic risks stemming from expansionary policies adopted during the global crisis have materialized. Even as most fiscal stimulus measures expired end-2009, monetary policy has remained accommodative, contributing to continued strong credit growth (35 percent y/y in February), rising inflation (17.5 percent y/y in April), and downward pressures on the exchange rate as residents hoard foreign currency and gold outside the financial system. International reserves declined from already low levels. Free full text http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pn/2011/pn1181.htm.

Reinforced concrete bridges in Vietnam: Specific problems and proposed maintenance strategies. Dinh Tuan Hai, Ha Minh & Hiroshi Mutsuyoshi. Structure and Infrastructure Engineering, Volume 7, Issue 9, 2011, pages 689-699. Abstract: This paper reports on an investigation conducted on existing bridges in Vietnam. The evaluation approach includes visual inspections and non-destructive tests of concrete structures, personal interviews of site engineers in the field and reviews of available publications from the media and literature. The diagnostics confirm that the concrete is of low quality and shows many shortcomings, such as failure, damage, local defects and premature ageing. A series of diversified maintenance strategies is proposed to focus on both tactical and strategic levels. It is necessary to rectify current problems of concrete structures, to prevent such a collapse in future, and to enhance physical and serviceable conditions of existing bridges in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Residual congener pattern of dioxins in human breast milk in southern Vietnam. Kenji Tawara, Muneko Nishijo, Shoko Maruzeni, Hideaki Nakagawa, Teruhiko Kido, Rie Naganuma, Hiroyuki Suzuki, Dang Duc Nhu, Nguyen Ngoc Hung, Le Thi Hong Thom. Chemosphere, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 15 June 2011. Abstract: This study evaluated residual congener patterns of dioxin/furan (=PCDD/DF) related to tactical herbicides aerially sprayed over the regions of southern Vietnam through Operation Ranch Hand. The study focused on Cam Chinh (CC) commune, Quang Tri province (an area sprayed with tactical herbicides), and the Cam Phuc (CP) commune, Ha Tinh province (a non-sprayed area). Breast milk samples for analysis were collected in September 2002 and July 2003 from lactating primiparous and multiparous mothers born after the war (<31 years old). We found the levels of each congener in the CC commune were higher than in the CP commune, and determined specificity in the PCDD/DF congener pattern in CC commune samples by cluster analysis. The congener pattern is characterized by higher (the hexa-, the hepta-, and the octa-) chlorinated PCDD/DFs; this appears to be the same profile as that presented by pentachlorophenol (PCP), rather than 2,4,5-trichlorophenoxy acid (2,4,5-T) contaminated with 2,3,7,8-TCDD. A GC/MS study in the 1970s detected the chlorophenols 2,4-di and 2,4,6-trichlorophenol in some Agent Orange samples, which contained, like PCP, a wide variety of PCDD/DF congeners. In this context, it may be expected that certain tactical herbicides contaminated with various chlorophenol impurities, have a unique congener pattern when compared with pure 2,4,5-T formulations. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Vietnam's trade partners. In addition, dynamic comparative advantage became evident in many products, but significant room remains for improving export competitiveness. Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows also increased and helped stimulate Vietnam's exports. FDI inflows have increased in both the short- and long-term, yet are only of a limited magnitude. This necessitates more effective measures to enhance the linkages between FDI and domestic enterprises. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1748-3131.2011.01187.x/full.

**Saline Intrusion Due to the Accelerative Sea Level in the Red River System in Vietnam.** N. H. Duc and M. Umeyama. in World Environmental and Water Resources Congress 2011: Bearing Knowledge for Sustainability: Proceedings of the 2011 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress. Abstract: Global climate change accelerates the sea level. Numerous investigations confirm that the indirect effect may be more significant than the direct effects by the rising sea level in this century; that is, it increases salinity of rivers and estuaries. The implications of sea level rise for increasing of salinity were examined for four estuary branches in the Red River System in North Vietnam using Savenije's salt-intrusion model, based on salinity data acquired in the dry season of 2006. By correlative analysis of river discharge, tidal range, and geometric characteristics, the changes of salt intrusion length and longitudinal salinity profile were estimated for three different sea levels: M.S.L.+30 cm, +75 cm, and +100 cm. It was found from the calculations that the saltwater intrusion extends 31–50% when the sea level is increased 100 cm by the year 2100. Most of the estuary branches are highly vulnerable to the sea level rise. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Sản xuất phân hữu cơ từ rác thải sinh hoạt hữu cơ phục vụ sản xuất nông nghiệp sạch tại vùng ven đô** [Composting household organic waste as bio-organic fertilizer for clean vegetable production - Full text in Vietnamese]. Đào Châu Thu, Nguyễn Xuân Trưởng, Đào Ngọc Lan. Paper prepared for the Conference "Future Cities are Green" 16-17 December 2010, Hanoi, within the framework of the "German Year in Vietnam 2010". Abstract: The objectives of the research: to complete the process of composting household organic waste (OW) with microorganism to produce bio-organic fertilizer; to evaluate the quality of the compost products through compost sample analyzing and testing this fertilizer for clean vegetable production at farmer level. The main content of research: (1) Collection and separation of organic waste at household; (2) Composting Organic waste following new bio-microorganism technology by isolated and selected microorganisms with high digestion powers for Nitrogen fixing and Phosphorus and Cellulose solving; (4) Analyzing the quality of the composting products as organic fertilizer; (5) Testing bio-organic fertilizer for clean vegetables on farmer’s fields. Free full text http://www.yepat.uni-greifswald.de/greenercities/images/stories/PDFs/3.pdf.

**Social capital and loan repayment performance in Southeast Asia.** Thomas Dufhues, Gertrud Buchenrieder, Hoang Dinh Quoc, Nuchanata Munkung. Journal of Socio-Economics, In Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 12 June 2011. Abstract: This paper analyses the effects of different forms of social capital on credit repayment behaviour. In the context of development economics an innovative data collection approach is used that originates from the field of sociology. A personal network survey is carried out to measure the individual social capital of borrowers. We distinguish four social capital variables between the respondent and his/her network members according to tie strength (bonding/bridging) and social distance (bondinglink/bridginglink). The effects of social capital vary according to socio-cultural context. For instance, in Thailand bonding and in Vietnam bridginglink social capital has a positive effect on loan repayment. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Software for Sustainability Assessment: a Case Study in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam.** Le Trinh Hai, Pham Hoang Hai, Chu Lam Thai, Jean Hugé, Albert Ahenkan, Le Xuan Quynh, Vu Van Hieu, Nguyen Le The Tung and Luc Hens. Environmental Modeling and Assessment 2011. Abstract: Sustainable development is a widespread concept. Indicator selection and sustainability assessment are basic methods to analyse the sustainable development process. This study aims to develop a software application to select indicators and to allocate weightings to the indicators and the sub-indexes, so that they can be listed in a sustainability assessment. The Visual Basic software is used to develop a software package based on Delphi, analytic
hierarchy, normalization and combination processes. Software for sustainability assessment was developed. Thirty-five indicators are selected as a first step of which eight health indicators and eight environmental ones and their sub-indexes are given weightings. The indicators are normalized. Sub-indexes are combined into a composite sustainable development index. The model is validated showing the ‘main features’ of the sustainability situation on health and environmental aspects in the Quang Tri province during the period 2000–2005. The results support the decision-making process of the competent authorities. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Spatial Decline Distribution of Groundwater Levels of Confined Aquifer in the Whole Red River Delta, Vietnam. D. D. Bui, A. Kawamura, T. N. Tong, H. Amaguchi, and N. Nakagawa. in World Environmental and Water Resources Congress 2011: Bearing Knowledge for Sustainability: Proceedings of the 2011 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress. Abstract: Monitoring and interpreting changes in groundwater levels are essential for groundwater management. However, a fairly wide groundwater monitoring network over the Red River Delta, Vietnam was not set up until 1995. This paper investigated trends and their slopes in groundwater level series (1995–2009) in 63 observation wells for confined aquifer by the non-parametric Mann-Kendall trend test and Sen's slope estimator. The analyses revealed that groundwater levels experienced significant downward trends almost all wells and time series. Spatial distribution of different trend slope was clarified over the delta in which central and coastal areas showed more serious downward trend slopes than other areas. Trend results for 18 different time series (e.g. monthly, seasonal, annual means and so on) were quite similar regardless to time series to be studied. While annual cycle in groundwater levels were strongly associated with those in rainfall and river water levels, long-term downward trends could result from increasing groundwater withdrawal. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Street Vendor Livelihoods and Everyday Politics in Hanoi, Vietnam: The Seeds of a Diverse Economy? Sarah Turner, Laura Schoenberger. Urban Studies June 24, 2011 0042098011408934, first published on June 24, 2011. Abstract: The alternative ‘diverse economies’ vision of J. K. Gibson-Graham and supporters regarding how people make a living outside the capitalist framework, lists street vendors and informal economies of the global South as potential components. This article critiques the relevance of this vision for street vendor livelihoods in a politically socialist locale, albeit one embracing neo-liberal modernity. In their drive to create a modern, ‘civilised’ capital, Vietnam’s central government and Hanoi’s municipal authorities have a particular image of security, orderliness and development. Street vendors disrupt this picture and since 2008 have been negotiating a ban in many preferred locales. Building upon urban livelihoods, everyday politics and resistance concepts, an analysis is made of in-depth interviews with itinerant and fixed-stall vendors to unravel their heterogeneous responses to such revanchist policies. Despite subtle covert and overt resistance tactics, the study reveals that celebrated ‘community economies’ and alternative economic visions remain rare in this context. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The Causes of Recent Inflation in Vietnam: Evidence from a VAR with Sign Restrictions. Tuan Khai Vu. Faculty of Economics, Seikei University, First version: Jan, 2011. This version: May, 2011. (Preliminary. Comments are welcome). Abstract: This paper studies the causes of high and chronic inflation in Vietnam in recent years using the structural VAR method identified by sign restrictions. The sign restrictions are drawn from a New Keynesian small open economy DSGE model built and calibrated to the data of Vietnam. Variance decomposition results show that supply shocks and demand shocks seem to explain a large part of inflation over the whole sample period, while the contribution of monetary shocks is smaller but not negligible. Historical decomposition results show that demand shocks and, to a lesser extent, monetary shocks seem to be the main determinants of inflation in the period 2004Q1-08Q3, while supply shocks appear to be more important in the period 2008Q1-10Q4. Free full text http://www.apeaweb.org/confer/bus11/papers/Vu_tk.pdf.

The effect of financial management practices on profitability of small and medium enterprise in Vietnam. Shao-Hsi Chung, Jen-Hui Chuang. Paper prepared for the International Conference on Business and Information 2011 (BAI2011), July 4-6, 2011, Bangkok, Thailand. ABSTRACT: Vietnam has been one of Asia’s fastest growing economies over the last 20 years. Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) play an
important role in the economic growth in Vietnam. SMEs contribute to economic development in various ways: by creating employment for rural and urban growing labor force, providing desirable sustainability and innovation in the economy as a whole. It is said that profitability is the most concerned goal of enterprise owners. However, with the employment of financial management practice in Vietnamese SMEs, the impact of the practice on profitability still lack of investigation. Therefore, studying about relationships between financial management practice and profitability in SMEs will have belief in the effectiveness of financial management and be helpful in understanding the financial management of SMEs. This study focuses on five practices of financial management: Capital structure management, Working capital management, Financial reporting and analysis, Fixed asset management, Accounting information system. A questionnaire-based survey method was used to collect data. A self-administered mail was sent to 350 CFO of SMEs in Vietnam. The research results find positive relationships between financial management on SMEs’ profitability. Free full text http://bai-conference.org/BAI2011/Papers/3.Accounting/3047.doc.

The greening of Hanoi: towards a liveable city. Nguyen Thi Hoang Lien. Paper prepared for the Conference "Future Cities are Green" 16-17 December 2010, Hanoi, within the framework of the "German Year in Vietnam 2010". ABSTRACT: Planning for Hanoi has often highly valued green space as an important factor. However, city planning in different historical periods have been influenced by different external cultures including Eastern (Chinese) and Western (French colonial, Soviet communist and modern Western). This paper reviews the history of the city and the history of city planning and provisions of green space. Analysis of different planning would provide an overview of how has the city and its green space been planned and finding the shortcomings that need to be dealt with. Several recommendations are made in order to achieve a greener and liveable Hanoi. Free full text http://www.yepat.uni-greifswald.de/greenercities/images/stories/PDFs/5.pdf.

The semicentralized approach to integrated water supply and treatment of solid waste and wastewater—a flexible infrastructure strategy for rapidly growing urban regions: the case of Hanoi/Vietnam. Hans Reiner Böhm, Sophie Schramm, Susanne Bieker, Carola Zeig, Tran Huy Anh and Nguyen Chi Thanh. Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy 2011 (Online first version). Abstract: The development of the world population is characterized by an absolute population growth and a rapid urbanization. This process, taking place in Asia, Latin America, and Africa, poses major pressure on the affected urban regions. In Asian countries, this development is combined with high economic growth rates. At the same time, the climate change is proceeding, and the energy supply is going to become an existential problem. The rapidly growing cities therefore face the issue that the supply of infrastructures and public services lag behind the rapid urbanization. The increasing energy costs and the imperative to reduce the CO2 emissions aggravate the situation. The centralized systems which started to be implemented in the industrialized countries more than 100 years ago are no longer the appropriate way to solve these problems. The semicentralized integrated approach, recently developed for rapidly growing urban regions in China, in contrast, offers with its flexibility a sustainable solution to cope with these developments. This article presents objectives and first results of an interdisciplinary R&D project aiming at the adaptation of the semicentralized integrated approach to the case of Hanoi, the rapidly growing capital of Vietnam, to contribute to the solution of the sanitation problems of both the old City Center and the urban expansions in conjunction. This article focuses on the planning and institutional aspects. The technical questions will be presented later in separate articles. The ongoing project is conducted by the Technische Universität Darmstadt in cooperation with the National University of Civil Engineering Hanoi and an industrial partner. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Trend Detection in Groundwater Levels of Holocene Unconfined Aquifer in Hanoi, Vietnam by Non-Parametric Approaches. A. Kawamura, D. D. Bui, T. N. Tong, H. Amaguchi, and N. Nakagawa. in: World Environmental and Water Resources Congress 2011: Bearing Knowledge for Sustainability: Proceedings of the 2011 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress. Abstract: Using the longest records (1995–2009) at a dense network of 21 observation wells available for Holocene unconfined aquifer (HUA) in Hanoi, this paper explored trends and their slopes in groundwater levels by utilizing the non-parametric Mann-Kendall trend test and Sen's slope estimator. At each well, 18 time series encompassing important groundwater level components (e.g. monthly, seasonal, annual means and so on) were analyzed to provide insights into the trends.
This study highlighted that nonparametric approach is particularly suited to hydrological series in general and to groundwater level series in particular. Analyses for monthly data revealed that 12 out of 21 wells showed downward trends, while 4 wells showed upward trends. The spatial patterns of different trend slopes were also identified over HUA area. Although the trend results for other time series at a given well were quite similar, different trend patterns were detected in several time series. The findings provide useful references to sustainable groundwater development in Hanoi. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Utilization of HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Vietnam: An Evaluation of 5 Years of Routine Program Data for National Response. NT Hong, MI Wolfe, TT Dat, DA McFarland, ML Lamb, NT Thang, HN Thai, and C Del Rio. AIDS Educ Prev, June 1, 2011; 23(3 Suppl): 30-48. Abstract: This study evaluated the utilization of HIV voluntary counseling-and-testing (VCT) services targeting high-risk populations in Vietnam in order to inform decisions on program improvement and expansion. A total of 158,888 records collected from 55 VCT sites supported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Global AIDS Program in the period of 2002 to 2007 were used to analyze sociodemographic characteristics, risk exposures, seropositivity, test refusal, and failure to return for test results among VCT clients. High-risk exposures, such as injection drug use, commercial sex work, homosexual contacts or heterosexual contacts with high-risk sex partners, were reported in 126,815 (81%) records. Among high-risk clients, any condom use in the past month ranged from 34% to 71%. During the study period, 19% of the VCT encounters resulted in a positive HIV test; of those persons tested, 23% of men and 13% of women were HIV-positive. High HIV positivity rates were associated with injection drug use, being ill/recommended by health care provider, and having an HIV-infected sex partner. Of all records, 6.1% documented refusal of HIV testing. Failure to return for results was reported in 3.5% of records for clients who were tested. Previously testing positive was the strongest predictor of test refusal, and being referred by peer educators was associated with failure to return for results. The VCT program in Vietnam successfully targeted high-risk populations, and clients had high return rates using a standard testing strategy. Interventions to increase consistent condom use and promote access to prevention services among sex partners of high-risk individuals should be implemented and evaluated. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Vietnam’s Growing Pains: The potential is remarkable, but infrastructure needs to catch up. Sowinski, L.L. WORLD TRADE 2011 VOL 24; NUMB 6, page(s) 44-46. First paragraphs: With manufacturers on a never-ending quest for cost-effective production opportunities, Vietnam has moved up in the minds of executives, particularly for sectors such as clothing and apparel and footwear. The country’s infrastructure, however, must be improved in order to handle any substantial amount of cargo. APL is one company that recognizes the potential in Vietnam, and has made significant investments in the country. Barry Akbar, Managing Director, Vietnam, APL, recently shared some details about Vietnam’s opportunities and challenges. “In the World Economic Forum’s Competitiveness Report 2011, Vietnam is ranked 97th in port infrastructure score and 123rd in overall infrastructure, both behind its ASEAN peers Cambodia and Indonesia. Not only does infrastructure have room to improve, its overall infrastructure still lags behind its port infrastructure,” he said. “Ports in Vietnam handled 5.1 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in container throughput last year. There are three port clusters in Vietnam today, with the Ho Chi Minh City cluster in the south being the largest, accounting for more than two-thirds of the country’s throughput. This is also where Vietnam’s first purpose-built container port project with foreign investment—the APL-operated Vietnam International Container Terminal (VICT)—is located. The southern cluster includes terminals in the Cai Mep-Thi Vai and Hiep Phuoc areas. Almost all Vietnam’s remaining throughput comes from ports in the North, with Central Vietnam responsible for a mere 3 percent.” Free full text http://digital.bnpmedia.com/article/Vietnam%E2%80%99s+Growing+Pains/733070/0/article.html.

consumption, costs for investment and operating & maintenance as well as commonly missing embedding of Green City-concepts with economic and social urban development limit strongly the development of such concepts. The contribution will offer a short introduction of latest development in sustainable concepts to combine green and environmental infrastructure improving the potential of Green City-concept for urban resources management. The approach of treated wastewater can support such functions of green areas like cooling of buildings and energy savings. Special conceptional and technological applications were presented for water reuse in urban irrigation, in urban agriculture and also the potential of Green City as further local source for renewable energy. Free full text http://www.yepat.uni-greifswald.de/greenercities/images/stories/PDFs/1.pdf.

Youth Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Exploring the Impact of Macro-Level Shocks on Youth: 3F Crisis and Climate Change in Ghana, Mozambique and Vietnam. Paola Pereznieto, with Christiana Gbedemah, Paula Monjane, Gisa Roesen, Caroline Harper and Nicola Jones. Overseas Development Institute, May 2011. Executive Summary: This report presents a synthesis of the methods and findings of a participatory study in Ghana, Mozambique and Vietnam, which aims to fill the knowledge gap on the social impacts of crises on youth, and to ascertain their perspectives on their vulnerabilities and coping mechanisms, with a particular focus on those resulting from the global triple-F crisis and climate change. The youth population (aged 14-25) is critical to the progress of all three countries, and understanding how their social and economic development are affected by global shocks and how they can be better equipped to cope with them is crucial for policy development... Free full text http://www.dfid.gov.uk/r4d/PDF/Outputs/Mis_SPC/60828_Youth-Synthesis-Report-Final.pdf.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

2011 June 15 issue

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A conceptual framework for e-banking service quality in Vietnam. Long Pham. Business Studies Journal, Volume 2, Special Issue, Number 1, 2010. ABSTRACT: Service quality is one of the key factors in determining the success or failure of e-banking. To gain and sustain competitive advantages in the rival-driven e-banking market, it is thus crucial for e-banks to understand in-depth what customers perceive to be the key dimensions of service quality and what impacts the identified dimensions have on the customers’ perceived overall service quality, satisfaction, and loyalty. This paper attempts, based an extensive review of relevant literature, to provide a number of hypotheses that integrate three important constructs in the context of e-banking in Vietnam - emerging as a new potential market, such as e-service quality, esatisfaction, and e-loyalty. Free full text http://www.alliedacademies.org/Publications/Papers/BSJ%20Vol%202%20SI%20No%201%202010%20p%2081-95.pdf.

A Spatial Equilibrium Analysis of Policy for the Forestry and Wood-Processing Industries in Northern Vietnam. Phan Sy Hieu, Steve Harrison, David Lamb. Modern Economy Vol.2 No.2, May 2011, PP.90-106. ABSTRACT: National objectives for forestry and wood-processing industries have not usually been achieved to the extent that the Government of Vietnam planned. A spatial equilibrium model with linear supply and demand functions for the forestry and wood-processing industries was developed to analyse policies for northern Vietnam. Four policy scenarios were established, in each of which optimal levels of prices, supply and demand quantities were estimated, and solutions were subjected to sensitivity analysis with respect to the elasticity estimates. The analysis indicates that government objectives cannot be achieved in the 2010-15 period because plans if implemented would force the main stakeholders to produce unprofitable quantities. For greater financial viability and sustainability, the number of planned new wood-processing factories should be reduced and the design production capacity of each new factory should be increased to achieve economies of size and international market competitiveness. Also, the area of planted production forest in northern Vietnam will increase in all four policy scenarios; however, the growth should be lower than the levels planned for 2015. Free full text http://www.scirp.org/journal/PaperInformation.aspx?paperID=4896.

Air pollution forecast for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in 2015 and 2020. Bang Quoc Ho, Alain Clappier, Golay François. Air Quality, Atmosphere, & Health. Dordrecht: Jun 2011. Vol. 4, Iss. 2; p. 145. Abstract: Air pollution has deteriorated considerably the health of millions of people in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) due to high levels of emissions which caused more than 90% of children under the age of 5 years old to suffer from different respiratory illnesses in the city. The objectives of this research are to study the formation of the pollution plume over the city during a 3-day episode in February 2006 and to study two abatement strategies of air pollution for HCMC. The meteorology in HCMC is influenced by local phenomena and global phenomenon which create convergence fronts over and cause the formation of the plume of pollutants over the city. The plume of Ozone (O3) is developed in the north-western part of the city. The models successfully simulated these phenomena and their results are in good agreement with measurements. Two abatement strategies are studied in this work to help the local government who will make decisions for managing air quality in HCMC. For making a better-informed decision, the probabilistic estimate for the photochemical model is carried out in
this research. The Monte Carlo method that is applied in this research for the uncertainty analyses is an efficient method of producing a probabilistic output from the photochemical model. The results of these two abatement strategies showed that if the local government follows the emission control plan: (1) for 2015, the O3 concentration in 2015 will be similar to the present O3 concentration. (2) For 2020, the O3 concentration in 2020 will decrease of around 10-30% of O3 in comparison to the actual level. Free full text http://infoscience.epfl.ch/record/151694/files/2010%20QuocBangHo%20AirQuality.pdf.

Abstract: There has often been a gap between policy intentions and outcomes in the field of natural resource governance. Analysing the factors for these discrepancies requires multi-level approaches that relate policy decisions formulated at the national and international level with the decisions of local resource users. A key asset of the Institutional Analysis and Development framework is precisely its ability to link multiple governance levels. Yet most commons literature has been limited to the study of collective action among local communities without considering higher institutional and government levels. To overcome this limitation, I posit for a methodological development of the framework, which bridges the gap between institutional analysis, power-centred and historical approaches, and discourse analysis. The application of the extended framework to the study of state afforestation policies in Vietnam highlights the need to simultaneously consider institutions, the politico-economic context and discourses across governance and government levels. As illustrated in this paper, such a framework does not only facilitate the analysis of policy shortcomings but also supports the design and dissemination of policy recommendations. Full text is available upon request.

Cultural policy as sustainable development strategy in the case of Vietnam in post- Doi Moi era. Paper for the APEA 7th Conference, Busan, June 24-25th, 2011. Rough draft. Huong LE THU. Abstract: After the introduction of modernization reforms Doi Moi in 1986, Vietnam has gone through rapid transformations. This study aims at exploring the cultural factor of development, particularly focusing on the post-ratification of the UNESCO Convention on Diversity of Cultural Expressions from 2005. It examines the changes that occurred in Vietnamese cultural policy, and the issue of cultural rights. With intensifying activities, investments, and cooperation with international societies in the cultural sector, Vietnam has started to pay attention to more comprehensive development, which also includes culture. The sector, which was forgotten in the war time, neglected by the early Socialist regime, and suffered limitations due to economic difficulties, finally, with the recent growth can be revised. Participating in an international network of cultural exchanges has given Vietnam an impetus to develop strategies to protect traditional art and promote modern expressions. With stronger sense of appreciation of own heritage, culture becomes not only a form of entertainment or a luxury for those who can afford it. It becomes an indicator for cultural identity and awareness of the Vietnamese people. The author argues that culture should be considered by policy-makers as an equal pillar of sustainable development and highlights the insufficiency in research on cultural aspects of development in Vietnam. ---The first part of this study highlights Vietnamese cultural background; the second part describes the current improvements in domestic policy towards cultural sector and international participation in cultural projects. The analysis shall be made upon several independent artistic and initiatives and cultural organizations that have recently started to contribute to the changing conditions of Vietnamese art and culture sector. The third part searches for the links and shall prove the role of culture in the sustainable development in Vietnam. Prior to conclusion, the author underlines the major challenges ahead Vietnamese cultural sector. This study is built up upon academic publications, reports from international agencies, such as the World Bank, UNESCO, UNDP, the original official policy statements, as well as basing on empiric studies of Vietnamese art groupings and their experience in the developing environment of cultural expressions. Free full text http://www.apeaweb.org/confer/bus11/papers/lethu_huong.pdf.

Destination branding: The comparative case study of Guam and Vietnam. Thi Lan Huong Bui, Gerald S. A. Perez. Journal of International Business Research, Volume 9, Special Issue 2, 2010. ABSTRACT: In the context of a global recession, the tourism industry has struggled hard to battle declines in sales turnover, particularly in countries where inbound tourism is a major economic contributor to national output. To improve
their competitiveness, many countries not only promote their natural attractions but differentiate their
destinations with branding strategies that establish their unique positions to attract more international visitors
and boost sales. This paper is a comparative study of Japanese visitors and their behavior in Guam and
Vietnam, both destinations possessing many similarities in climate, culture, and beautiful beaches. Implications
for the tourism industry and branding are examined and justified by the high spending potential of the Japanese
market segment. Findings from this research can suggest successful paths to a country’s branding strategy and
tourism development. Free full text
http://www.alliedacademies.org/Publications/Papers/JIBR%20Vol%209%20SI_2_%202010%20p%2095-
111.pdf.

Development of climate change scenarios for small areas in Vietnam by using the MAGICC/SCENGEN
software in combination with statistic correction. Hoang Duc Cuong. VNU Journal of Science, Earth
Sciences 26 (2010) 179-184. Abstract. Climate change has been happening in scales of the global,
regional as well as in Vietnam because of human activities which impulse greenhouse gas increasing in the
atmosphere. To cope effectively with climate change, the understanding of future climate based on climate change scenarios,
particularly scenarios for small areas, is essential. This paper concerns on the application of
MAGICC/SCENGEN 5.3 software in combination with statistic correction to develop climate change scenarios
for small areas in Vietnam. Results showed that the temperature is increased, while rainfall is changed

Development of Clinical Psychology and Mental Health Resources in Vietnam. Bahr Weiss, Hoang-Minh Dang,
Victoria Ngo, Amie Pollack, David Sang, Trung T. Lam, My Loc Thi Nguyen, Huynh-Nhu Le, Nam Tran and
Cong Tran, et al. PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES- UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT 2011 VOL 56; NUMBER 2,
page(s) 185-191. Abstract: In this paper, we discuss development of the Vietnam National University graduate
Clinical Psychology Program, which has the goal of training both Vietnamese researchers who will develop and
evaluate culturally appropriate mental health treatments, as well as Vietnamese clinicians who will implement
and help disseminate these evidence-based treatments. We first review the background situation in Vietnam
regarding mental health, and its infrastructure and training needs, and discuss the process through which the
decision was made to develop a graduate program in clinical psychology as the best approach to address these
needs. We then review the development process for the program and its current status, and our focus on the
schools as a site for service provision and mental health task shifting. Finally, we outline future goals and plans
for the program, and discuss the various challenges that the program has faced and our attempts to resolve
them. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Dike building and agricultural transformation in the Mekong delta, Vietnam: dilemmas in water
management. Paper prepared for the 25th International Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) European
Regional Conference, May 16-20, 2011, Groningen, the Netherlands. Charles Howie. Abstract: Proposals to
raise dikes in An Giang Province, located in the Mekong River delta, and Vietnam’s foremost rice-producing
province, to heights which prevent the entry of all flood water, offers different potential opportunities for three
groups of stakeholders: those with land; those with little or no land; and the state. For farmers with land, the
end of seasonal flooding offers the potential to choose which crops to grow and greater flexibility about when
to grow them. However, high dikes also challenge the sustainability of rice growing. For those with little or no
land, the end of flooding, leading to a greater range of crops and year-round production, can create year-round
employment and opportunities for diversification of employment, including away from agriculture. Finally for
the state, high dikes offer an opportunity to regain the control of water management from the direct control
exercised by farmers through their ‘pumping clubs’. However, regaining control of water management also
offers the state an opportunity to improve the livelihoods of landless and poor people. Drawing on empirical
materials collected in three communes in this province, this paper examines the dilemmas faced by decisions-
makers. Finally it will suggest the impact of local decision-making process needs to be set within a wider
framework of change in the delta, brought on by increased ‘grass roots’ decision-making on the one hand and
the expected effects of climate change and sea level rise on the other. Free full text
Disability and Poverty in Vietnam. Daniel Mont and Nguyen Viet Cuong. World Bank Econ Rev (2011) First published online: June 6, 2011. Abstract: Disability is significantly correlated with poverty in Vietnam, according to data from the 2006 Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey, especially when the extra costs of living with a disability are taken into account. This disability-poverty link is also associated with lower educational attainment, an important factor in determining poverty and productive economic activity in general, both for household-based businesses and wage employment. Not taking into account these associations and the extra costs of disability will make some poor disabled people invisible in poverty statistics and impede efforts to reduce poverty. Full text http://wber.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2011/06/05/wber.lhr019.full.pdf+html.

Do tropical typhoons smash community ties? Evidence from Vietnam. Yanos Zylberberg. June 1, 2011. Abstract: Natural disasters trigger large inequalities between affected households and the rest of the community. The extent to which villages compensate for these shocks allegedly depends on the pressure imposed by the group of needy families. Matching data on a wave of tropical typhoons with a panel household survey in Vietnam, I find less redistribution in villages where needy families are in the minority. Whereas 17 cents on average are covered through informal transfers for a relative income loss of $1, access to liquidity falls below 10 cents when heavily affected households are isolated in the village. Furthermore, households unassimilated into the local culture participate less in the resources reallocation. Finally, communities having suffered big trauma show greater signs of resilience and cohesiveness. Free full text http://www.pse.ens.fr/junior/zylberberg/downloads/TropicalTyphoon_YZ.pdf.

Economic growth and changes in welfares during the economic reforms in Vietnam. Nguyen Huy Hoang. VNU Journal of Science, Economics and Business 26, No. 5E (2010) 11-23. Abstract. Over the past 20 years, with the reform policy called Doi Moi comprehensively applied to the economy, Vietnam has achieved great results in her economic development process. High rate of economic growth with average of 7-8% per annum sustained for almost nearly two decades has contributed to considerable increase in per capita income, from 180 USD in early 1990s to nearly 1,200 USD in 2010. With the considerable increase in per capita income, there was the improvement of the people’s general welfare. However, growth and development in the past 20 years has contributed to increase the gap between rich and poor. By using the qualitative method combined with the data explanatory analysis and the method of computing Gini index of inequality as well as growth model, the findings pointed that generally the income inequality in Vietnam during the 1998-2008 period (irrespective of the source of income) is in increasing tendency. In addition, based on the growth model estimation results, the study proved that the economic growth rate is in positively correlated to inequality in come. Free full text http://bulletin.vnu.edu.vn/ktkd_5_10/2.pdf.

Energy Consumption and Economic Growth in Vietnam: Threshold Cointegration and Causality Analysis. Phung Thanh Binh. International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2011, pp. 1-17. ABSTRACT: This study investigates the energy consumption-growth nexus in Vietnam. The causal relationship between the logarithm of per capita energy consumption (LPCEC) and the logarithm of per capita GDP (LPCGDP) during the 1976-2010 period is examined using the threshold cointegration and vector error correction models for Granger causality tests. The estimation results indicate that the LPCEC and LPCGDP for Vietnam are cointegrated and that there is a strong uni-directional causality running from LPCGDP to LPCEC, but not vice versa. It is also found that the effect of LPCGDP on LPCEC in Vietnam is time-varying (i.e. significantly different between before and after the structural breakpoint, 1992). The research results strongly support the neoclassical perspective that energy consumption is not a limiting factor to economic growth in Vietnam. Accordingly, an important policy implication resulting from this analysis is that government can pursue the conservation energy policies that aim at curtailing energy use for environmental friendly development purposes without creating severe effects on economic growth. The energy should be efficiently allocated into more productive sectors of the economy. Free full text http://www.econjournals.com/index.php/ijeep/article/viewFile/7/5.
Environmental Ecological Modeling of Human Blood Lead Levels in East Asia. Tamon Niisoe, Kouji H Harada, Toshiaki Hitomi, Takao Watanabe, et al. Environmental Science & Technology. Easton: Apr 1, 2011. Vol. 45, Iss. 7; p. 2856-62. Abstract: Environmental ecological modeling (EEM), which unifies models simulating transport of chemicals and exposure of humans to chemicals, was used to simulate long-term trends of female adult human blood lead levels (BLLs) and historical exposure to the atmospheric lead in four East Asian countries: Japan, Korea, China, and Vietnam. Anthropogenic lead emissions to the atmosphere in Vietnam were estimated from energy statistics to be 1931 t yr(-1). Calculated BLLs generally agreed with those observed in samples collected in these countries as the error factors were less than 2. The model results revealed that BLLs decreased significantly in Tokyo (by 58%) and Seoul (by 45%) in recent decades and confirmed the effects of efforts to reduce environmental lead in Japan and Korea. The model results also revealed that BLLs in Beijing did not decrease in this decade as much as in Tokyo and Seoul, despite the phasing out of leaded gasoline, and that the contribution from the atmospheric component was increasing (43% in 2009). Finally, we applied EEM to simulate BLLs of children in Hanoi. The probability of children having BLLs greater than 50 µg L(-1) was 7.5%, which was greater than those observed in developed countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Epidemiology of a Measles Epidemic in Vietnam 2008–2010. David H. Sniadack, Jorge Mendoza-Aldana, Dang Thi Thanh Huyen, Trieu Thi Thanh Van, Nguyen Van Cuong, Jean Marc Olive, Kohei Toda, and Nguyen Tran Hien. The Journal of Infectious Disease. 2011; 204:S476-S482. Abstract: -- Background: Vietnam conducted a measles catch-up supplementary immunization activity (SIA) during 2002–2003 that targeted children 9 months–10 years of age, followed by subnational SIAs targeting persons up to 20 years of age during 2004 and 2007–2008. A measles epidemic began among young adults in October 2008 in the northern region, spread nationwide during early 2009, and continued during 2010. -- Methods. We reviewed national epidemiologic and laboratory surveillance data. Measles cases were defined and classified according to World Health Organization recommendations. -- Results. From October 2008 through January 2010, 7948 confirmed measles cases were reported from 60 of 63 provinces, an incidence of 93 cases per million population. Incidence was 328 cases per million population among children age 1–4 years, 318 cases per million population among infants, and 271 cases per million population among persons aged 20–24 years. Few cases were reported among persons 7–17 or >27 years of age. Median age of cases trended downward over time in all regions. -- Conclusions. The 2002–2003 measles SIA protected its targeted age group, but this epidemic was not prevented by follow-up subnational SIAs in selected provinces during 2007–2008. Transmission began among young adults and was sustained among children. The outcome of Vietnam's 2010 SIA targeting children only and change in routine schedule may influence elimination strategies for other countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Exploring the Limits of the Judicialization of Urban Land Disputes in Vietnam. By: Gillespie, John. Law & Society Review, Jun2011, Vol. 45 Issue 2, p241-276, 36p; Abstract: Economic and legal reforms have triggered waves of conflict over property rights and access to urban land in Vietnam. In this article I develop four epistemic case studies to explore the main precepts and practices that courts must negotiate to extend their authority over land disputes. Courts face a dilemma: Do they apply state laws that disregard community regulatory practices and risk losing social relevance, or apply community notions of situational justice that undermine rule formalism? I conclude that reforms designed to increase rule formalism in the courts may have the unintended consequence of reducing the capacity for judges to find lasting solutions to land disputes. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=60806976&site=ehost-live.

Floodplain hydrology of the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. Nguyen Nghia Hung, José Miguel Delgado, Vo Khac Tri, Le Manh Hung, Bruno Merz, András Bárdossy, Heiko Apel. Hydrological Processes, Accepted Article (Accepted, unedited articles published online for future issues). 2011 John Wiley & Sons. Abstract: The Mekong Delta is one of the largest and most intensively used estuaries in the world. Each year it witnesses widespread flooding which is both the basis of the livelihood for more than 17 Million people but also the major hazard. Therefore, a thorough understanding of the hydrologic and hydraulic features is urgently required for various planning purposes. While the general causes and characteristics of the annual floods are understood, the inundation
dynamics in the floodplains in Vietnam which are highly controlled by dikes and other control structures have not been investigated in depth. Especially quantitative analyses are lacking, mainly due to scarce data about the inundation processes in the floodplains. Therefore, a comprehensive monitoring scheme for channel and floodplain inundation was established in a study area in the Plain of Reeds in the North-Eastern part of the Vietnamese Delta. This in-situ data collection was complemented by a series of high resolution inundation maps derived from the TerraSAR-X satellite for the flood seasons 2008 and 2009. Hence, the inundation dynamics in the channels and floodplains and the interaction between channels and floodplains could be quantified for the first time. The study identifies the strong human interference which is governed by flood protection levels, cropping patterns and communal water management. In addition, we examine the tidal influence on the inundation in various parts of the Delta, since it is expected that climate change induced sea level rise will increase the tidal contribution to floodplain inundation. Full text available upon request.

Future regional nuclear fuel cycle cooperation in East Asia: Energy security costs and benefits. David von Hippel, Peter Hayes, Jungmin Kang, Tadahiro Katsuta. Energy Policy, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 19 May 2011. Abstract: Economic growth in East Asia has rapidly increased regional energy, and especially, electricity needs. Many of the countries of East Asia have sought or are seeking to diversify their energy sources and bolster their energy supply and/or environmental security by developing nuclear power. Rapid development of nuclear power in East Asia brings with it concerns regarding nuclear weapons proliferation associated with uranium enrichment and spent nuclear fuel management. This article summarizes the development and analysis of four different scenarios of nuclear fuel cycle management in East Asia, including a scenario where each major nuclear power user develops uranium enrichment and reprocessing of spent fuel individually, scenarios featuring cooperation in the full fuel cycle, and a scenario where reprocessing is avoided in favor of dry cask storage of spent fuel. The material inputs and outputs and costs of key fuel cycle elements under each scenario are summarized. Full text is available upon request.

Groups Excluded from "Representative" Household Surveys: An Analysis Based on Remittances Sent and Received in Vietnam. Wade Donald Pfau and Giang Thanh Long. ASEAN Economic Bulletin, Volume 28, Number 1, April 2011. Abstract: The Vietnam Living Standard Surveys (VLSS), a part of the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study Household Surveys, are supposed to be representative of the entire population in Vietnam. However, we uncover an anomaly that the amount of remittances received from domestic sources is significantly larger than the amount of remittances sent to domestic sources, implying that the survey is at least not representative of remittance senders. By further exploring a unique characteristic of the survey questions about remittances, we determine that, in particular, female and urban-dwelling remittance senders are underrepresented in the survey. Full text http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/asean_economic_bulletin/v028/28.1.pfau.html.

ICT in teacher education in an emerging developing country: Vietnam's baseline situation at the start of `The Year of ICT'. Jef Peeraer and Peter Van Petegem. Computers & Education, Volume 56, Issue 4, May 2011, Pages 974-982. Abstract: In many developing countries, integration of ICT is a key component of an educational reform agenda. These countries can draw on a tradition of research in the developed world on factors determining integration of ICT in education. In this tradition, this study investigates the current situation of ICT integration in teacher education in Vietnam, an emerging developing country at the beginning of integrating ICT in education. 783 educators of five Vietnamese teacher education institutions completed a questionnaire. This analysis illuminates teacher educators’ access to ICT, their intensity of use, their related skills, and their confidence in using ICT, as well as their conceptions of learning. Exploratory multiple regression analysis addresses the importance of these different factors at the level of the educator for use of ICT in teaching practice. Even though teacher educators adhere to a constructivist approach to student learning, the use of ICT applications in teaching practice remains limited, mostly replacing traditional teaching practices. The factors currently determining the use of ICT in teaching practice are ICT skills (β = .522) and computer confidence (β = .158). Suggestions are provided for the country to move beyond an access and skills based
approach of integration of ICT in education and for emerging developing countries to cease the promise of ICT for education. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Impacts of Household Credit on Education and Healthcare Spending by the Poor in Peri-urban Areas in Vietnam. Tinh Doan, John Gibson and Mark Holmes. UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO, Hamilton, New Zealand, Department of Economics, Working Paper in Economics 06/11, May 2011. Abstract: There is debate about whether microfinance has positive impacts on education and health for borrowing households in developing countries. To provide evidence for this debate we use a new survey designed to meet the conditions for propensity score matching (PSM) and examine the impact of household credit on education and healthcare spending by the poor in peri-urban areas of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. In addition to matching statistically identical non-borrowers with borrowers, our estimates also control for household pre-treatment income and assets, which may be associated with unobservable factors affecting both credit participation and the outcomes of interest. The PSM estimates of binary treatment effect show significant and positive impacts of borrowing on education and healthcare spending. However, multiple ordered treatment effect estimates reveal that only formal credit has significant and positive impacts on education and healthcare spending, while informal credit has insignificant impacts on the spending. Free full text ftp://mngt.waikato.ac.nz/RePec/wai/econwp/econwp_final/1106_Doan_Gibson_Holmes.pdf.

Impacts of Rising Food Prices on Poverty and Welfare in Vietnam. Linh Vu and Paul Glewwe. Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics 2011, 36(1):14–27. Abstract: In 2007 and 2008, international prices of rice and other grains sharply increased, raising fears that poor households in developing countries would become poorer. Yet, these fears often ignored that many of these poor households were food producers. This study examines the impact of rising food prices on welfare in Vietnam. Our results show that, overall, higher food prices raised the average Vietnamese household’s welfare. However, higher food prices made most households worse off. Average welfare was found to increase because the average welfare loss of households whose welfare declined (net purchasers) was smaller than the average welfare gain of those whose welfare increased (net sellers). Free full text http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/105512/2/JARE,Apr2011,%2302,pp14-27,Glewwe.pdf.

Increase of entomological indices during the pre-epidemic period of dengue in Ben Tre, South Vietnam. [Article in French] Nguyen TP, Luu LL, Vu TQ, Buisson Y. Bulletin de la Société de pathologie exotique. 2011 Jun 3. Abstract: Dengue has emerged in Vietnam 50 years ago and since has become endemo-epidemic throughout the whole country. Each year, major epidemics of dengue fever (DF) and dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) hit South Vietnam during the rainy season, causing significant morbidity and mortality, especially among young children. The only preventive measure is vector control, but it is often implemented too late or indiscriminately. The aim of this study was to investigate, in the pre-epidemic stage, the existence of significant changes in vector indices, which will predict DF/DHF outbreaks. We conducted a descriptive transversal study, repeated once a month for four months (March to June) in the village of Locthuan (province Ben Tre) in the Mekong’s delta. Adult mosquitoes were caught in 30 houses, and larvae were collected in water holding containers of 50 houses. The houses were randomly selected. Vector densities were calculated according to the indices recommended by WHO. Virological analysis was carried out on lots of female Aedes and larvae in order to determine viral infection rates. Catches of adult mosquitoes collected 496 specimens including 329 Aedes, 139 Culex and 28 Anopheles. Aedes aegypti was present in 63% of visited homes that is an average density of 1.8 mosquitoes per house. The increase in imaginal indices during the 4 months was not significant. The survey of breeding sites of Ae. aegypti identified 1292 water containers in which 71,569 larval specimens were collected. The values of house index, container index [CI] and Breteau index [BI] increased each month, the latter from 166 to 442. This increase was significant for CI and BI. Breeding sites were mostly intra-home, mainly consisting of large and small ceramic jars. Larval density of Ae. aegypti in the containers also increased significantly over the 4 months. It was correlated with the lack of cover and predators such as Mesocyclops spp., Micronecta spp. and larvivorous fishes. Cultivation of 15 pools of 10 adult females and 29 pools of larvae (ie 1088 specimens) of Ae. aegypti failed to isolate dengue virus. The high Stegomyia indices measured in this South Vietnamese village and their increase before the rainy season reflect a situation at high risk of epidemics
but cannot predict the occurrence of an outbreak in the absence of virus isolation from mosquitoes. They justify conducting an integrated vector control throughout the year. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Information and communication technology in teacher education in Vietnam: from policy to practice.** Jef Peeraer and Peter Van Petegem. Educational Research for Policy and Practice, Published online 21 May 2011. Abstract: During the school year 2008–2009, the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam launched the ‘Year of ICT’ to produce a breakthrough in educational innovation. In light of this development we have carried out a policy analysis to study the national vision on ICT in education. The policy analysis takes into account a decade of governmental policy guidelines on ICT and education, starting from 2000—the year that the Ministry announced its Master Plan for ICT in education. A critical analysis puts rationales in perspective. Exploratory analysis at the level of five provincial teacher education institutions sheds light on the impact of these guidelines in teacher education. 783 educators completed a self-report questionnaire addressing factors of access, capacities and actual use of ICT in teaching practice. To assess the adopted discourse and operational planning, technology plans of the different institutions are analyzed. It is argued that unbalanced operational planning in the technology plans led to a gap between the current rhetoric in policy guidelines, vision statements of the institutions and the reality in teaching practice. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Into the land rush: facing the urban transition in Hanoi’s western suburbs.** Michael DiGregorio. International Development Planning Review. Liverpool: 2011. Vol. 33, Iss. 3; p. 293 (27 pages). Abstract: An urban transition of epochal proportions is underway in Vietnam. Of the many perspectives on this transformation, the least represented is that of villagers who are forced to interpret and respond to the changes taking place in the land rush around them. Leading up to the annexation of Hà Tây province in August 2008, the provincial government had approved hundreds of projects, mostly in districts bordering Hanoi and along the Láng Hòa Lạc corridor. Surrounded by project signboards promoting high-tech zones, new urban areas and resorts, villagers were confronted with previously unimaginable futures. Using a forced choice survey and face-to-face interviews, this research discovered that, while nearly all respondents agreed with the goals of development, skepticism over its claims were much higher among those closest to the urban edge. In response, they have retreated to sporadic protests over compensation and the restoration of ritual spaces as a means of maintaining community identity. Full text available upon request. (Proquest)

**Managing continuous improvement in Vietnam: Unique challenges and approaches to overcome them.** Nguyen, Phuong Anh; Robinson, Alan G. QUALITY CONTROL AND APPLIED STATISTICS 2011 VOL 56; NUMB 1/2, page(s) 77 Abstract: As Vietnam enters the global marketplace, it must take steps to avoid the low-cost labor trap and move up the production value chain by improving quality and productivity with continuous improvement (CI) practices. Despite interest from the international business community, the language barrier, lack of reliable data, and the culture of secrecy in Vietnam make it difficult to do management research, particularly on the use of CI techniques. A report is given on a research project to study the state of CI in Vietnam. Fieldwork and interviews with business leaders and others with knowledge of Vietnam help identify unique challenges to managing CI in Vietnam. Approaches to overcome these challenges are considered. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Occurrence of Phthalate Metabolites in Human Urine from Several Asian Countries.** Ying Guo, Husam Alomirah, Hyeon-Seo Cho, Tu Binh Minh, et al. Environmental Science & Technology. Easton: Apr 1, 2011. Vol. 45, Iss. 7; p. 3138-44. Abstract: The occurrence of 14 phthalate metabolites was found in human urine samples collected from seven Asian countries: China, India, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Phthalate metabolites were found in all samples, indicating widespread exposure of humans to phthalates in these Asian countries. The highest total (the sum of 14 phthalates) phthalate metabolite concentrations were found in samples collected from Kuwait (median: 1050 ng/mL), followed in decreasing order by samples from India (389 ng/mL), China (234 ng/mL), Vietnam (133 ng/mL), Japan (120 ng/mL), Korea (117 ng/mL), and Malaysia (94.9 ng/mL). The creatinine-adjusted median concentrations of total phthalates for urine samples from Kuwait, India, China, Vietnam, Japan, Korea, and Malaysia were 692, 506, 289, 119, 103, 104, and 169.
µg/g creatinine, respectively. Monomethyl phthalate (mMP), monoethyl phthalate (mEP), mono (2-isobutyl phthalate) (miBP), mono-n-butyl phthalate (mBP), and metabolites of di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) were the dominant compounds, collectively accounting for >95% of the total concentrations in the samples from the seven countries. The profiles of urinary phthalate metabolite concentrations varied among the samples collected from the seven countries. Urine samples from Kuwait contained the highest concentrations of mEP (median: 391 ng/mL), mBP (94.1 ng/mL), and the metabolites of DEHP (202 ng/mL), whereas samples from China and Japan contained the highest concentrations of miBP (50.8 ng/mL) and mMP (17.5 ng/mL), respectively. mEP was the predominant metabolite in urine samples from India and Kuwait (accounting for 49% of the total), mBP and miBP were the predominant compounds in samples from China (52%), and DEHP metabolites were the predominant compounds in samples from Korea (46%) and Vietnam (52%). Based on the urinary concentrations of mEP, mBP, miBP, and DEHP metabolites of the samples from the seven Asian countries, we estimated daily intake rates of diethyl phthalate (DEP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP), and DEHP. The results indicated that people in the seven Asian countries are exposed to DEP, DBP, and DEHP at levels well below the reference doses (RfD) suggested as unsafe by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The estimated exposure doses to DEHP in Kuwait, however, were above the RfD recommended by the EPA. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

On the signalling property of debt maturity: empirical evidence from a private bank in Vietnam. By: Lensink, Robert; Pham, Thi Thu Tra. Applied Economics Letters, Jun 2011, Vol. 18 Issue 9, p809-816, 8p; Abstract: This article provides new empirical evidence for the relevance of the signaling view on debt maturity, using data from a private bank in Vietnam. More specifically, we test the empirical predictions of the two main signaling models on debt maturity, that is, the models by Flannery (1986) and Diamond (1991), and compare this with the debt covenant view. The results of our regressions provide strong evidence for a downward-sloping effect of firm quality on maturity, which is in line with the signaling model of Flannery (1986), and contradict the debt covenant view. Our empirical analysis does not support the model by Diamond (1991). Full text is available upon request.

Payments for environmental services as neoliberal market-based forest conservation in Vietnam: Panacea or problem? Pamela D. McElwee. Geoforum, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 31 May 2011. Abstract: Recently in Vietnam, a coalition of international NGOs, donors and government officials have been promoting market-based forest conservation projects in the form of payments for environmental services (PES) as a win–win for both conservation and development objectives; Vietnam is now the first country in Southeast Asia with a national law on PES. This article provides a macro survey of how market-based instruments for forest conservation have expanded in Vietnam, particularly in relation to a long dominant state sector. Yet an assessment of Vietnam’s PES pilot projects indicates that they do not follow predicted orthodox “neoliberalization of nature” approaches in their use of market instruments, particularly in regards to privatization, retreat of the state, and capitalization of commodities. The article explores how it is that a strong state role in forest management can continue to dominate even in more market-oriented approaches. Finally, the article analyzes PES’s potential for success or failure in tackling the underlying causes for forest degradation. Ultimately, the article argues that PES is likely to be unable to tackle several of the key underlying causes for deforestation, namely, uneven land tenure and a lack of participation by local communities in conservation, given that PES is unlikely to be considerably different than past attempts at forest management. -- Highlights: ► Vietnam has begun using payments for environmental services (PES) for forest conservation. ► These market-based instruments do not follow expected “neoliberalization of nature” approaches. ► PES models show uneven results in promoting privatization and capitalization of commodities. ► A strong state role in forest management can dominate even in market-oriented PES approaches. ► PES is unlikely to be successful in Vietnam in tackling underlying causes for forest degradation. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0016718511000583.

policymakers alike, but evidence of the persistent impacts of different types of shocks on poverty is limited due to a lack of data; the significance of the impacts compared to other factors has also not been well studied. With the advantage of the unique data set for Vietnam, this thesis deals with the above issues and provides the most comprehensive study of the effects of shocks on poverty. Secondly, it is argued in the current literature that sectoral growth pattern matters for pro-poor growth. Current findings in the literature reveal a mixed picture regarding which industries contribute most to poverty reduction. It is stressed that a labour-intensive feature tends to make an industry more pro-poor. This study provides a wider and more consistent approach to explaining the mixed results in the literature, and compares different growth patterns in terms of poverty reduction. The issues have been examined in the context of Vietnam, a country successful in fighting poverty over the last decades. The two issues are investigated in three core chapters, in addition to the introduction and conclusion chapters. The first core chapter deals with the issue of adverse shocks by applying an econometric method. It confirms that four types of shocks, namely natural disaster, illness of a household member, crop failure and disease of livestock, generate a negative impact on poverty. The effect of natural disasters and health shocks can be persistent, lasting for more than three years and keeping people in persistent deprivation. The negative effect of shocks on poverty is significant enough to nullify the poverty-reduction achievements of other policies, such as the education policy. Government intervention in relieving the negative impact of shocks is necessary, and has helped Vietnam reduce its poverty headcount rate by up to 10%. The second and third core chapters study the effects of sectoral growth pattern on poverty and inequality by combining a Social Accounting Matrix multiplier decomposition technique and a Computable General Equilibrium micro-simulation modelling. The first approach is used in the second chapter, where it allows examination of the issue in the short term and identifies the factors that can affect the pro-poorness of the sectoral growth. The results show that some agricultural sectors, food processing and some non-financial services sectors contribute most to poverty reduction in Vietnam. The magnitude of the poverty reduction from sectoral growth depends on four features of the industry, namely labour-intensiveness, production linkage with the labour-intensive sector, the degree of sector interdependency, and the poverty sensitivity to income of the people who benefit from the growth of the sector. The growth rate of the sector itself also determines its contribution to poverty reduction. Sub-sectors of either agriculture, industry or service sectors can have these features; this explains the mixed findings in the literature. The second approach is applied in the third core chapter, which examines the issue in the medium and long term. The issues of inequality and spatial and ethnic poverty are also discussed in this chapter. The result confirms that more rapid growth of the sectors identified as the most pro-poor in the previous chapter is the most pro-poor long term sectoral growth pattern. Even the most pro-poor growth pattern generates a difference in spatial and ethnic poverty, and increases inequality. The thesis contributes to the improvement of the research methodology and a better understanding of the relationship between shocks, sectoral growth and poverty. The findings of the thesis provide policy implications for poverty reduction. There is an urgent need to improve the safety net system that helps people cope with adverse shocks. Promoting labour-intensive industry is not the only way to promote pro-poor growth. Industries that have a close production linkage with labour intensive industry have a strong interdependency with the rest of the economy, and the high poverty sensitivity of the people who benefit from the industry growth can also contribute largely to poverty reduction. As a result, the most pro-poor sector can be a sub-sector in the agriculture, industry or service sectors. This introduces more diversified and broader insights into the pro-poor sectoral growth pattern, which can widen policy choices for countries and be tailored to the country’s condition rather than narrowly advocating the development of the agricultural sectors. Free full text http://theses.gla.ac.uk/2659/.

Prediction of voltage sag in the transmission system of Vietnam: A case study. Khanh, Bach Quoc Phuc, Nguyen Hong. Paper prepared for the Power Systems Conference and Exposition (PSCE), 2011 IEEE/PES, 20-23 March 2011, Phoenix, AZ, USA. Abstract: In this paper, a novel effort for prediction of voltage sag in the entire transmission system of Vietnam is presented. As the Vietnamese electricity industry moves toward the electricity market, prediction will help utilities have early assessment of power quality in transmission system. The proposed prediction approach uses a fault position method in which the fault distribution in the transmission system is created based on an actual fault occurrence in the entire 220kV and 500kV transmission system throughout Vietnam that took place in 2008. The research also makes use of the SARFICURVE with ITIC and SEMI curve, which takes into account of the actual fault clearing time of protective devices used in
transmission system in Vietnam. By using SARFICURVE, a better assessment of voltage sag performance is obtained in the transmission system with regard to load's voltage tolerance. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Project boosts chances of infant survival in Vietnam.** Australian Nursing Journal. May 1, 2011. Abstract: A project to improve the iron stores in non-pregnant women in Vietnam and reduce maternal morbidity and mortality has proven successful. Reporting on the project at the Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases annual scientific meeting last month, Beverley-Ann Biggs said poor nutrition was implicated in half of all child deaths worldwide--a proportion unmatched by any infectious diseases since the "Black Death". Full text is available upon request.

**Prostitution Mobility and Representations: The Case of Vietnamese Prostitutes going to Cambodia.** Research Report no. 1 – March 2011. Lainez, Nicolas. Hồ Chí Minh City & Bangkok, Alliance Anti-Traffic Vietnam & IRASEC/Observatory on illicit trafficking, March 2011. Executive summary: This study is the first in a series of three, the objective of which is to understand international mobility undertaken for the purposes of prostitution and forms of commercial sex by low-skilled women and female minors from the Mekong Delta. The first study addresses cross-border mobility for prostitution between the Vietnamese southern province of An Giang and Cambodia. Field investigation shows that this flow of mobility, which attracted a significant number of women in the 1990s, has now dried up in Vietnam, essentially because Cambodia is no longer viewed as a destination for easy money but rather a dangerous and unwelcoming country. -- The first paper, based on 18 months’ fieldwork in the Mekong Delta, addresses the issue of women’s cross-border mobility for the aim of prostitution between Southern Vietnam and Cambodia. The goal is to update existing research carried out in Cambodia in the late 1990s by Western researchers commissioned by aid organizations, and to bring a Vietnamese perspective into the picture. Research had explained mobility from Vietnam in the late 1990s in terms of the easy money female migrant prostitutes could earn in Cambodia. According to our findings, the situation has changed and this paper explores why. Although illegal migration for prostitution from Vietnam to Phnom Penh remains an easy alternative, it appears less attractive than in the late 1990s and early 2000s in the context of increasing globalization and inter-connections in Asia. First, the paper examines the situation on the ground in the late 1990s: cross-border mobility and routes in the Mekong Delta, and Vietnamese prostitution in Phnom Penh, especially in the Vietnamese enclave of Kilometer Eleven or Svay Pak. Second, the paper explores the reasons underlying the obvious change of perception by potential unskilled migrants who no longer perceive Cambodia as some sort El Dorado and therefore an appealing destination. Various reasons underlie explain this change, like increased awareness of the risks of deception and exploitation thanks to massive campaigns against human trafficking. Another factor is the increased availability of more attractive professional options, such as internal migration for prostitution to provinces along the Mekong Delta, to Hồ Chí Minh City and its suburban provinces undergoing rapid industrialization and economic growth. This paper demonstrates that nowadays mobility from An Giang province to Cambodia is no longer relevant. Free full text ftp://ftp2.allianceantitrafic.org/alliancea/Research_reports/AAT_ResearchReport1_MekongDeltaMobility.pdf.

**Responding to the Global Financial Crisis: Vietnamese Exchange Rate Policy, 2008-09.** Shinji Takagi, Pham Thi Hoang Anh. Journal of Asian Economics, In Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 3 June 2011. Abstract: The paper presents an analysis of exchange rate policy in Vietnam during 2008-09. In early 2008, the country faced a sudden reversal of capital flows as signs of developing domestic vulnerabilities became evident. The downward pressure on the dong then intensified with the onset of the global financial crisis in the fall. In these environments, the Vietnamese authorities responded with various exchange rate policy measures. The paper documents a shift in Vietnam's de facto exchange rate regime, from a basket peg to a simple US dollar peg, when the domestic vulnerabilities became compounded by the evolving global crisis. The authorities utilized additional measures to relieve pressure on the parallel exchange rate. An event study methodology finds little evidence of systematic effectiveness for these policy actions; any effectiveness was short-lived. A close examination of individual actions suggests that the impact of foreign exchange market intervention appeared
more consistent than any other type of measure and most effective when combined with other measures. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Road traffic emission inventory for air quality modelling and to evaluate the abatement strategies: A case of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Bang Quoc Ho and Alain Clappier. Atmospheric Environment, Volume 45, Issue 21, July 2011, Pages 3584-3593. Abstract: A road traffic Emission Inventory (EI) is generated for Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam. For generating the EI for road traffic sources, we used the new EMISENS model, which combines the top-down and bottom-up approaches. The bulk emission factors of traffic stem from another study that estimated the emission factors for HCMC by using an inverse air quality model method. The results show that the motorcycles are responsible for the bulk of traffic emissions (contributing 94% of CO, 68% of NMVOC, 61% of SO2 and 99% of CH4). Four scenarios for reducing of the traffic emissions are designed using the HCMC’s plan for reduction of emissions. Two scenarios are the reduction scenarios for the year of 2015 and 2020. In addition, two scenarios are the Business as Usual scenario for the year of 2015 and 2020. If the local government does not have any plan for reduction of emissions (scenario of Business as Usual) the emissions will increase rapidly. If the government follows the planning as set out by the local managers, the emissions of the city will decrease. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Striped catfish farming in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam: a tumultuous path to a global success. Sena S. De Silva, Nguyen T. Phuong. Reviews in Aquaculture, Volume 3, Issue 2, pages 45–73, June 2011. Abstract: The striped catfish (Pangasianodon hypophthalmus) (Sauvage), also referred to as tra catfish or sutchi catfish, farming sector is an icon of aquaculture development in Vietnam and globally. Over a decade it has developed from a humble backyard operation to one that currently accounts for the production of over one million tonnes, employing over 180 000 rural poor, and generating an export income exceeding US$ 1.4 billion (2010). It accounts for the highest average production, ranging from 200 to 400 t ha−1 crop, ever recorded for the primary production sector. The system is integrated and incorporates seed production, fry to fingerling rearing and grow-out, and is concentrated in a few provinces in the Mekong Delta (8°33′–10°55′N, 104°30′–106°50′E), along two branches of the Mekong River. In essence, perhaps, the initial trade restrictions on catfish exports to the USA provided the impetus and then the associated developments from 2002 to 2005 of the sector to a great extent in seeking new markets. The explosion of tra catfish farming has resulted in many competitive sectors challenging this ‘tra catfish’ invasion into a globalized market. These confrontations still exist with many instances of attempts to discredit the sector and discourage international consumers. However, the Vietnamese catfish sector is resilient and has managed to withstand such pressures and continues to thrive. This paper reviews the development of catfish farming in the Mekong Delta, its current status and what is required to sustain it as a major food source and livelihood provider. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The development of financial systems of ASEAN-5 and Vietnam: A comparative analysis. Nguyen Phu Ha. VNU Journal of Science, Economics and Business 26, No. 5E (2010) 60-72. Abstract. This paper looks at the development of the financial systems of ASEAN-5 countries and Vietnam. By making a comparison between factors that foster the financial development of ASEAN-5 and Vietnam, it suggests that both the two sides share common characteristics including: financial repression, bank based development, accelerating liberalization of the financial sector, capital movement, inefficiency, due to lack of competition, effective governance, and managerial freedom. The health of financial system of the ASEAN-5 has improved substantially during the period post 1997-98, with increase in foreign ownership, movement into business line, suitable adjustment for financial deepening and broadening. On the Vietnamese side, it shows rapid changes in the financial sectors with existence of capital market and financial resources as well as risks, resulting from the reforms and
international integration. Contrasting the financial development of the two sides, this paper finds that ASEAN-5 is implementing a more stable strategies and moving towards a more balanced financial structure, while Vietnam is taking step by step restructuring and developing its out of date banking sector; as well as supporting for the stock and bond markets. For both Vietnam and ASEAN-5, the banking system and capital market have a large room for further development. Free full text http://news.vnu.edu.vn/ktkd_5_10/6.pdf.

The educational realities of Hmong communities in Vietnam: the voices of teachers. Constance Lavoie. Critical Inquiry in Language Studies Volume 8, Issue 2, 2011, Pages 153 - 175. Abstract: This article presents the language policy and sociolinguistic realities of Hmong people in Lao Cai province, Vietnam. Minority children, who have their own mother tongue, are educated in Vietnamese, a language that few understand. In response to this situation, the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam in collaboration with UNICEF, implemented in 2006 a bilingual educational reform integrating minority languages at the beginning of preschool and throughout elementary to improve the quality of education for minority ethnic groups. Based on a field experience, the author brings the narratives and the visual representation (photos and drawings) of the teachers working and living in Hmong communities. This article explores the questions: What issues ethnic minority teachers faced in their daily practices? The purpose of this article is to illustrate qualitatively what the statistical data cannot reveal on the educational realities of linguistic minority learners in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement: Contradictions in Australia and in the Asia Pacific Region. Patricia Ranald. The Economic and Labour Relations Review : ELRR. Sydney: May 2011. Vol. 22, Iss. 1; pg. 81, 18 pgs. Abstract: The Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) is currently being negotiated between the US, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Brunei, Peru, Chile, Vietnam and Malaysia. The TPPA is intended to multilateralise the bilateral legally binding agreements the US has with four of these countries, including Australia, as the building block for a legally binding Free Trade Agreement in the Asia Pacific area. The TPPA re-opens many of the issues debated in the US-Australia Free Trade Agreement in 2004. These include pressures from US industry groups for changes to Australian regulation like the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, regulation and labelling of genetically engineered foods and local content rules for Australian media. The paper analyses the endurance of the agenda despite the changes of government in the US and Australia since 2004, and discusses the contradictions and uncertainties of the strategy in Australia and in the Asia Pacific. Full text is available upon request.

Trade and the Environment: Implications for Climate Change. Kakali Mukhopadhyay. Decision. Kolkata: Dec 2009. Vol. 36, Iss. 3; pg. 83, 20 pgs. Abstract: The impact on the environment of rapid growth of an economy driven by trade, especially the pollution of the atmosphere, which has led to global warming and climate change, needs in-depth investigation. Based on the experience of recently growing economies of Asia -- India, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, etc, this paper addresses this important issue. Liberalization of trade has been the main driver and cornerstone of the growth of these economies. This rapid economic growth, largely based on industries, and the significant changes in trade patterns that this brings about has important implications for the environment especially with respect to the burning of fossil fuels. Based on several case studies, this paper reviews the nature of the link between trade and environment in these countries and the implications for climate change. Full text is available upon request.

Understanding the causes of urban fragmentation in Hanoi: the case of new urban areas. Danielle Labbé, Julie-Anne Boudreau. International Development Planning Review. Liverpool: 2011. Vol. 33, Iss. 3; p. 273 (19 pages). Abstract: Since the late 1990s, a new model of urban development has been promoted in Vietnam. So-called 'new urban areas' are being built on the agricultural lands at the periurban interface of cities across the country. These large-scale redevelopments feature commodity housing and public services, along with commercial and office space. Foreign scholars have criticised the lack of integration between these built environments and existing urban agglomerations. The resulting urban fragmentation is commonly blamed on the imposition of a foreign model of urban development that promotes a break with previous urban space production mechanisms. This paper provides a nuanced view on these ideas by exploring the history of housing
policy in Vietnam and in the region of Hanoi in particular. This approach underscores the locally situated nature of the new urban area experiments. At the same time, it reveals the need to explore ongoing shifts in the way various groups straddling the state, markets and society interact in contemporary urban space production processes. Full text available upon request. (Proquest)

**Upgrading in global value-chains: a case study of technology-learning among IKEA-suppliers in China and Southeast Asia.** Inge Ivarsson and Claes Göran Alvstam, Journal of Economic Geography, Volume11, Issue 4, Pp. 731-752. Abstract: This article analyses technology upgrading in global value-chains, by using unique data from the Swedish-based home-furnishing retailer IKEA and 23 of its suppliers in China and Southeast Asia. We show how these suppliers use IKEA’s technological support to improve their operational and duplicative capabilities, and, more importantly, their adaptive and innovative capabilities. Theoretically, this suggests that typologies of governance structures need to include a ‘developmental’ category, where buyer-driven value-chains are coordinated by powerful retailers with a global sourcing organization designed to facilitate close, local and long-term interaction, resulting in an efficient sourcing of low-cost, finished products, as well as technological upgrading among suppliers. Full text http://joeg.oxfordjournals.org/content/11/4/731.full.pdf+html.

**Urban - rural disparities in antenatal care utilization: a study of two cohorts of pregnant women in Vietnam.**

TK Tran, CT Nguyen, HD Nguyen, B Eriksson, G Bondjers, K Gottvall, H Ascher, and M Petzold. BMC Health Services Research, May 23, 2011; 11(1): 120. ABSTRACT: BACKGROUND: The use of antenatal care (ANC) varies between countries and in different settings within each country. Most previous studies of ANC in Vietnam have been cross-sectional, and conducted in rural areas before the year 2000. This study aims to compare the pattern and the adequacy of ANC used in rural and urban Vietnam following two cohorts of pregnant women. METHODS: A comparative study with two cohorts comprising totally 2132 pregnant women were followed in two health and demographic surveillance sites, one rural and one urban in Hanoi province, Vietnam. The women were quarterly interviewed using a structured questionnaire until delivery. The primary information obtained was the number and the content of ANC visits. RESULTS: Almost all women reported some use of ANC. The average number of visits was much lower in the rural setting (4.4) than in the urban (7.7). In the rural area, 77.2% of women had at least three visits and 69.1% attended ANC during the first trimester. The corresponding percentages for the urban women were 97.2% and 97.2%. Only 20.3% of the rural women compared to 81.1% of the urban women received all core ANC services. As a result, the adequate use of ANC was 5.2 times in the urban than in the rural setting (78.3% compared to 15.2%). Nearly all women received ultrasound examination during pregnancy with a mean value of 6.0 scans per woman in the urban area and 3.5 in the rural. Most rural women used ANC at commune health centres and private clinics while urban women mainly visited public hospitals. Expenditure related to ANC utilization for the urban women was 7.1 times that for the urban women. CONCLUSION: The women in the rural area attended ANC later, had fewer visits and received much fewer services than urban women. The large disparity in ANC adequacy between the two settings suggests special attention for the ANC programme in rural areas focusing on its content. Revision and enforcement of the national guidelines to improve the behaviour and practice of both users and providers are necessary. Full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1472-6963-11-120.pdf.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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A Study on Upgrading Projects of Public Housing in Hanoi, Vietnam. Nguyen Huy Dan and Yoshimitsu Shiozaki. Journal of Asian Architecture and Building Engineering, vol. 10 (2011), No. 1, pp.69-76. Abstract: Since the end of the 1990s, Hanoi City has instituted a program of urban upgrading. This program aims at improving the living conditions of residents who are living in dilapidated public housing areas (PHAs) which were constructed forty years ago. However, the upgrading implementations are very slow and are challenged by various obstacles, difficulties, and problems. This study is expected to provide opinions to help policy makers in reviewing upgrading mechanisms and policies in connection with upgrading plans and designs. Through findings from interviews with a total of 120 households in the Kim Lien and Giang Vo PHAs, the authors found that: (i) the majority of residents are positive in support of upgrading projects; (ii) most residents want to have resettlement flats at the same location; (iii) most residents prefer to buy flats rather than to rent them when the upgrading project is completed; (iv) a relatively high percentage of residents continue to lack official information about upgrading projects. Discussion on upgrading projects, measures and solutions should be made transparent to the public and related residents should be informed about the process. Successful upgrading projects require a high level of consensus by the residents. Free full text http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/jaabe/10/1/69/_pdf.

An investigation on climate responsive design strategies of vernacular housing in Vietnam. Anh-Tuan Nguyen, Quoc-Bao Tran, Duc-Quang Tran and Sigrid Reiter. Building and Environment. Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 22 April 2011. Abstract: Energy conservation issues and environmental problems in recent years have increased interest in traditional architecture which is well known for its energy saving designs. This paper thoroughly investigates vernacular housing designs and evaluates on the aspect of building physics. A new research methodology which is adapted to the natural and social context of Vietnam was proposed and applied. The process was carried out step by step, including: climate zoning, systematic analysis, in-situ survey and building simulations. The results of this study indicate that vernacular housing in Vietnam is creatively adapted to the local natural conditions and uses various climate responsive strategies. Through this study, the most frequently used strategies and their effectiveness were derived. The authors also found that under extreme weather conditions, traditional designs might not be sufficient to maintain indoor thermal comfort. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Analysis of Labour Migration Flows in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. Huynh Truong Huy and Le Nguyen Doan Khoi. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 115-140. Abstract: Migration occurs as a response to economic development as well as to social, cultural, and environmental causes. This chapter explores migration patterns in the Mekong Delta (MD) region of Vietnam by using information in the Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys for 2004 and 2006. The main purposes of the chapter are: (1) to gain insight into migration flows in the Mekong Delta region and (2) to identify the determinants of the migration flows regarding commune-related variables. From the description and the multivariate analysis, there are several interesting findings. First, the number of migrants in the Mekong Delta region has been increasing in
recent years, and their destinations are the leading industrial and commercial cities in Vietnam, including Ho Chi Minh and Binh Duong. Second, “push” factors such as poverty and challenges in farm production are the key causes of migration flows. In addition, policy makers should take advantage of economic development programs as an adjustment tool in migration matters. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Assessing the impacts of sustainable freshwater aquaculture and small-sized/low-value fisheries management in the lower Mekong basin region of Cambodia and Vietnam. Robert S. Pomeroy, Sylvain De Guise, So Nam, and Le Xuan Sinh. in Aquafish CRSP implementation plan 2009–2011 Addendum, Oregon State University, MARCH 2011. Abstract: -- Objectives: The objective of this study is to assess the impact of the investigations in the AquaFish CRSP project “Development of alternatives to the use of freshwater low value fish for aquaculture in the lower Mekong basin of Cambodia and Vietnam: implications for livelihoods, production and markets” on both the private and public sectors of Cambodia and Vietnam. -- Significance: In the Mekong region, many capture fisheries resources have been largely overexploited and, as a result, development of aquaculture has been encouraged to provide the protein, income, employment and export earnings for some countries. Such a development trend implies that sufficient feed for aquaculture production will be available. One source of feed is low value/trash fish (Low value/trash is defined as fish that have a low commercial value by virtue of their low quality, small size or low consumer preference). There is increasing demand and trade in the lower Mekong region of Cambodia and Vietnam for low value/trash fish for (1) local consumption (e.g. fresh, dried); (2) direct feed (e.g. livestock, high value species aquaculture); (3) fish meal production (e.g. poultry, aquaculture); and (4) value-added products (e.g. fish sauce, fermented fish, fish paste, smoked fish). Free full text http://aquafishcrsp.oregonstate.edu/Documents/Uploads/FileManager/%20IP2009-2011Addendum_032511.pdf#page=17.

Building Resilience to Climate Change Through Adaptive Land Use Planning in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Harry Storch, Nigel Downes, Lutz Katzschner and Nguyen Xuan Thinh. In: Resilient Cities: Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change - Proceedings of the Global Forum 2010. Edited by Konrad Otto-Zimmermann. Springer 2011, pp. 349-363. Abstract: This paper describes the adaption needs of Ho Chi Minh City and its efforts to develop and incorporate adaptation principles into its urban decision-making and planning processes. We outline an approach that is envisioned to lead to an increase in the city’s resilience to climate-related physical and social vulnerabilities. This paper describes the objectives of an integrated adaptation planning framework for the city, which is intended to advance and disseminate knowledge, inform decision makers and the general public about climate change risks, and increase their capacity to implement necessary adaptation measures while strengthening the general response capacity of the urban system. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Climate Change Adaptation and Agrichemicals in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. Zita Sebesvari, Thi Thu Huong Le and Fabrice G. Renaud. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 219-239. Abstract: Since the implementation of economic reforms in 1986, the Mekong Delta has experienced an extensive transformation process in its agricultural sector. This transformation has been characterized by agricultural intensification, the enhanced use of agrichemicals (fertilizer, pesticides), and emerging concerns for human health and the environment. The predicted impacts of climate change such as sea level rise, greater seasonal variability in precipitation and river flows, and elevated temperature and CO2 concentration will all likely also influence the agricultural landscape and thus agrichemical use. Against the background of the anticipated climate change impacts in the Mekong Delta, this chapter aims to draw a scenario for future agrichemical use and attendant environmental problems. This scenario is achieved through a review of the main climate change-mediated drivers for agrichemical use, with a focus on land-use changes and changes in pest and disease patterns. In addition, the chapter identifies possible adaptation measures that may be implemented by the agricultural sector in the Mekong Delta and explores the potential environmental effects of these adaptation strategies. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Community Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices toward Rabies Prevention in North Vietnam. Le TP Mai, LP Dung, NT Tho, NT Quyet, PD Than, ND Mai, NT Thuy, NT Lien, NA Dung, A Dean, D Buchanan, and PC Nasca. Int Q Community Health Educ, January 1, 2010; 31(1): 21-31. Abstract: In recent years, despite the accessibility to vaccines (both for humans and animals), rabies remains a problem in many areas of Vietnam. While the number of rabies deaths decreased by 90% from 1994 to 2003, the number of rabies deaths increased from 2004 to 2007. In 2007, the number of rabies victims was 2-3 times higher than in 2003 and 131 people died as a result of rabies. In order to better understand Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) toward rabies in areas of both high and low incidence of rabies mortality in Vietnam, and KAP between pet and non-pet owners, a cross-sectional study was carried out by administering a structured questionnaire to 585 respondents from selected households in Thanh Son District-Phu Tho Province and Viet Yen District-Bac Giang Province, Vietnam. KAP in both high and low incidence areas, especially in groups with pets, need to be improved, particularly regarding treatment practices after a dog-bite and recommended pet care. We recommend not only enhanced IEC activities, but also the development of a Behavior Change Communication Strategy (BCC). Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Community-Scale Wind-Powered Desalination for Selected Coastal Mekong Provinces in Vietnam. Ha T. Nguyen and Joshua M. Pearce. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 371-398. Abstract: Global climate destabilization is exacerbating water problems in Vietnam, most acutely in the South and Central regions where the majority of the inhabited area lies in the low elevation coastal zone. Off-grid community-scale reverse osmosis desalination powered by small wind turbines offers a solution to this problem for the coastal fringe of Vietnam’s Mekong Delta. Using a geographical information system (GIS) platform, a wind resources atlas developed by the Asia Sustainable and Alternative Energy, and projected rural population available from Columbia University’s Center for International Earth Science Information Network, this chapter explores this potential. The GIS analysis estimated that in the absence of all other water supply facilities, off-grid wind desalination could provide clean water to 5.4 million rural residents living in 18,900 km2 of the Mekong Delta coastal provinces at the rate of 60 l/person/day. In addition to providing clean water, the use of wind-powered desalination in the region would have educational benefits to combat poverty and unemployment and ease water-related conflicts, and it has been shown to improve environmental and agricultural sustainability. Thus this technology was found to represent a decentralized and community-based method to adapt to and mitigate climate change in the coastal fringe of the Mekong Delta. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Comparing Vulnerability to Poverty Across Rural Provinces in Thailand and Vietnam: A Distributional Approach. Bernd Hardeweg, Andreas Wagener, and Hermann Waibel. Leibniz University of Hannover, 2011. Abstract: Vulnerability to poverty is an important social indicator of well-being. However, comparisons of vulnerability indices over time and space lack robustness as long as they are based on single measures or use specific poverty lines. We demonstrate that a distributional analysis, based on the theory of stochastic orders, can help. Using data from six rural provinces of Thailand and Vietnam, we calculate various indices for vulnerability in the sample provinces, establish cumulative distribution functions for income and consumption and show how the latter can be used for ethically robust vulnerability comparisons. Free full text http://www2.wiwi.uni-hannover.de/fileadmin/sopo/pdf/Wagener_papers/HWW_asian.pdf.

Compost Potential from Solid Waste: Toward Sustainable Agriculture and Mitigation of Global Warming in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. Nguyen Phuc Thanh and Yasuhiro Matsui. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 335-354. Abstract: This study was conducted to evaluate the positive effects of compost application in agriculture and the benefit of the composting process for solid-waste treatment in the Mekong Delta region in southern Vietnam (comprised of 12 provinces and 1 centrally city). A simple prediction model for waste generation based on population – and employing time-series analysis— was constructed to assess and forecast waste generation to identify the potential of waste for composting and discharging. The greenhouse gas baseline emission from biodegradable components and the greenhouse gas reduction emission for
alternative composting options were also calculated in g(CO2eq.) per capita per day. Scenarios regarding different composting applications for the Mekong Delta region were defined. The estimations focused on such matters as environmental impacts, greenhouse-gas emission and reduction, resource consumption, economic benefits, and the application potential of the composting process. The principal result was that organic-waste composting was beneficial not only for mitigating the waste burden in landfill sites but also for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions compared to baseline emission and the attendant costs. In addition, the compost product was identified as having strong potential to displace chemical fertilizers in agriculture. It was shown that the composting process was a sound alternative for moving toward sustainable development in waste treatment and agriculture. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Development of emission factors and emission inventories for motorcycles and light duty vehicles in the urban region in Vietnam.** HD Tung, HY Tong, WT Hung, and NT Anh. Sci Total Environ, May 4, 2011. Abstract: This paper reports on a 2-year emissions monitoring program launched by the Centre for Environmental Monitoring of the Vietnam Environment Administration which aimed at determining emission factors and emission inventories for two typical types of vehicle in Hanoi, Vietnam. The program involves four major activities. A database for motorcycles and light duty vehicles (LDV) in Hanoi was first compiled through a questionnaire survey. Then, two typical driving cycles were developed for the first time for motorcycles and LDVs in Hanoi. Based on this database and the developed driving cycles for Hanoi, a sample of 12 representative test vehicles were selected to determine vehicle specific fuel consumption and emission factors (CO, HC, NOx and CO(2)). This set of emission factors were developed for the first time in Hanoi with due considerations of local driving characteristics. In particular, it was found that the emission factors derived from Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) driving cycles and adopted in some previous studies were generally overestimated. Eventually, emission inventories for motorcycles and LDVs were derived by combining the vehicle population data, the developed vehicle specific emission factors and vehicle kilometre travelled (VKT) information from the survey. The inventory suggested that motorcycles contributed most to CO, HC and NOx emissions while LDVs appeared to be more fuel consuming. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Efficiency Analysis of Selected Farming Patterns: The Case of Irrigated Systems in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam.** Quan Minh Nhut. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 165-180. Abstract: The objective of this study is to measure the technical, allocative, and cost efficiency for farmers who grow crops following either rice-monocultural patterns or crop-rotation patterns in the non-flooded and flooded areas of the Mekong River Delta in Vietnam. The non-flooded areas are located within irrigated boundary systems, and the flooded areas are located outside these systems. In addition, the determinants of household income and productive efficiencies are identified in the study. Related to productive efficiency, the measured results show that the crop-rotation farmers are more efficient in terms of technical and cost efficiency than the continuous-rice farmers and vice versa for allocative efficiency, for the case of non-flooded areas. Similarly, the mean efficiency score is greater with respect to technical, allocative, and cost efficiency for farmers employing the crop-rotation pattern in comparison with farmers following the continuous-rice pattern. Regarding the factors influencing efficiencies, in the case of non-flooded areas, the estimated results show that although there are some differences in determinants of each component of total productivity, sex, age, education, share of female labor, and farming pattern are found to be the main factors driving changes in most of the components such as technical and allocative efficiency. In the case of flooded areas, all components of total productivity in terms of the technical, allocative, and cost efficiency are impacted by the variation in sex, age, and education. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Efficiency and productivity of hospitals in Vietnam.** Thuy Linh Pham, (2011) Journal of Health Organization and Management, Vol. 25 Iss: 2, pp.195 - 213. Abstract: -- Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to examine the relative efficiency and productivity of hospitals during the health reform process. -- Design/methodology/approach – Data envelopment analyses method (DEA) with the input-oriented variable-returns-to-scale model was used to calculate efficiency scores. Malmquist total factor productivity index
approach was then employed to calculate productivity of hospitals. Data of 101 hospitals was extracted from databases of the Ministry of Health, Vietnam from the years 1998 to 2006. -- Findings – There was evidence of improvement in overall technical efficiency from 65 per cent in 1998 to 76 per cent in 2006. Hospitals' productivity progressed around 1.4 per cent per year, which was mainly due to the technical efficiency improvement. Furthermore, provincial hospitals were more technically efficient than their central counterparts and hospitals located in different regions performed differently. -- Originality/value – The paper provides an insight in the performance of Vietnamese public hospitals that has been rarely examined before and contributes to the existing literature of hospital performance in developing countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Exporting out of poverty: Provincial poverty in Vietnam and U.S. market access. Brian McCaig. Journal of International Economics, Article in Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 19 May 2011. Abstract: Can a developing country reduce poverty by gaining increased market access to a large, rich country? The 2001 U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) provides an excellent opportunity to examine this question as, unlike other bilateral trade agreements, the U.S. tariff cuts were not influenced by Vietnamese industries. Using variation in the structure of the labour force across provinces prior to the trade agreement, I construct provincial measures of U.S. tariffs. To address concerns over confounding trends between changes in provincial poverty and changes in provincial tariffs I follow two approaches: controlling for trends based on observable initial conditions and differencing away time invariant trends using pre-BTA data. I find that provinces that were more exposed to the U.S. tariff cuts experienced faster decreases in poverty between 2002 and 2004. Additionally, I document that the movement of workers across provinces is limited in scale, particularly for those with low levels of education. Finally, I show that the most exposed provinces experienced faster wage growth for workers with low levels of education, but not for highly educated workers. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=MImg&_imagekey=B6V6D-52WTC8T-3-1&_cdi=5812&_user=7357259&_pii=S0022199611000572&_origin=gateway&_coverDate=05%2F19%2F2011&_sk=999999999&view=c&wchp=dGLzVzb-zSkzS&md5=fe8cdad273beb6f30b2632f2d81024c1&ie=/sdarticle.pdf.

From Rice to Shrimp: Ecological Change and Human Adaptation in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. Ngo Thi Phuong Lan. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 271-285. Abstract: In the last few decades, structural transformation in agriculture has been considered a key to rural economic development in Vietnam. In the Mekong Delta, the most important rice basket of Vietnam, farmers have diversified their economic activities and engaged in production which involves high risks, partly due to global market price fluctuations. This change in livelihood patterns has resulted in a significant change in the Delta’s ecology. ***** This chapter analyzes socio-economic changes of human adaptation to a new living environment in two shrimp-farming communities in the Mekong Delta, one in the lower part (Ca Mau Province) and the other in the upper part of the Delta (Long An Province). It examines the changes in livelihood and local ecology when farmers shift from conventional rice cultivation to high-value shrimp-farming and thus, from fresh water to saline water ecology. The chapter concludes that the human environment is a social process in which people constantly shape their landscape and have to adapt to the “created” environment by changing their socioeconomic lives. In the shift from rice to shrimp, when people cannot adapt to ecological changes locally, labor migration is the best solution for their livelihood. This phenomenon can be seen as an indicator of agricultural unsustainability. My comparative study seeks to contribute to the understanding of socio-economic changes from an environmental perspective. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Funding a New Bridge in Rural Vietnam: A Field Experiment on Conditional Cooperation and Default Contributions. Fredrik Carlsson, Olof Johansson-Stenman, Pham Khanh Nam. University of Gothenburg. (Working paper in economics no. 503). May 2011. Abstract: The ability to provide public goods is essential for economic and social development, yet there is very limited empirical evidence regarding contributions to a real local public good in developing countries. This paper analyzes a field experiment where 200 households in rural Vietnam could make real contributions to an archetypical public good, a bridge. In particular, we
study the role of two kinds of social influence: i) conditional cooperation, i.e., that people may be more willing to cooperate if others do, and ii) the effects of the default alternative, i.e., that people are influenced by the default alternative presented to them in the choice situation. We find significant and substantial effects of both kinds of influence. For example, by either giving the subjects the additional information that one of the most common contributions by others is 100,000 dong (a relatively low contribution) or introducing a zero-contribution default alternative, the average contribution decreases by about 20% compared to the baseline case. Free full text http://gupea.ub.gu.se/bitstream/2077/25547/1/gupea_2077_25547_1.pdf.

**Fundraising Behaviors of Listed Companies in Vietnam: An Estimation of the Influence of Government Ownership.** Okuda, Hidenobu; Nhung, Lai Thi Phuong. Hitotsubashi University, Center for Economic Institutions Working Paper Series. Technical Report, March 2011. Abstract: This study investigates the capital structure and investment activities of listed companies on the Hanoi Securities Exchange and the Ho Chi Minh Securities Exchange in Vietnam. Estimation analysis using panel data covering the four-year period 2006-2009 revealed the following results. (1) Standard corporate financing theories such as trade-off theory and agency cost theory could be appropriate for explaining the capital structure of listed companies in Vietnam. (2) Compared to the fundraising activities of the companies analyzed by Nguyen (2006) and Biger et al. (2008), the fundraising activities of the listed companies were better explained by standard agency cost theory. (3) There are differences between the determinants of long-term fundraising and short-term fundraising of listed companies in Vietnam. (4) The fundraising determinants of state-controlled companies are different from those of other companies; state-controlled companies have an advantage in tapping external debt funds, and their incentive to reduce their tax payments by debt financing is weaker. (5) The companies listed on the Ho Chi Minh Securities Exchange depended less on debt financing than those listed on the Hanoi Securities Exchange. (6) Listed companies in Vietnam face weak incentives to reduce their tax payments by debt financing because the effective corporate tax rate is low. These results imply that the economic reforms (“Doi Moi”) implemented by the Vietnamese government, which aims to create an economic system based on market mechanisms, have achieved some of their goals in terms of fund mobilization and corporate financing. However, our estimation study illustrates several limitations of economic reforms, such as the opaque relationship between state-controlled companies and government banks, financial restrictions on investment activities, and inactive investment of companies that are state-controlled or listed on the Ho Chi Minh Securities Exchange. Free full text http://hermes-ir.lib.hit-u.ac.jp/rs/bitstream/10086/19129/1/wp2010-15.pdf.

**Implementing a hypertension management programme in a rural area: local approaches and experiences from Ba-Vi District, Vietnam.** Quang NGOC Nguyen, Son THAI Pham, Viet LAN Nguyen, Stig Wall, Lars Weinahell, Ruth Bonita, Peter Byass. BMC Public Health 2011, 11:325. Abstract: *******Background: Costly efforts have been invested to control and prevent cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and their risk factors but the ideal solutions for low resource settings remain unclear. This paper aims at summarising our approaches to implementing a programme on hypertension management in a rural commune of Vietnam. *******Methods: In a rural commune, a programme has been implemented since 2006 to manage hypertensive people at the commune health station and to deliver health education on CVD risk factors to the entire community. An initial cross-sectional survey was used to screen for hypertensives who might enter the management programme. During 17 months of implementation, other people with hypertension were also followed up and treated. Data were collected from all individual medical records, including demographic factors, behavioural CVD risk factors, blood pressure levels, and number of check-ups. These data were analysed to identify factors relating to adherence to the management programme. *******Results: Both top-down and bottom-up approaches were applied to implement a hypertension management programme. The programme was able to run independently at the commune health station after 17 months. During the implementation phase, 497 people were followed up with an overall regular follow-up of 65.6% and a dropout of 14.3%. Severity of hypertension and effectiveness of treatment were the main factors influencing the decision of people to adhere to the management programme, while being female, having several behavioural CVD risk factors or a history of chronic disease were the predictors for deviating from the programme. *******Conclusion: Our model showed the feasibility,’applicability and future potential of a community-based model of comprehensive hypertension care in a low-resource context using both top-down and bottom-up approaches.
to engage all involved partners. This success also highlighted the important roles of both local authorities and a cardiac care network, led by an outstanding cardiac referral centre. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-11-325.pdf.

**Influencing policy change: the experience of health think tanks in low- and middle-income countries.** Sara Bennett, Adrijana Corluka, Jane Doherty, Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, Amar Jesani, Joseph Kyabaggu, Grace Namaganda, A M Zakir Hussain and Ama de-Graft Aikins. Health Policy Plan, First published online: May 10, 2011. Abstract: In recent years there has been a growth in the number of independent health policy analysis institutes in low- and middle-income countries which has occurred in response to the limitation of government analytical capacity and pressures associated with democratization. This study aimed to: (i) investigate the contribution made by health policy analysis institutes in low- and middle-income countries to health policy agenda setting, formulation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation; and (ii) assess which factors, including organizational form and structure, support the role of health policy analysis institutes in low- and middle-income countries in terms of positively contributing to health policy. Six case studies of health policy analysis institutes in Bangladesh, Ghana, India, South Africa, Uganda and Vietnam were conducted including two NGOs, two university and two government-owned policy analysis institutes. Case studies drew on document review, analysis of financial information, semi-structured interviews with staff and other stakeholders, and iterative feedback of draft findings. Some of the institutes had made major contributions to policy development in their respective countries. All of the institutes were actively engaged in providing policy advice and most undertook policy-relevant research. Relatively few were engaged in conducting policy dialogues, or systematic reviews, or commissioning research. Much of the work undertaken by institutes was driven by requests from government or donors, and the primary outputs for most institutes were research reports, frequently combined with verbal briefings. Several factors were critical in supporting effective policy engagement. These included a supportive policy environment, some degree of independence in governance and financing, and strong links to policy makers that facilitate trust and influence. While the formal relationship of the institute to government was not found to be critical, units within government faced considerable difficulties. Free full text http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2011/05/10/heapol.czr035.full.pdf+html.

**Living with Floods: An Evaluation of the Resettlement Program of the Mekong Delta of Vietnam**. Vo Thanh Danh and Shahbaz Mushtaq. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 181-204. Abstract: The Vietnamese Mekong Delta (VMD) is a region increasingly affected by flooding. In 1996, the Vietnamese government launched an ambitious Living With the Flood (LWF) program. The objective of the program was to build dwelling houses for residents relocated from the VMD’s flood areas. The program has built more than 1,000 resettlement clusters (RCs) for the 200,000 households and 1 million people previously living in the now permanently flooded areas. Total investment capital has been about US $200 million. While the LWF policy is accepted and popular within the VMD, there are many reasons that make the resettlement program both successful and unsuccessful. Identifying the factors influencing the effectiveness of the program will help local authorities to develop appropriate measures to improve the resettlement program. The rationale of this study was to review and conduct a qualitative analysis of the effectiveness of the resettlement program. The policy recommendation drawn from the study is that to effectively cope with yearly floods in the long run, people need to adjust their habits and their social and -economic activities, towards living with floods and gaining benefit from them, rather than preventing them. At the national level, economic development strategies and planning in the VMD need to be consistent with the LWF policy. At the local level, authorities need to persuade and assist people to better adapt to flooding. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Multidimensional Deprivation in China, India and Vietnam: A Comparative Study on Micro Data**. Ranjan Ray, Kompal Sinha. April, 2011. Abstract: This study evaluates and compares living standards in China, India and Vietnam using the recent multidimensional approach. A distinguishing feature of this study is the use of unit record data sets containing household level information on a wide range of variables including access to several dimensions of living, wealth and child health. The study distinguishes between multidimensional
deprivation and multidimensional poverty and examines the robustness of the evidence to the concept used in making the welfare comparisons. The study uses household level information on a wide variety of indicators and the methodology of Principal Component Analysis to measure household wealth. The calculated wealth index is then used to examine the distribution of deprivation and poverty by wealth percentiles. This paper uses the Lorenz curve for wealth and the pseudo Lorenz curves for deprivation and poverty to show that wealth, used here as a proxy for income, understates deprivation and poverty in all the three countries. This paper exploits the dimensional decomposability of the recent multidimensional poverty measures to examine the role of the individual dimensions in promoting multidimensional poverty, and provides evidence on the sensitivity of the decompositions to the cut off used to define poverty. The paper also provides evidence on child health, which is at odds with the overall progress that is portrayed by the multidimensional measures, especially in the context of India. Free full text http://www.asb.unsw.edu.au/schools/economics/Documents/R.%20Ranjan%20-%20Multidimensional%20Deprivation%20in%20China,%20India%20and%20Vietnam.pdf.

Organisational culture, leadership and performance measurement integratedness. By: Luu Trong Tuan. International Journal of Management & Enterprise Development, 2010, Vol. 9 Issue 3, p251-274, 24p; Abstract: The article presents a research on the linkages among organizational culture, leadership and incorporation of the performance measurement in plastic manufacturing industries in Vietnam. The research concludes that transactional leadership is correlated with clan culture and hierarchy culture, and transformational leadership cultivates adhocracy culture and market culture. A direct relationship between transformational leadership and the integration of performance measurement is also discussed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Poverty, inequality and ethnic minorities in Vietnam. Imai, Katsushi; Gaiha, Raghav; Kang, Woojin. International Review of Applied Economics, Volume 25, Number 3, May 2011, pp. 249-282(34). Abstract: The present study examines how and why ethnic minorities are poorer than ethnic majorities in Vietnam using the Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey data for 2002 and 2004. First, the analysis confirms that households belonging to the ethnic minority groups are not only poorer but also more vulnerable to various shocks than those in the ethnic majority groups, namely the Kinh and the Chinese. Second, household composition (e.g., dependency burden), education, land holding and location are important determinants of expenditure and poverty, whilst there is some diversity among different ethnic groups. Finally, the decomposition analyses reveal that the ethnic minorities are poorer not necessarily because they have more disadvantaged household characteristics (e.g., educational attainment or location), but, more importantly, because the returns to the characteristics are much lower for ethnic minorities than for the majorities. Government policies to reduce structural differences between ethnic majorities and minorities are imperative to address the disparities in returns to endowments between them. Full text http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/routledg/cira/2011/00000025/00000003/art00001.

Quality of reproductive health services at commune health stations in Viet Nam: implications for national reproductive health care strategy. Anh D Ngo, Peter S Hill. Reproductive Health Matters, Volume 19, Issue 37, May 2011, Pages 52-61. Abstract: This paper presents a qualitative study conducted in 2009 of provider and patient perceptions of primary level reproductive health services provided by commune health stations (CHSs), and the implications for Viet Nam's 2011–2020 National Strategy for Reproductive Health Care. In the three provinces of Thai Nguyen, Thua Thien Hue, and Vinh Long, we interviewed the heads of CHSs, held focus group discussions with midwives and women patients, and observed facilities. Half the 30 CHSs visited were in poor physical condition; the rest were newly renovated. However, the model of service delivery was largely unchanged from ten years before. Many appeared to fall short in meeting patient expectations in terms of modern medical equipment and technology, range of drug supplies, and levels of staff expertise. As a result, many women were turning to private doctors and public hospitals, at least in urban areas, or seeking medication from pharmacies. To make CHS clinics sustainable, promotion of access to reproductive health services should be undertaken concurrently with quality improvement. A responsive payment scheme must also be developed to generate revenues. Efforts should be made to reduce the
unnecessary use of more costly services from private clinics and higher level public facilities. Full text
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_uri=B73FJ-52T85C9-Y&_user=7357259&_coverDate=05/31/2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=7357259&md5=7a6802ad14ed1dedc7178cb5866f&searchtype=a.

Relationship Quality in Fish Value Chains: Buyer–Supplier Management in the Pangasius Industry, Vietnam.
Le Nguyen Doan Khoi and Nguyen Phu Son. In: Environmental Change and Agricultural Sustainability in the
Mekong Delta (Advances in Global Change Research 2011, Volume 45, Part 2), pp. 287-301. Abstract: This
study deals with the importance of investment and trust in designing a high-quality, export-oriented fish value
chain. It analyzes relationship quality in the Pangasius industry in order to improve product quality through
closer supply-chain coordination. According to findings from several research streams, we argue that
relationship quality must be conceptualized as a function of trust and investment. Consequently, we derived a
conceptual model that links commitment and trust to relationship quality. The analysis brings together
assumptions and concepts from a variety of sources ranging from Porter’s value chain to transaction-cost
economics to institutional economics. ***** To verify the applicability of the model, we conducted a survey
in the Pangasius industry of Vietnam. The data were obtained from a sample of 120 Pangasius farmers and 5
Pangasius processing/export firms in the Mekong River Delta (MRD), Vietnam. Each interview made was
taped and properly transcribed. We collected relevant information by interviewing the managers of four
processing/export firms. In addition, we consulted secondary data by making use of documentary information,
archival records from relevant organizations, and secondary sources. Hence, using different sources of
evidence, we were able to triangulate our findings on the main issues under study. Full text available upon
request. Fee may apply.

Technical Efficiency of Manufacturing SMEs in a Transitional Economy: Evidence from Vietnam. by Viet Le
and Charles Harvie. This paper examines the performance of domestic non-state manufacturing small and
medium enterprises (SMEs) in Vietnam. Specifically, it evaluates firm level technical efficiency and identifies
the determinants of technical efficiency of these SMEs. The paper uses an econometric approach based on a
stochastic frontier production function to analyse 5,204 observations of SMEs from three surveys conducted
in 2002, 2005 and 2007. The results from the estimations reveal that manufacturing SMEs in Vietnam have
relatively high average technical efficiency ranging from 84.2 percent to 92.5 percent. The paper further
examines the factors influencing efficiency. It finds that firm age, size, location, ownership, cooperation with
a foreign partner, subcontracting, product innovation, competition, and government assistance are
significantly related to technical efficiency, albeit with varying degrees and directions. Exporting does not
appear to influence technical efficiency. The paper offers some evidence-based policy recommendations to
improve the technical efficiency and competitiveness of manufacturing SMEs. Free full text

CRS Report for Congress, Prepared for Members and Committees of Congress. Summary: ************
Since the resumption of trade relations in the 1990s, Vietnam has rapidly risen to become a significant trading
partner for the United States. Along with the growth of bilateral trade, a number of issues of common
concerns, and sometimes disagreement, have emerged between the two nations. Congress may play a direct
role in the U.S. policy on some of these issues. ************ Bilateral trade has grown from about $220 million
in 1994 to $18.6 billion in 2010. Vietnam is the second-largest source of U.S. clothing imports, and a major
source for footwear, furniture, and electrical machinery. Much of this rapid growth in bilateral trade can be
attributed to U.S. extension of normal trade relations (NTR) status to Vietnam. Another major contributing
factor is over 20 years of rapid economic growth in Vietnam, ushered in by a 1986 shift to a more
market-oriented economic system. ************ Bilateral trade may increase if both nations become members of
the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (TPP). The United States and Vietnam are
among the nine countries negotiating the terms of expansion of the trade association. The Obama
Administration envisions an expanded TPP as a “21st Century free trade agreement” that will become the
cornerstone for a trans-Pacific regional trade association. Vietnam is also a party to negotiations to form a larger pan-Asian regional trade association based on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that could exclude the United States and prove to be an alternative to the TPP. The growth in bilateral trade has not been without its accompanying issues and problems. Vietnam has applied for acceptance into the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program and is participating in negotiations of a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) with the United States. Vietnam also would like to be officially recognized as a market economy. There have also been problems with U.S. imports of specific products from Vietnam, particularly catfish-like fish known as basa or tra. In 2002, Congress passed legislation that prohibited the labeling of basa and tra as “catfish.” In 2008, the 110th Congress passed legislation that transferred the regulation of catfish from the Food and Drug Administration to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Vietnamese government strongly protested these actions as largely protectionist measures. On February 24, 2011, the USDA released proposed new catfish regulations, which did not resolve the status of Vietnam’s basa and tra exports.

An examination of recent trends in bilateral trade reveals that other product categories—such as footwear, furniture, and electrical machinery—could generate future tension between the United States and Vietnam. Observers of Vietnam’s economic development have also been critical of Vietnam’s protection of workers’ rights, its enforcement of intellectual property rights laws and regulations, and the country’s exchange rate policies. The 112th Congress may play an important role in one or more of these issues, as have past Congresses. The 112th Congress would have to consider implementing legislation if a TPP agreement is concluded. If the 112th Congress should take up GSP renewal, it may also consider Vietnam’s pending application. The 112th Congress may also weigh in on its designation as a market or non-market economy. Finally, if current growth trends continue, Congress may be asked to act on the rising amount of footwear, furniture, and/or electrical machinery being imported from Vietnam. This report will be updated as circumstances require.

Understanding water conflict and cooperation in Con Cuong, Nghe An province, Vietnam. Le Thi Thanh Phuong, Thomas Skielboe and Pham Thi Mai Huong. Journal of Development and Agricultural Economics Vol. 3(3), pp. 121-131, March 2011. Abstract: This paper seeks to explore local water related conflict and cooperation based on a quantitative inventory of water related events in Con Cuong district, Nghe An province, Vietnam. It was found that the local water competition situations involve both conflictive and cooperative events, which often evolve in succession of each other. Of the identified events, the majority turned out to be cooperative and many events were often related to the development of water works established in the area. Furthermore, the recorded events mainly take place at local scale within a single community and often between water users within the same user group rather than between water users with different water use. Moreover, most events were found to remain at the local scene and among the immediate involved parties. As far as possible, conflicts and cooperation are tried to be resolved by those involved themselves, and without any involvement of third parties; if denounced to a third part, it is often to community leaders or organisations within the community. The article concludes by discussing the implications of these findings for local water governance and particularly the need to include such findings in the further development of integrated water resource management. Free full text http://www.academicjournals.org/JDAE/PDF/Pdf2011/Mar/Phuong%20et%20al.pdf.

Urban Climate Change Adaptation in the Context of Transformation: Lessons from Vietnam. Matthias Garschagen and Frauke Kraas. In: Resilient Cities: Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change - Proceedings of the Global Forum 2010. Edited by Konrad Otto-Zimmermann. Springer 2011, pp. 349-363. Abstract: The imperative of adapting cities to risks associated with climate change will reveal the strong potential of political and administrative action at the level of local urban governments. Action at this level facilitates adaptation solutions that are closely linked to the specific needs, wants and capacities of local communities and economies. At the same time, the need to adapt to climate related impacts creates new, and in many cases, unprecedented challenges for local governments, often exceeding their current capacities in terms of risk awareness, expert knowledge, access to information, finance, or legal responsibility. This paradox is most apparent in emerging economies that have recently undergone, or are currently experiencing, political and
economic transformations, including (re-)orientation towards market-oriented economies, administrative liberalisation, decentralisation, dynamic urbanisation and changing socio-political paradigms. Drawing on empirical research based on coastal and delta cities in Vietnam, focusing particularly on the example of Can Tho City in the Mekong Delta, this paper analyses the challenges local urban governments face with respect to formulating and implementing climate change adaptation strategies for their city in the context of transformation. The paper argues that challenges are particularly evident in the fields of urban growth and expansion, administrative reform and decentralisation, the fragmentation of sector responsibilities, the broadening of the actor spectrum and planning and management paradigms. Lessons learned can be utilised for other local urban governments experiencing similar conditions. Knowledge gaps and future research needs are also explored. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Willingness to Accept Payment of Upland Farmers to Participate in Forest Management in the Northwest Mountainous Region of Vietnam. Trinh Quang Thoai and Roberto F. Rañola, Jr. PHILIPP AGRIC SCIENTIST ISSN, Vol. 94 No. 1, 46-53, March 2011. Abstract: The study determined the level of willingness to accept (WTA) payment of upland farmers to participate in forest management programs in the northwest mountainous region of Vietnam. The results showed that the present payment level of 100,000 VND (US$5.4/ha/yr) in the study areas as compensation for participating in the forest management programs was too low compared with the WTA of 286,000 VND (US$15.5/ha/yr). The important factors affecting the level of WTA include the opportunity cost of forest management, ethnic affiliation, access to the forest, total income of households and topography of the forest area. Training programs and seminars could help enhance the level of awareness of upland farmers who were mostly poor, uneducated ethnic minorities about the benefits of improved management of the forest. This would help encourage upland farmers to participate in the program. These training programs should also be improved to ensure that they are readily understood and appreciated by the target audience. The promotion of ecotourism and community tourism, provision of technologies for annual crops and medicinal plants, plant production and support for livestock raising would help increase the income of upland farmers from the forest and encourage their participation in these programs. Free full text http://journals.uplb.edu.ph/index.php/PAS/article/view/547/pdf_8.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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A case study on the relation between city planning and urban growth using remote sensing and spatial metrics.
Hai Minh Pham, Yasushi Yamaguchi, and Thanh Quang Bui. Landscape and Urban Planning, Volume 100, Issue 3, 15 April 2011, Pages 223-230. Abstract: Despite the unprecedented rate of urbanization around the world, information regarding land use planning and management is not updated frequently enough to accurately track this urban change. In order to monitor changes in the urban environment, an understanding of the change in patterns of urban development over time is becoming increasingly important. The objective of this study is to explore an approach for combining remote sensing and spatial metrics to monitor urbanization, and investigate the relationship between urbanization and urban land use plans. The study areas, consisting of the cities of Hanoi, Hartford, Nagoya and Shanghai, were examined using Landsat and ASTER data from 1975 to 2003. In this study a program based on the PLADJ spatial metric was undertaken to produce urban growth maps. Then, FRAGSTATS was used to evaluate the characteristics of urban composition. The results showed that the urban core of Nagoya changed moderately over time. Shanghai had a high population density, and satellite towns absorbed potential suburban development. Hartford exhibited a spread out pattern of urban development with a high concentration of settlement in the suburb. Conversely, the new urban areas of Hanoi developed rapidly along major transportation routes, resulting in urban development in Hanoi assuming an unusual pattern. The combined approach of remote sensing and spatial metrics provides local city planners with valuable information that can be used to better understand the impacts of urban planning policies in urban areas, particularly in Hanoi. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Long Pham and Jeffrey E. Teich. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS 2011 VOL 7; NUMB 1, page(s) 41-55. Abstract: Equitized state-owned enterprises (ESOEs) in Vietnam have begun to implement enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, ubiquitous in developed countries, to improve their operational and financial performance. However, such ESOEs lack a model for ERP adoption to guide them in successfully implementing ERP systems. This study is based on an extensive review of literature on ERP benefits and the equitization process in Vietnam and relevant theories on innovation adoption, and the authors propose a success model for ERP adoption in Vietnam’s ESOEs. Model hypotheses that present relationships among factors influencing ERP adoption are given and future studies are discussed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Accessibility to mental health care and perceptions of mental health in Thua Thien Hue province, Vietnam.
Lia van der Ham, Jacqueline Broerse, Vo Van Thang, Pamela Wright. JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, Hue University, N0 61, 2010. SUMMARY: This study assesses perceptions of mental health and mental health care in Vietnam through explorative research among adults in four quarters of Hue city in Central Vietnam. Methods included questionnaires (200) and focus group discussions (eight). Respondents were often unable to name specific mental illnesses, but recognised more when suggested. The most frequently mentioned symptoms of mental illness were talking nonsense, talking/laughing alone and wandering. Pressure/stress and studying/thinking too much were often identified causes of mental illness. Most respondents showed a preference for
medical treatment options, often in combination with family care. Important obstacles for relatives of mentally ill people were a lack of drugs and financial resources and the burden of providing care at home. The results revealed a need for educational and awareness programs on mental health so that people are better able to understand mental illness and seek help when they need it. Free full text http://www.hueuni.edu.vn/hueuni/issue_file/61_15.pdf.

An Examination of Selected Marketing Mix Elements and Brand Relationship Quality in Transition Economies: Evidence From Vietnam. Tho D Nguyen, Trang T M Nguyen. Journal of Relationship Marketing. Binghamton: 2011. Vol. 10, Iss. 1; Pages 43 - 56. Abstract: This study examines the role of selected marketing mix elements in brand relationship quality in a transition economy, Vietnam. A model that incorporates perceived quality, attitudes toward advertising and public relations, and brand relationship quality was tested with a sample of 477 consumers in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The results showed that perceived quality is a key factor affecting brand relationship quality. In addition, attitudes toward advertising and public relations have impacts on both perceived quality and brand relationship quality. These findings suggest that managers should establish and deliver high-quality brands and should incorporate brand relationship quality aspects in their advertising and public relations programs in order to build high-quality brand-consumer relationships. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Assessment of persistent organic pollutants in sediments from Lower Mekong River Basin. Agus Sudaryanto, Tomohiko Isobe, Shin Takahashi and Shinsuke Tanabe. Chemosphere, Volume 82, Issue 5, January 2011, Pages 679-686. Abstract: Organochlorine compounds (OCs) in sediments collected from various locations in Lower Mekong River Basin (MRB) in Laos and Thailand were examined to elucidate their occurrence, distribution and potential ecological risk. Concentration of PCBs and DDTs were higher than other OCs, ranging from 0.18 to 310 µg kg⁻¹ dry wt. and from 0.027 to 52 µg kg⁻¹ dry wt., respectively, whereas CHLs, HCHs and HCB were 1–3 orders of magnitude lower. Geographical distribution indicates that levels of PCBs, DDTs and CHLs in the Vientiane canal were significantly higher than those in mainstream of Mekong River, Phong River and its surrounding areas, indicating significant sources of these compounds in urbanized areas. Comparison with other parts of MRB indicates that PCBs were higher in Laos, whereas DDTs were more prevalent in Mekong Delta, indicating location specific contaminations of these compounds in MRB. The ratios of DDTs composition indicate possible difference in the historical input of DDT among locations in and around Mekong River. Hazard assessment of PCBs and DDTs indicate possible toxic potential particularly in areas close to point sources such as intensive human activities and agricultural areas which highlight the need for further study. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V74-51JN6B7-2&_user=1916569&_coverDate=01%2F31%2F2011&_alid=1749507747&_rdoc=43&_fmt=high&_orig=search&org=search&origin=rslt_list_item&cdi=5832&_sort=r&st=4&docanchor=&ct=734&acct=C00055300&version=1&urlVersion=0&userid=1916569&md5=392418b97b705f577f5ab663ddc3d84&searchtype=a.

Community Action To Support Malaria Control In Traditional Villages In Huong Hoa District, Quang Tri Province, Vietnam. Ho Sy Quang, E. Pamela Wright. JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, Hue University, N0 61, 2010. SUMMARY: The Vietnamese government has been implementing a national malaria control program for many years. The program uses several effective strategies but the burden of malaria in poor and remote communities has not yet reduced. The reasons include reluctance on the part of some communities, especially ethnic minorities, to use bed nets and change their customary routines. MCNV supported a community-managed health approach in Huong Hoa,Quang Tri, in which the villagers themselves identified malaria as a health problem and undertook changes to reduce their risk. In this report, the activities of villages in the program are compared with those in villages not involved in the program. Methodology:This was a cross-sectional study in combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. Four communes in Huong Hoa district, two with and two without the community-managed health development (CMHD) intervention program were involved in the study. Results: Significant differences between the CMHD and non-CMHD communities were found in the levels of new activities undertaken, including negotiation with authorities for additional bednets, the behavior change for reducing risk of malaria, and people’s confidence for addressing
the malaria problem. In all of these cases, the CMHD communities were more active than the communities receiving only the NMCP interventions. Conclusions: The CMHD intervention could empower to change the traditional routines of the people in the mountainous area. CMHD using participatory planning could also lead to an effective health promotion, and better functioning of the existing "vertical" programs. Free full text http://www.hueuni.edu.vn/hueuni/issue_file/61_35.pdf.

Corporate Social Responsibility: A Study on Factors Affecting CSR Implementation and CSR Disclosure in Vietnam [TRÁCH NHỊỆM XÃ HỘI CỦA DOANH NGHIỆP - CÁC NHÂN TỔ ĐẢM HƯỞNG TỐ THỤC HIỆN VÀ BÁO CÁO TRÁCH NHỊỆM XÃ HỘI CỦA CÁC DOANH NGHIỆP VIỆT NAM]. PHAM Duc Hieu. HỘI THẢO QUỐC TẾ ĐỒNG GÓP CỦA KHOA HỌC XÃ HỘI – NHÂN VĂN TRONG PHÁT TRIỂN KINH TẾ - XÃ HỘI. Abstract: This paper aims to examine how executives and managers from different Vietnamese enterprises represent their awareness and their perceptions of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), as well as whether the attitude of Vietnamese consumers towards CSR is positive. Based on the quantitative analysis, the paper provides evidence that while a large proportion of managers express a highly positive attitude towards CSR and its reporting, consumers’ perception is at low state and questionable. But the hypothesis testing shows that there seems to be a discrepancy between what managers say they do and what they actually do. Nevertheless, the willingness to learn and gain more knowledge about CSR found from the survey has drawn a bright future for CSR implementation and CSR disclosure in Vietnam. Free full text http://tainguyenso.vnu.edu.vn/jspui/bitstream/123456789/1126/1/6Pham%20Duc%20Hieu.pdf

Development of Water Quality Indexes to Identify Pollutants in Vietnam's Surface Water. Pham Thi Minh Hanh, Suthipong Sthiannopkao, Dang The Ba, and Kyoung-Woong Kim. Journal of Environmental Engineering 2011 VOL 137; NUMB 4, page(s) 273-283. Abstract: This study presents the first water quality indexes developed to evaluate surface water in Vietnam. The basic water quality index (WQIB) can be effectively used to evaluate the spatial and temporal variations of surface water quality as well as to identify water pollutants. The overall water quality index (WQIO) can provide additional information, particularly on toxic substances contributing to water pollution. The water quality indexes developed for this paper were applied to the national surface-water quality monitoring data taken from 1999 to 2007. Water pollutants were classified into three subcategories: organic and nutrients, particulates, and bacteria. Surface water in northern and central Vietnam was poor in quality and contained organic matter, nutrients, and bacteria. Water in the southern part was mainly polluted by bacteria. Trend analysis results reveal a deterioration in water quality in those provinces under pressure from rapid population growth, urbanization, and industrialization. Vietnam has established an official policy to ensure comprehensive nationwide water quality monitoring by 2020. The implementation of water quality indexes may provide the guiding data for sustainable water-resources management in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Foreign direct investment and export spillovers: Evidence from Vietnam. Anwar Sajid, Lan Phi Nguyen. International Business Review. Volume: 20 Issue: 2 Pages: 177-193. APR 2011. Abstract: The existing IB literature suggests that the presence of foreign firms in a country can benefit domestic firms through the formation of inter-firm linkages. These linkages can take various forms. By making use of firm level data from Vietnam's manufacturing sector, this paper examines the impact of horizontal and vertical (backward and forward) linkages between domestic and foreign firms on (i) the decision of domestic firms to export and (ii) the export share of domestic firms. This paper considers only transactional linkages. The empirical analysis is based on Heckman's two-step estimator in selection models. It is shown that the presence of foreign firms in Vietnam, through horizontal and forward linkages, significantly affects the decision of domestic firms to export as well as their export share. This result continues to hold when we take into account factors such as the (a) level of technology of domestic firms, (b) ownership structure of domestic firms, (c) orientation of foreign firms and (d) geographical proximity to foreign firms. Full text is available upon request.
Gender and the burden of disease in ten Asian countries: An exploratory analysis. Stella R. Quah. ASIA EUROPE JOURNAL 2011 VOL 8; NUMBER 4, page(s) 499-512. Abstract: This article explores critically the assumption that the burden of disease remains heavier for women than for men. The impact of gender on health is better understood when the burden of disease is analysed in terms of its two dimensions, the domestic and the public. This dual approach reveals that, concerning the public burden of disease, morbidity and mortality trends are becoming similar for men and women while, with the domestic burden of disease, gender shows that differences seem to persist in men and women’s roles within the family, particularly involving illness prevention and management at home. This argument is explored in this paper through two types of evidence: to investigate the domestic burden of disease, reference is made to findings from studies on gender roles in the family; and the public burden of disease is explored using the World Health Organization’s latest figures on mortality and morbidity. The domestic and public dimensions of the burden of disease are discussed in the context of ten Asian countries at different stages of socio-economic development (Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia). Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Health-Related Quality of Life in Old Age: A Comparison Between Rural Areas in Bangladesh and Vietnam. J Nilsson, AM Rana, DH Luong, B Winblad, and ZN Kabir. Asia Pac J Public Health. 2011 Apr 13. [Epub ahead of print]. Abstract: This study compares health-related quality of life (HRQoL) and its determinants among older people (≥60 years) in rural Bangladesh and Vietnam. Cross-sectional studies among older people were conducted in Bangladesh (n = 1031) and Vietnam (n = 870). Data on HRQoL were collected using an instrument that includes 24 items distributed into 6 dimensions. Older people in Vietnam reported more favorable HRQoL outcomes than those in Bangladesh, reporting better HRQoL on physical, psychological, social, and financial dimensions. Hierarchical linear regression analyses show that advanced age, being a woman, belonging to a poor household, and reporting poor health were significantly associated with lower HRQoL scores in both Bangladesh and Vietnam. In Bangladesh, being illiterate was additionally associated with lower HRQoL scores. The results of this explorative study underline the importance of a cross-cultural understanding of HRQoL of older people and the influence of the socioecological context. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Height and Cognitive Achievement of Vietnamese Children. Le Thuc Duc. World Development, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 6 May 2011. Summary: A longitudinal dataset that follows 1,200 Vietnamese children born in 2001–02 is used to investigate the impact of child malnutrition on cognitive development. We demonstrate that the impact of early childhood stunting on cognition can be estimated with significant bias for a majority of children if researchers omit the data on gestational age. The negative impact of the length in preterm on the cognitive achievement of pre-schoolers is statistically significant. Having controlled for the effect of the length in preterm, however, the effect of height-for-age at age one on cognitive achievement at age five is not statistically significant. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VC6-52T0MPM-9&_user=1916569&_coverDate=05%2F06%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=ec1d4595f74c2f0f37ac2ae0be00171&searchtype=a.

Implementing integrated river basin management in the Red River Basin, Vietnam: a solution looking for a problem? François Molle and Chu Thai Hoanh. Water Policy, In Press, Uncorrected Proof, Available online 25 April 2011. ABSTRACT: Several water policy principles considered to be modern and internationally sanctioned have recently been adopted by Vietnam. This article focuses on the establishment of the Red River Basin Organization but expands its analysis to the wider transformations of the water sector that impinge on the formation and effectiveness of this organization. This paper shows that the promotion of integrated water resource management icons such as river basin organizations (RBOs) by donors has been quite disconnected from existing institutional frameworks. If policy reforms promoted by donors and development banks have triggered changes, these changes may have come not as a result of the reforms themselves but, rather, due to the institutional confusion they have created when confronted with the emergence of the Ministry of Natural
Resources and Environment (MoNRE). For the MoNRE, the river basin scale became crucial for grounding its legitimacy and asserting its role among the established layers of the administration, while for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, RBOs became a focal point where power over financial resources and political power might potentially be relocated at its expense. Institutional change is shown to result from the interaction between endogenous processes and external pressures, in ways that are hard to predict. Free full text http://www.iwaponline.com/wp/up/wp2011012.htm.

Industrialisation and the triangular rent-seeking relationship between Vietnam, Japan and China in Vietnam’s motorcycle industry. Christine Ngoc Ngo. VEPR Working Paper WP-10. Abstract: In examining the industrial success of Vietnam's fast growing economy, this paper firstly asks whether FDI based industrial policy in the motorcycle industrial resulted in industrial success and, if so, why. Using the political economy framework of rents and rent seeking, this paper assesses the triangular rent seeking relationship between three country - Vietnam, Japan and China - in relation to Vietnam's motorcycle industry. The paper concludes that the Vietnamese government's policy in offering rents for foreign investors were largely unsuccessful in the short term; however, some accidental rents have led to significant technological transformation in the production chain among assemblers and producers. Free full text http://vepr.org.vn/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=757&Itemid=487:

Integrating community structure and stable isotope analysis to assess a heavily-exploited coastal marine ecosystem off Central Vietnam. Nguyen Thanh Nam, Todd William Miller, Nguyen Xuan Huan, Vu Trung Tang and Koji Omori. Fisheries Research, Article in Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 28 April 2011. Abstract: We examined the community and trophic structure of the heavily exploited benthic-demersal community off Phan Thiêt Bay, central Vietnam. Using cluster analysis and non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMS) of catch data from a trawl survey, we examined the nekton community structure pertaining to bottom substrate type and depth. For dominant fish and invertebrate taxa we applied stable isotope analysis, using δ15N to examine trophic level (TL) and size-specific ontogenetic shifts, and δ13C as a measure of contribution by benthic secondary production. Based on trawl data small fishes and cephalopods were the numerically and biomass-dominant taxa. Community structure analysis showed many of the sample sites shared the same species composition, but that there was significant heterogeneity related to substrate types of sand and gravelly muddy sand. Results from δ15N showed 70% of the species were between TL 3.3-3.8, with no species indicating true piscivory (TL 4); highest TL was from the squid Loligo japonica (TL 3.8). Size-specific δ15N-based trophic shift was expressed in taxa when the proportional size range (ΔLmax) obtained for analysis was at least 40% of the largest reported size for the species (Lmax). From δ13C, nekton expressed between 35-77% dependence on benthic secondary production. Evidence of over-exploitation from our study included the relatively low TL’s of dominant taxa, small size distribution of specimens collected, and the dominance of taxa with very high growth rates such as cephalopods (juvenile Octopus sp. and cuttlefish) and small fishes. The effectiveness of stable isotopes as an indicator of over-exploitation is discussed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Involvement of private sector in HIV/AIDS prevention in Vietnam – a public-private partnership (PPP) model: Increase access to STI services of the most at risk population (MARPS). Pham Duc Minh, Nguyen Chien Thang, Ton van der Velden, Le Ngoc Bao, Mai Hoang Anh. JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, Hue University, N0 61, 2010. SUMMARY: -- Introduction: Having sexual transmitted infection (STI) increases the risk of HIV infection. The MARPs identified as female sex workers (FSWs) and intravenous drug users (IDUs) have limited access to STI services; lack of knowledge and awareness on need for STI/HIV related services, financial difficulties, and more importantly fear of stigma or even legal sanction are main barriers. Literature suggested that MARPs preferred STI services provided at private sector in order to secure privacy and confidentiality. -- Methodology: The intervention project developed and piloted a voucher scheme for the MARPs to use STI services at 9 assigned private clinics in 4 districts of An Giang province. The Provincial Center for AIDS and TB Control (PATC), through peer educator network, provided vouchers for MARPs for free STI (examination and treatment) and HIV counseling services. District health centers managed the operation of voucher scheme, made payment to private providers and reported to PATC. -- Results: Over 9
months of piloting, a total of 1,806 vouchers were used and proportion of return vouchers increased over months: from 27% in the first to 72% in the last. Voucher users reported satisfaction with quality of services, improved knowledge on STI/HIV and awareness on need for services. Conclusions: To increase accessibility of MARPs to HIV prevention programs, involvement of the private health sector is indispensable; voucher scheme is an appropriate approach which can be replicated. Implications of the pilot’s results on a PPP model to provide health services to hard-to-reach population will be further explored and discussed. Free full text http://www.hueuni.edu.vn/hueuni/issue_file/61_24.pdf.

Knowledge Diffusion and Modernization of Rural Industrial Clusters: A Paper-manufacturing Village in Northern Vietnam. Yuichi Kimura. World Development, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 6 May 2011. Summary: This article tests the role of social learning in the modernization of a rural nonfarm industry, using data from a paper-manufacturing village that was transformed from a traditional handicraft industry into a modern industrial cluster. Knowledge diffusion through kinship networks is shown to have played a significant role in the dissemination of mechanized production by helping the followers to overcome subjective risk during the initial investment stage. The financial support through kinship networks also had a demonstrably positive impact on the diffusion of the technology, which removed financial constraints on the initial fixed investments. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VC6-52T0MPM-B&_user=1916569&_coverDate=05%2F06%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1749093451&_rerunOrigin=gateway&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=afd96953bba28d7c1149e503c134a5fd&searchtype=a.

Livelihood opportunities and fishery management in Ca Mau, a coastal province of Vietnam. Tran Thi Phung Ha, Han van Dijk, Roel Bosma. Paper prepared for the 2011 Colorado Conference on Environmental Governance. Abstract: Fishery in Ca Mau, Vietnam’s most southern province in the Mekong Delta, plays locally an important role for human nutrition and has great potentials for export earnings. To assess issues on livelihood sustainability and fishery management a study was conducted from September 2008 to June 2009 using both quantitative and qualitative methods in 41 structured and 14 in-depth interviews of fishermen households selected from communities both inside and outside the fishing resettlement zone. We used the sustainable livelihood approach to identify livelihoods’ strategies and diversification in the context of overexploitation and exhaustion of near-shore resources. The results show that overexploitation is unavoidable in near-shore waters because of the lack of enforcement of fishery regulations for offshore vessels and the limitation of alternative sources of income and opportunities for livelihood diversification for small-scale fishers. The present solutions to prevent overexploitation and non-compliance with fishery regulations in force need to be reconciled with the livelihood sustainability and fishery management, resource conservation and socio-economic goals. Free full text http://cc2011.earthsystemgovernance.org/pdf/2011Colora_0012.pdf.

Main Characteristics of Statistical Data and the Statistical System for Wood and Wood-processing Products in Vietnam. Phan Sy Hieu, Vu Huong Thuy, Pham Duc Thuan and Le Thanh Van. Small-Scale Forestry 2011 VOL 10; NUMBER 2, page(s) 185-198. Abstract: This paper describes the characteristics of data about wood and wood-processing products published in Vietnam. The characteristics include inconsistency of data published by major data sources, lack of necessary data, and irregular publication frequency. Reasons are identified for the existence of the above characteristics of data for the wood and wood-processing industries, including recent changes in the functions of state statistical organizations and unclear concepts of data published. These characteristics create difficulties for researchers and policy-makers working at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development for analysing policies and establishing supply targets for the wood and wood-processing industries in 5-year economic plans. To improve the statistical system, co-operation between state organisations and the information network (e.g. computers and internet connection) requires strengthening. Full text available upon request.
Occupational injuries in a commune in rural Vietnam transitioning from agriculture to new industries. H Marucci-Wellman, TB Leamon, JL Willetts, TT Binh, NB Diep, DH Wegman, and D Kriebel. Am J Public Health. 2011; 101: 854. Abstract: OBJECTIVES: We explored the impact on work-related injuries of workers splitting time between industry and agriculture, a common situation in developing countries. METHODS: In 2005, we administered a cross-sectional survey to 2615 households of Xuan Tien, a developing rural community of Vietnam, regarding self-reported injuries and hours worked for 1 year. We defined groups as working in industry, agriculture, or a mix of both. RESULTS: Overlapping employment (part time in agriculture and up to full time in industry) increased the risk of injury in both agricultural and industrial work. This pattern held across all work groups defined by the relative amount of time worked in agriculture. Those working fewer than 500 hours annually in agriculture had an agricultural injury rate (872 per 1000 full-time equivalents) that was more than 4 times higher than the average rate overall (203 per 1000) and the rate for workers employed only in industry (178 per 1000). CONCLUSIONS: Working in agriculture for short durations while working in industry increased the risk of injury substantially in both types of work. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Poverty Projection Using a Small Area Estimation Method: Evidence from Vietnam. Nguyen Viet Cuong. Journal of Comparative Economics, In Press, Accepted Manuscript, Available online 6 May 2011. Abstract: For poverty monitoring and evaluation, one needs poverty estimates at the different disaggregation levels. The prediction of poverty trend is also of interest for policy makers as well as researchers. This paper presents a method – that is based on a small area estimation method of Elbers, Lanjouw and Lanjouw (2003) – to project a map of disaggregated poverty measures in the future. This method is applied to project a poverty map in rural Vietnam for the year 2008 using the 2006 Rural, Agricultural and Fishery Census and the 2004 and 2006 Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys. -- Highlights: ► A small area estimation method of Elbers, Lanjouw and Lanjouw (2003) is widely used to estimate poverty measures at a disaggregated level. ► This paper proposes a variant of the small area estimation method to project a map of disaggregated poverty measures in the future. ► This method is applied to project a poverty map in rural Vietnam for the year 2008. ► It is found that the poverty estimates using the projection method are encouraging. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6WHV-52T13WX-1&_user=1916569&_coverDate=05%2F06%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=380dfe56ae8a1e38789d45d105cf72b&searchtype=a.

Production Inefficiency of Vietnam’s Fisheries Processing Firms. Scott E. Atkinson, Le Van Chon, Le Dang Trung. VEPR Working Paper WP-11. Abstract: Vietnam has experienced a dramatic growth in its fisheries sector over the last two decades. One key factor underlying the impressive achievements of this sector is the rapid growth of the processing firms, which include both state-owned and privately-owned firms. In order to measure their technical and allocative efficiency, we estimate a shadow cost system using a Bayesian Markov Chain Monte Carlo procedure. We find that firms have not fully exploited economies of scale. They are likely to over-utilize labor relative to capital, but those located in the Mekong delta generally perform better than those located in other regions. Small firm tend to have higher allocative efficiency than larger ones. Interestingly, based on this measure, while in other regions state-owned enterprises do worse than private enterprises, the pattern seems to be reversed in the Mekong delta. In addition large fluctuations in efficiency change and productivity change across several firms may indicate they vulnerability of weaker firms to competition from international trade. Free full text http://vepr.org.vn/en/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=762&Itemid=487.

Quality of reproductive health services at commune health stations in Viet Nam: implications for national reproductive health care strategy. Anh D Ngo, and Peter S Hill. Reproductive Health Matters, Volume 19, Issue 37, May 2011, Pages 52-61. Abstract: This paper presents a qualitative study conducted in 2009 of provider and patient perceptions of primary level reproductive health services provided by commune health stations (CHSs), and the implications for Viet Nam's 2011–2020 National Strategy for Reproductive Health Care. In the three provinces of Thai Nguyen, Thua Thien Hue, and Vinh Long, we interviewed the heads of
CHSs, held focus group discussions with midwives and women patients, and observed facilities. Half the 30 CHSs visited were in poor physical condition; the rest were newly renovated. However, the model of service delivery was largely unchanged from ten years before. Many appeared to fall short in meeting patient expectations in terms of modern medical equipment and technology, range of drug supplies, and levels of staff expertise. As a result, many women were turning to private doctors and public hospitals, at least in urban areas, or seeking medication from pharmacies. To make CHS clinics sustainable, promotion of access to reproductive health services should be undertaken concurrently with quality improvement. A responsive payment scheme must also be developed to generate revenues. Efforts should be made to reduce the unnecessary use of more costly services from private clinics and higher level public facilities. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B73FJ-52T85C9-Y&_user=1916569&_coverDate=05%2F31%2F2011&_alid=1749507747&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_sort=r&_st=4&_docanchor=&_ct=734&_acct=C0000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=aa8b57013030420c63a9126ee14443a&searchtype=a.

Risk of road traffic injury after alcohol consumption in Vietnam. Nguyen Minh Tam, Michael P Dunne, Peter S Hill, Ross McD Young, Pham Van Linh, Jonathon Passmore. JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, Hue University, N0 61, 2010. SUMMARY: Traffic injury is among the leading causes of death in Vietnam. Alcohol use is likely to be an important contributing factor, but there is little local information. The objectives of this study were: 1) To measure intoxication among traffic related injured male victims using a breathalyzer, and 2) To estimate the risk of traffic injury after acute alcohol consumption using the case-crossover analysis. Methods: Male patients admitted to hospital following traffic injuries (n=480) were interviewed and their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) were measured. Risk of traffic injuries after drinking was estimated using case-crossover analysis. Results: 57.5% of male traffic injury patients had a BAC over the legal limit (0.08g/100ml) and 45.6% were above 0.15g/100ml. The odd-ratios of traffic injuries for patients who drank alcohol within 6 hours prior to injury was 8.5 (95% CI = 5.34 – 13.51). The odds-ratios were 8.8 and 13.4 for patients who drank 4-5 drinks and ≥6 drinks respectively (p<0.001). Conclusion: These data indicate that a high proportion of male accident victims have BAC far above the legal limit, and confirm that risk of injury follows a dose-response function. Free full text http://www.hueuni.edu.vn/hueuni/issue_file/61_41.pdf.

Role of social capital in determining conservation attitude: a case study from Cat Tien National Park, Vietnam. Nguyen Ngoc Thuy, Puneet Dwivedi, Frederick Rossi, Janaki R Alavalapati, Brijesh Thapa. International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology. London: 2011. Vol. 18, Iss. 2; p. 143. Abstract: The Cat Tien National Park (CTNP) is located in South Vietnam. This park is home to many rare and endemic species. However, Park resources face heavy anthropogenic pressure and some species are vulnerable to extinction. In this context, this study assesses the efficacy of social capital and other socio-economic variables in influencing conservation attitude of local people towards CTNP resources. Using suitable survey tools and regression analysis, we find social capital to be a significant determinant of the overall conservation attitude of locals. All components of social capital, except trust, are significant in explaining one or more indicators of conservation attitude. Among socio-economic variables, education, income and ethnic groups were significant in explaining the overall conservation attitude. We suggest that participatory conservation programmes should incorporate suitable actions for promoting social capital among local people as a part of their institution-building efforts. This may improve institutional stability leading to better resource conservation and improved welfare of local people. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Rural Roads and Local Market Development in Vietnam. Ren Mu; Dominique van de Walle. Journal of Development Studies, First published on 09 March 2011. Abstract: We assess impacts of rural road rehabilitation on market development at the commune level in rural Vietnam and examine the geographic, community, and household covariates of impact. Double difference and matching methods are used to address sources of selection bias in identifying impacts. The results point to significant average impacts on the development of local markets. There is also evidence of considerable impact heterogeneity, with a tendency for poorer communes to have higher impacts due to lower levels of initial market development. Yet, some
poor areas are also saddled with other attributes that reduce those impacts. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Stable isotope-guided analysis of biomagnification profiles of arsenic species in a tropical mangrove ecosystem.**
Abstract: We performed stable carbon and nitrogen-guided analyses of biomagnification profiles of arsenic (As) species, including total As, lipid-soluble As, eight water-soluble As compounds (arsenobetaine (AB), arsenocholine (AC), tetramethylarsonium ion (TETRA), trimethylarsine oxide (TMAO), dimethylarsinic acid (DMA), monomethylarsenic acid (MMA), arsenate (As(V)), and arsenite (As(III))), and non-extracted As in a tropical mangrove ecosystem in the Ba Ria Vung Tau, South Vietnam. Arsenobetaine was the predominant As species (65–96% of water-soluble As). Simple linear regression slopes of log-transformed concentrations of total As, As fractions or individual As compounds on stable nitrogen isotopic ratio (δ15N) values are regarded as indices of biomagnification. In this ecosystem, lipid-soluble As (slope, 0.130) and AB (slope, 0.108) were significantly biomagnified through the food web; total As and other water-soluble As compounds were not. To our knowledge, this is one of the first reports on biomagnification profiles of As compounds from a tropical mangrove ecosystem. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Abstract: This paper uses firm-level data to examine how technology spillovers through foreign direct investment (FDI) affect the productivity of domestic firms in Vietnam. We advance the understanding as to when, where and under what conditions FDI generates technology spillovers to domestic firms. We find that domestic firms gain technology spillovers through vertical linkages with foreign firms, but the effect of the horizontal presence of foreign firms on the productivity of domestic firms is negative. This suggests that potential technology transfer between foreign firms and their local competitors is more than offset by the competition induced by the entry of foreign firms. The existence and strength of horizontal and vertical spillovers depend on industry and firm characteristics and on the types of FDI. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


**Vietnam Healthcare: The Next Growth Frontier?** V.K. Sanjeev. ASIA PACIFIC BIOTECH NEWS 2011 VOL 15; NUMB 3, page(s) 52-58. Introduction: In April 2008, Vietnam’s Ministry of Health announced plans to revamp the country’s healthcare infrastructure. The system was starved of funds and a damp prospect for medical device manufacturers. A budget of roughly US$1 billion has been allocated to build and upgrade hospitals across the nation. This opens up a myriad of opportunities across the entire healthcare system, particularly for medical devices and equipment manufacturers. Despite its attractive growth potential, Vietnam’s emerging economy presents its own set of unique challenges to would-be investors and foreign companies. APBN finds out more from Damien Duhamel, Managing Director of Solidiance, a marketing and innovation strategy consulting firm with strong focus on Medtech in Asia Pacific. Free full text http://www.asiabiotech.com/publication/apbn/15/english/preserved-docs/1503/0052_0058.pdf.
Vietnamese intellectuals in Eastern Europe and Vietnam state policy of attracting them back. Nguyen An Ha (Institute for European Studies, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, 1 Lieu Giai, Ba Dinh, HaNoi, Vietnam). Acta Asiatica Varsoviensia, 2010, number: 23, pages: 101-105. Abstract: This article characterizes the community of Vietnamese intellectuals in foreign countries and in Eastern European countries. It also reviews the policies of the Vietnamese Communist Party and Government towards overseas Vietnamese intellectuals in Eastern Europe as well as proposes some solutions to attract their contribution to Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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An Empirical Investigation of Liquidity and Stock Returns Relationship in Vietnam Stock Markets during Financial Crisis. Vo, Xuan Vinh and Batten, Jonathan (2010). Abstract: This paper investigates the relationship between liquidity and stock returns in the Vietnam stock market during financial crisis using a data set ranging from 2006 to 2010. Employing a rich and detailed dataset of characteristics of firm listed in Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange, the results from the analysis indicate that liquidity positively affects stock returns. Our results contradict previous results that liquidity is negatively correlated with stock returns as investors required a premium to compensate for illiquid stocks in developed markets. Free full text http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/29862/1/MPRA_paper_29862.pdf.

An Investigation of Perceptions of Vietnamese Teachers and Students toward Cooperative Learning (CL). Author: Pham Thi Hong Thanh. Journal: International Education Studies 2011. Volume: 4, Issue: 1. Abstract: The present study examined how cooperative learning (CL) is implemented in Vietnamese classrooms, how local teachers' and students' perceived this approach to learning, and what were the local barriers that hindered its implementation. Forty teachers and forty students from twenty Vietnamese colleges completed a questionnaire about CL and follow-up interviews were conducted with ten students and ten teachers on their perceptions of this practice. The results showed that CL has become a common and preferred method of instruction in Vietnam. However, the functions of CL were often not understood correctly because the teachers and students maintained that CL mainly helped the students remember information rather than develop a deep understanding of the text they were studying. Responses also revealed that CL was hindered by a number of local cultural and institutional barriers such as class size, curriculum coverage and workload division. Future research may need to identify strategies to correct mismatches between CL principles and local barriers so that this approach to learning becomes more adaptive to the local context. Free full text http://www.ccsenet.org/journal/index.php/ies/article/view/9101.

Attempting the Production of Public Goods Through Microfinance: The Case of Water and Sanitation. Phil Mader. Paper presented at the University of Pula 5th International Scientific Conference “Entrepreneurship and Macroeconomic Management: Reflections on the World in Turmoil”, Croatia, 24-26 March 2011. ABSTRACT: This paper evaluates the attempt to create public goods via microfinance loans. Microfinance loans in the production of goods with public goods characteristics signify an emergent micro-privatisation. As a case study, the production of water and sanitation resources via microfinance loans is examined in India and Vietnam. It is found that microfinance projects for water and sanitation, which are based on individualism and a cost-recovery paradigm, ignore important collective action aspects and underlying distributional problems. Given its questionable effectiveness in other areas, the public goods iteration of microfinance leads not only to insufficient provision for the poor, but also may alienate these citizens from publicly accountable modes of governance and their human right to water. Free full text http://governancexborders.files.wordpress.com/2009/01/ssrn-id18098191.pdf.
Better Work: Problems with Exporting the Better Factories Cambodia Project to Jordan, Lesotho, and Vietnam. Paul David Harpur. Employee Relations Law Journal, Vol. 36, No. 4, pp. 79-98, 2011. Abstract: Over the last decade, the International Labor Organization (ILO) has managed a dynamic project in Cambodia which has resulted in drastically improved working conditions in Cambodian textile and apparel factories. The success of the Better Factories Cambodia project has led the ILO to expand the project beyond Cambodia to other jurisdictions. The new Better Work Project will develop micro-level projects in Jordan, Lesotho, and Vietnam to improve the respect for workers' rights in those jurisdictions. This article analyses what enabled the Better Factories Cambodia project to be so successful and analyse the barriers in operationalizing the Better Work Projects in Jordan, Lesotho, and Vietnam. -- During the 1990s, the production of retail goods increasingly moved from wealthy, developed countries to less-developed countries where production costs were cheaper. Reports began to emerge that the working conditions in some less-developed countries
resembled sweatshops and the competitive advantage gained by the outsourcing of products often came at the expense of the human rights of workers. As globalization removed the barriers restricting trade across borders, corporations took advantage of the opportunities to outsource work to intermediary agents and factories across the globe. Substantial regulatory challenges have been created by the increase in these global supply chains, which often contain a large number of separate corporate entities situated in literally dozens of different nations. Both developed and developing countries proposed a range of regulatory interventions to improve labor rights while maintaining trade. Less-developed countries have struggled to find strategies to maintain their economic growth while protecting labor rights. Cambodia is one less-developed country that has worked with the International Labor Organization (ILO) successfully to increase the recognition of labor rights without economic harm. -- The regulatory interventions in Cambodia, which resulted in increased labor rights without damaging trade, were made possible by the micro and macro involvement of the ILO in developing and implementing the Better Factories Cambodia Project. The effectiveness of the Better Factories Cambodia Project has resulted in the ILO expanding this project into the independent Better Work Projects in the countries of Jordan, Lesotho, and Vietnam. -- This article argues that the Better Factories Cambodia Project model can be successfully transplanted to Jordan, Lesotho, and Vietnam only if the Better Work Projects carefully manages the challenges associated with the transplantation. This article analyses the barriers which the Better Work Projects will confront in transplanting the Better Factories Cambodia Project model and recommends how these challenges can be managed. To analyse the barriers associated with the transplantation of the Better Factories Cambodia Project model, this article uses a doctrinal comparative law approach. This approach is used to analyse the similarities and differences between the jurisdictions and the range of incentives available to the Better Work Projects to encourage participating countries and their factories to respect labor conditions. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Comparison of technology transfer from government labs in the US and Vietnam. Thien Tran, Tugrul Daim, and Dundar Kocaoglu. Technology in Society, Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 13 April 2011. Abstract: Technology transfer from the government sector to industry has emerged as an important activity in developed and developing countries as governments are increasing their funding for the national innovation systems with an objective of developing technologies which will improve and enhance the country’s national competitiveness. However, this endeavor requires good technology transfer practices from the government R&D facilities to industry. Developed countries have embarked on this process for the past two decades and have gained some success, but further improvements are still needed. This paper compares the status of government technology transfer in a developed country, the US, and that in a developing country, Vietnam. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V80-52M3GSJ-2&_user=3994122&_coverDate=04%2F13%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=3994122&md5=5a06eb2d997ebe23c7287fd19f031da3&ssearchtype=a.

Cost Effectiveness of Tobacco Control Policies in Vietnam: The Case of Population-Level Interventions. Higashi, Hideki; Truong, Khoa D.; Barendregt, Jan J.; Nguyen, Phuong K.; Vuong, Mai L.; Nguyen, Thuy T.; Hoang, Phuong T.; Wallace, Angela L.; Tran, Tien V.; Le, Cuong Q.; Doran, Christopher M. Applied Health Economics and Health Policy, Volume 9, Number 3, 1 May 2011 , pp. 183-196(14). Abstract: -- Background: Tobacco smoking is one of the leading public health problems in the world. It is also possible to prevent and/or reduce the harm from tobacco use through the use of cost-effective tobacco control measures. However, most of this evidence comes from developed countries and little research has been conducted on this issue in developing countries. -- Objective: The objective of this study was to analyse the cost effectiveness of four population-level tobacco control interventions in Vietnam. -- Methods: Four tobacco control interventions were evaluated: excise tax increase; graphic warning labels on cigarette packs; mass media campaigns; and smoking bans (in public or in work places). A multi-state life table model was constructed in Microsoft® Excel to examine the cost effectiveness of the tobacco control intervention options. A government perspective was adopted, with costing conducted using a bottom-up approach. Health improvement was considered in terms of disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) averted. All assumptions were subject to sensitivity and uncertainty analysis. -- Results: All the interventions fell within the definition
of being very cost effective according to the threshold level suggested by the WHO (i.e. <GDP per capita). Graphic warning labels on cigarette packs was the most cost-effective option, followed by excise tax increases, mass media campaigns, public smoking bans and workplace smoking bans. If the cost offset was included in the analysis, all interventions would provide cost savings to the government health sector. -- Conclusions: All four interventions to reduce the harm from tobacco use appear to be highly cost effective and should be considered as priorities in the context of Vietnam. The government may initially consider graphic warning labels and tax increase, followed by other interventions. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Country-of-origin and industry FDI agglomeration of foreign investors in an emerging economy. Danchi Tan and Klaus E Meyer. Journal of International Business Studies (2011) 42, 504–520. Abstract: Foreign investors access local knowledge by co-locating with other foreign direct investment (FDI) firms. However, different aspects of local knowledge can be obtained from different local businesses. Thus some foreign investors co-locate with FDI firms from the same country of origin, while others co-locate with foreign industry peers. We argue that, relative to industry FDI agglomeration, country-of-origin agglomeration provides an effective channel for the sharing of sensitive and tacit knowledge about local business environments. Therefore foreign investors in need of such local knowledge are more likely to locate in country-of-origin agglomerations. Empirical evidence based on FDI in Vietnam indicates that foreign investors who perceive local institutions as particularly weak, and those with a high degree of outsidership in the local environment, are more likely to seek country-of-origin agglomerations than industry FDI agglomerations. Full text http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jibs/journal/v42/n4/pdf/jibs20114a.pdf.

Equitability in Access to Rural Public Services in Vietnam: An Outlook from the Red River Delta. Author: Le Huu Anh ; Giam Quang Do ; Bui Thi Lam; Vu Ngoc Huyen ; Tran Huu Cuong. International Business and Management 2010. Volume: 2 Issue: 1, pages 209-218. Abstract: In the transition to a market oriented economy, rural public services in Vietnam are moving towards decentralization. Public service users now have to pay for service fees, instead of an existing provision where the services were provided at no cost. This paper attempts to answer the questions of how people in rural areas in Vietnam receive services provided by government institutions with respect to their contributions to the government budget, and, how equitability in benefiting rural public services in different groups of people is explored. This will be done by looking closer at basic public services (i.e., education and healthcare) in the Red River Delta, a dynamic and prioritized economic region in Northern Vietnam. It is considered an area with well-equipped public services compared to other rural areas in Vietnam. The empirical findings from the public services in the Red River Delta are good policy implications for those in other rural areas in Vietnam. Free full text http://cscanada.net/index.php/ibm/article/view/1682.

Firm-specific marketing capital and job satisfaction of marketers: Evidence from Vietnam. Tho D. Nguyen, Trang T.M. Nguyen (2011). Learning Organization, The, Vol. 18 Iss: 3, pp. 251 - 263. Abstract: -- Purpose – Based on the resource-based view of the firm, this study aims to examine antecedents and outcomes of firm-specific marketing capital pool invested by marketers in a transition market, Vietnam. -- Design/methodology/approach – A sample of 528 marketers in Ho Chi Minh City was surveyed to test the theoretical model. Structural equation modelling was used to analyze the data. -- Findings – It was found that firm-specific marketing capital pool had positive impacts on both job attractiveness and job satisfaction. The impacts of human marketing capital and relational marketing capital pools on firm-specific marketing capital were significant. Finally, the relationship between job attractiveness and job satisfaction, and the relationship between human marketing capital pool and relational marketing capital pool were also significant. -- Research limitations/implications – A key limitation of this study is the examination of only two antecedents of firm-specific marketing capital pool: human and relational marketing capital pools. -- Practical implications – The results of this study suggest that firms should establish people management policies and practices that motivate marketers to invest more in firm-specific marketing capital to enhance job attractiveness and job satisfaction of marketers. Also, in order to improve firm-specific marketing capital, recruiting marketers with high levels of human and relational marketing capital pools is a priority. -- Originality/value – The study
investigates the role of human resources at the marketing professional level in job attractiveness and job satisfaction in a transition market. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Foreign Direct Investment and Trade: The Case of Vietnam.** Author: Anwar, Sajid; Nguyen, Lan Phi. Research in International Business and Finance, January 2011, v. 25, iss. 1, pp. 39-52. Abstract: By making use of a gravity model, this paper examines the impact of FDI on exports, imports and net export of Vietnam. The empirical analysis presented in this paper is based on a recently released panel dataset involving Vietnam's 19 major trading partners for the period 1990-2007. The paper also considers the impact of FDI on trade during three sub-periods: the pre-Asian financial crisis, the post-Asian financial crisis and during the Asian financial crisis period. The empirical analysis reveals that a complementary relationship exists between FDI and exports and FDI and imports. While the impact of FDI on net-exports is insignificant during the full sample period, a significant positive relationship exists between net-exports and FDI in the post-Asian financial crisis period. Full text http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S0275531910000231.

**Higher education internationalization in Vietnam: unintended socio-political impacts of joint programs seen as special free academic zones.** Dr. Ngô Tự Lập. Paper prepared for the conference "DÒNG GÓP CỦA KHÓA HỌC XÃ HỘI – NHÂN VẬN TRONG PHÁT TRIỂN KINH TẾ - XÃ HỘI" 2011. Abstract: During the last decades, Joint Programs, a model of transnational higher education, have enjoyed tremendous increase in Vietnam. In this model, all the curricula, textbooks and other teaching materials are provided by foreign partners; all subjects are taught fully in foreign languages; foreign lecturers teach a part of the academic programs; the domestic lecturers are recommended by the local institutions but must be approved by the partner universities. The domestic lecturers, in their teaching, are required to deliver accredited courses in accordance to the partners’ curricula and subject outlines. Assessment process and quality assurance are controlled by the partner universities. Upon completion of their programs, students are awarded degrees of the partners. The underlying motivation of the JPs basically economic: income generation for the providers and market-friendly human resource for the country-receivers. However, under Vietnamese historical and socio-political conditions, the JPs come to play an unexpected role similar to that of the Special Free Economic Zones (SFEZ) in economy. Being intrinsically free academic oases, they allow the essential ideas of academic freedom to be realized despite the limitations of national higher education systems due to specific historical socio-political conditions. Free full text http://tainguyenso.vnu.edu.vn/jspui/bitstream/123456789/1200/1/12-Ngo%20Tu%20Lap%20_PHUONG%20SUA.pdf.

**Historical ties and foreign direct investment: An exploratory study.** Shige Makino and Eric WK Tsang. Journal of International Business Studies (2011) 42, 545–557. Abstract: Recent research suggests that the distance between countries in terms of culture, institutions, geographic proximity, and economic development matters in the foreign direct investment (FDI) decisions made by firms. This study focuses on the historical ties between countries as an additional factor affecting such decisions. In particular, it examines three major historical factors that affect cross-country ties with Vietnam, namely, Chinese occupation and conflict, French colonization, and socialist ideology, and examines the ways in which these historical ties have influenced FDI. The database consists of 631 wholly owned subsidiaries and 1215 joint ventures formed in Vietnam by multinational enterprises from 35 countries and regions between 1989 and 1999. The results indicate that firms from Hong Kong, Taiwan, France, and former and current socialist countries tended to be early movers in Vietnam, whereas firms from Mainland China tended to be late movers. Using the example of Vietnam, this study clearly shows that historical ties can provide additional explanatory power regarding FDI decisions beyond the conventional distance variables. Full text http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jibs/journal/v42/n4/pdf/jibs201053a.pdf.

**Implications of political change on national park operations: doi moi and tourism to Vietnam's national parks.** Wantanee Suntikul; Richard Butler; David Airey. Journal of Ecotourism, Volume 9, Issue 3, 2010, Pages 201 - 218. Abstract: This paper explores the issues, and defines and assesses the roles taken up by public and private actors in the development and management of national parks in Vietnam within the context of Vietnam's current period of transition brought about, in part, by the country's 'open door' policy of doi moi. It
focuses specifically on the conflicts caused by political, social, cultural and economic factors during this period. The paper introduces these conflicts through an overview of the background and management of Vietnam's protected natural areas and the development of eco-tourism in Vietnam in recent years. Subsequently, detailed case studies of two particular Vietnamese national parks are presented to illustrate specific manifestations of these conflicts. An analysis and discussion of the findings of the case studies arrives at an articulation of common defining conflicts facing national parks in Vietnam, including recommendations for future policies and division of roles to address these conflicts. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Abstract: This paper proposes a new mechanism linking innovation and network in developing economies to detect explicit production and information linkages and investigates the testable implications of these linkages using survey data gathered from manufacturing firms in Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam. In-house R&D activities, internal resources, and linkages with local firms and foreign firms play a role in reducing the costs of product and process innovation and search costs for finding new suppliers and customers. We found that firms with more varieties of information linkages achieve more types of innovations. Complementarities between internal and external sources of knowledge are also found. Free full text http://ijie.um.edu.my/RePEc/umk/journl/v3i1/Fulltext4.pdf.

Insights on conducting research in low-resource settings: examples from Vietnam and Uganda. Linda Ciofu Baumann. Translational Behavioral Medicine, published online 19 April 2011. ABSTRACT: This commentary describes key observations and strategies, based on the author's experiences in Vietnam and Uganda, for tailoring evidence-based behavioral medicine research in low-resource settings. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/j1px9k6m22vj7187/.

Learning from Work-Life Balance of Women Physicians in Vietnam (Student Report of the Overseas Elective Public Health Training in 2009) Kato, Y. Kobayashi, K. Moriya, K. Goto, A. Yasumura, S. FUKUSHIMA MEDICAL JOURNAL 2010 VOL 60; NUMB 2, page(s) 75-80. Abstract: Background and purpose:The Department of Public Health at Fukushima Medical University (FMU) has started an overseas elective public health program for the fifth year medical students in 2004. This is the report of students who completed the program in 2009. Participating students surveyed and compared working condition and family lives of women physicians in Vietnam and Japan. -- Method: Face-to-face semi-structured interviews using the same interview sheets were carried out among eight women physicians from University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City (UMP) in Vietnam, and five from FMU in Japan. -- Results:Vietnamese physicians were in their twenties to forties, five were married, and three had children. Japanese physicians were also in their twenties to forties, three were married, and four had children. While all Vietnamese physicians took paid annual leaves in the past four months, only one Japanese physician did so. Self-evaluation of career was higher among Japanese physicians than Vietnamese physicians, and vice versa for self-evaluation of private life, total work-life balance and gender equality. Vietnamese physicians seemed to well-balance their work and family, and were satisfied with their colleagues'understanding toward each other's family lives. Japanese physicians complained about limited time for their families, and admitted of their hesitation to take leaves caring about their colleagues' eyes. -- Discussion: Students summarize their findings as a 'negative cycle' in Japan contrary to the situation in Vietnam. Work environment in Japan does not allow women physicians to spend enough time with their families, which makes it difficult for them to continue their career. This may in turn worsens physician shortage and working condition. The presented vicious cycles needs to be solved for improving physician working environment.

Mental health in Southeast Asia. Albert Maramis, Nguyen Van Tuan, Harry Minas. The Lancet. London: Feb 26-Mar 4, 2011. Vol. 377, Iss. 9767; pg. 700, 3 pgs. Abstract:Too often the only option left to families and communities is physical restraint and confinement of people with severe mental disorders. Reforms have focused on integration of mental health into general health care, with establishment of acute psychiatric units.
in general hospitals and efforts to incorporate mental health into primary care. In Vietnam, the Doi Moi economic liberalisation programme in 1986 greatly affected health-sector reforms: the introduction of user fees at higher-level public health facilities put considerable pressure on a well-developed primary care system, private medical practice was legalised, and the drug industry was liberalised with deregulation of the retail trade in drugs. Vietnam has had a community mental health programme, delivered through primary care, since 1998. Full text available upon request.

Microfinancing poultry value chains in Vietnam: One of the solutions to develop rural value chains. Ngoc Anh Nguyen. Paper prepared for the 4th University Meets Microfinance Workshop, University of Bergamo, Italy 22 October 2010. Presentation: The value chain approach has been widely used to identify potential interventions to improve agriculture and rural development in Vietnam. However, very few academic studies tackle micro-financing of agricultural value chains in this country. This research applies the value chain method to analyze microfinance interventions of poultry value chains in Vietnam. The Vietnamese poultry industry, which is dominated by small and medium scale production systems, is now facing difficult challenges including problems associated with avian influenza, uncontrolled import of poultry products, and food safety. However, it also has many opportunities to prosper as poultry production has not yet satisfied domestic demand and the pork value chain, which dominates domestic meat consumption, has experienced its own problems from the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome. The focus of the present article is on micro-credit and related services for poultry stakeholders. All information and data of the research is synthesized from a desk study, a general survey, and participatory rural appraisals of the commercially oriented and mechanized small to medium scale poultry stakeholders (under 1000 poultry heads) in 6 provinces of Vietnam (Hanoi, Hung Yen, Bac Giang, Thai Nguyen, Quang Tri, and Tien Giang provinces). The research was conducted with the special support of the STOP Avian Influenza project and the Avian and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response in Vietnam. Free full text http://www.universitymeetsmicrofinance.eu/site/fileadmin/planetUniversity/PDF_UMM/UMM_Workshop_Report_Microfinance_Plus.pdf?page=31.

Modelling with Systems Dynamics as a Method to Bridge the Gap between Politics, Planning and Science? Lessons Learnt from the Development of the Land Use and Transport Model MARS. By: Pfaffenbichler, Paul. Transport Reviews, Mar2011, Vol. 31 Issue 2, p267-289, 23p; Abstract: Systems Dynamics (SD) was founded by John Forrester and colleagues in the late 1950s at the MIT. SD offers qualitative and quantitative tools to analyse systems. The major qualitative method is Causal Loop Diagrams (CLDs). CLDs facilitate the description, communication and discussion of any kind of system. CLDs allow statements about the principal system behaviour, i.e. whether a state of dynamic equilibrium can be reached or not. CLDs can form the basis for quantitative dynamic modelling. The major quantitative SD principles are stocks and flows. Qualitative and quantitative methods have been used to develop the dynamic land use and transport interaction model MARS (Metropolitan Activity Relocation Simulator). Operational models exist in 14 European, Asian and South American cities. Versions of Washington DC and Ho Chi Minh City are under development. An interface called 'flight simulator' which allows to select policies from a predefined set, run the model and calculate the effects of the selected policy accompanies MARS. The flight simulator tool was used in workshops with politicians, planners and researchers in Vietnam and Brazil. The aim of this paper is to discuss the potential of an SD-based approach to bridge the gap between politics, planning and science. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=59529988&site=ehost-l

Promising practical solutions to ensure the sustainability of rice production in Vietnam. Phan Thi Cong, Ivan R. Kennedy, Nguyen Thanh Hien, Michael T. Rose, Mihály L. Kecskés, Rosalind Deaker, Tran Dang Dung, Dang Kieu Nhan, Tran Minh Hien, and Nguyen Kim Chung. Presented at the 28th International Rice Research Conference, 8-12 November 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam. Abstract: Improving grain yield and reducing farmers’ costs are key issues that need to be addressed to make rice production more competitive. Effective strategies to raise nutrient use efficiency, especially that of N, will reduce cost and minimize environmental hazards. An inoculant plant growth promoter product (PGP-BioGro) containing a pseudomonad, two bacilli, and a soil yeast species improved dry matter production and N accumulation of rice plants. In a greenhouse
experiment, inoculation of rice seedlings with one component of the multistrain product Pseudomonas fluorescens (1N) halved labeled urea-N uptake at 20 d after seeding compared with the control, enabling rice to access other sources of N, (e.g., newly fixed N or soil organic N). The two-season combined results of field experiments on a light-textured soil in Tay Ninh Province showed that PGP application significantly improved N use efficiency, saving 43 kg N ha⁻¹ with an additional rice yield of 270 kg ha⁻¹ in two consecutive seasons. The extra efficiency was reflected by the same amount of yield obtained using about 40 and 60 kg fertilizer N less than the treatment that gave maximum yields with urea alone. In trials at farm sites in the Mekong Delta and the southern central coast in 2009 and 2010, the use of PGP BioGro helped reduce N fertilizer requirements by up to 50%. These practices show potential for improving farmers’ income and promoting environmental health, thereby ensuring agroecosystem sustainability. Their commercial feasibility is now being investigated. Free full text http://www.ricecongress.com/extPdfs/OP02-4213%20Phan%20Thi-edited.pdf.

The Effect of Social Networks on Labour Market Outcome among Migrants in Vietnam: Paper prepared for the 6th IZA/World Bank Conference: Employment and Development, Mexico City, May 30-31, 2011. Phuong Hoang, University of New South Wales, Australia. Abstract: This paper examines the labour market outcome of migrants in a developing country of Vietnam with respect to the role of social networks and other human capital on the job search duration and earnings using the 2004 Vietnam Internal Migration Survey. The findings contribute to the growing literature of the labour market outcome of migrants in the developing world. The main findings are: those migrants who have spouse and family members spend longer time on initial unemployment, enjoy higher wage, and are more likely to work in the informal sector. In regards to having friends or countrymen at the destination, we find that this type of social network has positive and significant effect for all migrant groups. This indicates that friends/countrymen are source of information of the work opportunity in at the destination for the potential migrants. Furthermore, having friends and countrymen shorten the job search for formal jobs for rural to urban migrants, while this channel has no effect among urban to urban migrants. This paper extends the current literature by distinguishing the formal versus informal jobs and among the first to study labour market outcome of migrants in a developing country. Free full text http://www.iza.org/conference_files/worldb2011/hoang_v6821.pdf.

The light of emergency medicine: Vietnam-the next chapter in the global history of emergency medicine? Robert E. Suter. Acad Emerg Med. 2011; 18: e31. Abstract: The following is the keynote address to the First Emergency Medicine Conference in Vietnam, held in the historic city of Hue, March 22–26, 2010. This presentation reviewed the global history of emergency medicine (EM) and presented the need for the establishment of EM residency programs in Vietnam in a culturally sensitive manner. Immediately following this presentation, the Deputy Minister of Health for Vietnam announced recognition of EM as a specialty in Vietnam, and the establishment of EM residency programs, with the first starting October 1, 2010, in association with the Hue College of Medicine. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The role of abortion in the last stage of fertility decline in Vietnam. Source: International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 36 (2): 80, June 2010. Guttmacher Institute. Abstract: Vietnam has experienced a rapid fertility decline over the last three decades, yet fertility rates vary considerably across the country's 54 ethnic groups. METHODS: Data were drawn from the 2001 Vietnam National Health Survey, which collected information from 27,097 currently married women aged 15-49 on their birth and abortion history over the preceding five years, as well as their current contraceptive use. Multivariate regression analyses identified associations between individual, household and community characteristics and women's contraceptive use and abortion history, and examined ethnic differences in the types of methods used and in abortion incidence. RESULTS: Vietnam's total fertility rate was 1.6 children per woman, whereas the rate among ethnic minorities in the northern uplands and central highlands was 2.6 and 2.8, respectively. These groups also had a lower abortion rate than the national average (0.3-0.5 vs. 0.7), and were less likely than the group comprising the Kinh majority and the Chinese minority to have used either a modern or traditional contraceptive (odds ratios, 0.4-0.7) or to have had an abortion (0.2-0.6). The likelihood of having had an abortion was elevated among older (5.6-21.2) and better educated women (1.4-1.7), as well as among those
with one or two children and those from socioeconomically advantaged ethnic groups (1.2-1.4). Finally, abortion rates were higher among women who practiced traditional methods than among those who used modern ones. CONCLUSIONS: Because better access to abortion is unlikely by itself to reduce fertility among high-fertility minority groups, programs that provide supportive reproductive health services and that target young, low-parity and less educated women may help to lower fertility among these groups. Full text is available upon request.

The Securitisation of Avian Influenza: International Discourses and Domestic Politics in Asia. Author: Curley, Melissa G.; Herington, Jonathan. Review of International Studies, January 2011, v. 37, iss. 1, pp. 141-66 Publication Date: January 2011 Abstract: Infectious disease outbreaks primarily affect communities of individuals with little reference to the political borders which contain them; yet, the state is still the primary provider of public health capacity. This duality has profound effects for the way disease is framed as a security issue, and how international organisations, such as the World Health Organization, assist affected countries. The article seeks to explore the role that domestic political relationships play in mediating the treatment of diseases as security issues. Drawing upon an analysis of the securitisation of avian influenza in Vietnam and Indonesia, the article discusses the effect that legitimacy, competing referents and audiences have on the external and internal policy reactions of states to infectious diseases, specifically in their interpretation of disease as a security threat. In doing so, we extend upon existing debates on the Copenhagen School's securitisation framework, particularly on the impact of domestic political structures on securitisation processes in non-Western, non-democratic and transitional states. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The Transformation of Agricultural Producer Cooperatives: The Case of Vietnam. Axel Wolz and Pham Bao Duong. Journal of Rural Cooperation, 38(2), 2010: 117-133. Abstract: During the mid-1980s Vietnam experienced widespread hunger and malnutrition. This led to an economic reform process already before the transition in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the former Soviet Union (CIS). Vietnam embarked on a unique way of decollectivization which followed neither the Chinese model nor the direction of agricultural transition among CEE and CIS countries. The collective farms had to be either transformed into service cooperatives based on share capital and voluntary membership or liquidated. Vietnamese farmers had to meet two challenges. They again had to manage their private farms as entrepreneurs. In addition, they had to create new supporting organizations. After a slow start many farmers were successful in transforming or establishing agricultural cooperatives for their support during the last decade. Three phases of institutional development can be distinguished. The main features of agricultural cooperatives are analyzed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply. 2008 free full text version http://departments.agri.huji.ac.il/economics/en/events/p-wolz.pdf.

Unions in Vietnam: Whose Side Are You On? Mike Eso and Louis Jamerson. Social Policy 2011 VOL 40; NUMB 4, page(s) 46. First paragraphs: Vietnam was key as the Organizers' Forum delegation began our dialogue in Vietnam. After all, Vietnam is one of a dwindling number of countries in the world that can be described as having a communist government. -- The role of labor in their government through the labor central body, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor, would be the envy of many labor activists in other countries. The Confederation has a long history in Vietnamese culture, one which actually predates the formation of the Communist party itself eighty years ago. -- The Confederation boasts the right to represent the interests of workers and the working class through rights guaranteed by the constitution and laws of Vietnam. The Confederation seems to have solid goals as a labor movement. -- The Confederation claims to employ 1000 organizers, with a goal to grow by 1.5 million members in the next few years from the current membership of about six to seven million. It claims to have achieved virtually 100% membership in state-owned industries and operations but had almost no density in the informal sector, and it wants to grow to seventy per cent density in the rest of the formal, private sector. Free full text http://www.socialpolicy.org/index.php/about-us/398-whose-side-are-you-on-unions-in-vietnam.
Vietnam moves forward with harm reduction: An assessment of progress. Reid, G. Higgs, P. Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice, Volume 6, Issue 2, First published 2011, Pages 168 - 180. Abstract: Historically, the response of the Vietnamese government to illicit drug use and HIV has been slow and ineffective. However, 2006 saw the government formally endorse harm reduction interventions. This paper examines the views of senior key informants inside Vietnam on the development of an advocacy strategy for harm reduction. Twenty-nine informants were interviewed across public health, public security, social affairs and other international bodies, including United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organisations. Challenges and barriers identified for harm reduction progress included: promoting a nationwide understanding and acceptance of harm reduction and the HIV Law; lack of skilled resources, training programmes and technical capacity; poor coverage of interventions; and gaps in the sharing of information. There is currently a government-led shift in Vietnam in the response to the prevailing HIV epidemic among drug users, but ensuring that the HIV Law can operate unhindered is critical. The implementation of a response to illicit drug use and HIV remains an enormous challenge. With appropriate technical education and training, ongoing advocacy, and a cohesive, coordinated multi-sectoral effort, the capacity of the government and community to adopt, support and promote measures to reduce HIV and other drug-related harms will be markedly strengthened. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Was Vietnam’s Economic Growth in the 1990s Pro-Poor? An Analysis of Panel Data from Vietnam. Author(s): Paul Glewwe and Hai-Anh Hoang Dang. Economic Development and Cultural Change, Vol. 59, No. 3 (April 2011), pp. 583-608. Abstract: International aid agencies and almost all economists agree that economic growth is necessary for reducing poverty, yet some economists question whether it is sufficient for poverty reduction. Vietnam enjoyed rapid economic growth in the 1990s, but a modest increase in inequality during that decade raises the possibility that the poor in Vietnam benefited little from that growth. This article examines the extent to which Vietnam’s economic growth has been “pro-poor,” giving particular attention to two issues. The first is the appropriate comparison group. When comparing the poorest x% of the population at two points in time, should the poorest x% in the first time period be compared to the poorest x% in the second time period (some of whom were not the poorest x% in the first time period) or to the same people in the second time period (some of whom are no longer among the poorest x%)? The second is measurement error. Estimates of growth among the poorest x% of the population are likely to be biased if income or expenditure is measured with error. Household survey data show that Vietnam’s growth has been relatively equally shared across poor and nonpoor groups. Indeed, comparisons of the same people over time indicate that per capita expenditures of the poor increased much more rapidly than those of the nonpoor, although failure to correct for measurement error exaggerates this result. Full text http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/10.1086/658350.pdf.

What happened to wages and wage premia in Vietnam during doi moi, and why? Diep Phan and Ian Coxhead. For presentation at the 8th Midwest International Economic Development Conference, University of Wisconsin—Madison, April 15-16 2011. Draft only; comments welcome. Abstract: We ask what has happened to wages, intersectoral wage premia, and skill premia during Vietnam’s transition from command to mixed economy. During the 1990s and 2000s, wages rose in real terms and the skill premium also increased. We find, however, that neither trend has been linear, or even monotonic, over the entire transition period. In particular, while average real wages increased between 1993 and 2008, most of this increase happened during the 1990s. Skill premia likewise rose during the 1990s but leveled off in the 2000s. -- In a small transition economy like Vietnam, wage changes have been subject to significant policy influences from trade liberalization and the momentum of domestic policy reforms—notably those targeting labor market regulations. We designate trade policy and domestic market reforms as ‘treatments’ imposed on an economy where, for historical and institutional reasons, state sector and private sector labor markets are substantively segmented. With this approach we are able, using a triple-difference estimator, to identify the contributions of each type of policy change to changes in wages, and to changes in intersectoral wage premia, in different phases of the economic reform process. Free full text http://www.aae.wisc.edu/mwiedc/papers/2011/Phan_Diep.pdf.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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A study of FDI in Vietnam. Tuan Bui, Huong Lan Pham and Ha Thi Tran. In Foreign direct investments in Asia. Routledge, 2011. pp 321-353. Introduction: Vietnam embarked on renovation (Doimoi) in 1986 by opening the economy. Since then, foreign direct investment (FDI) has been an important source for a high economic growth rate and development over the past 20 years, and has also been an important factor in strengthening the process of economic integration of Vietnam. FDI helps Vietnam to be more involved in global value change and production networks. Therefore, it is quite common to argue that Vietnam has followed the path of development based on FDI. -- As FDI has been an important factor, there is a vast literature on FDI in Vietnam. However, the majority of these studies have focused on the changing pattern of FDI over time, and impacts of FDI on aspects of capital formation, revenue contribution, job creation, export and economic growth contribution. The literature on the impact of FDI on technology capacity and spillover effect is very late. Almost all studies have used a qualitative or statistical descriptive approach. The quantities approach receives very little attention due to data and the time span when FDI presence in the country is limited. -- The situation, then, presents a gap in the literature that this study will address. It aims at analyzing the impact of FDI on employment and productivity, taking into account the linkages of industries, using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The study also addresses the current situation of less development of supporting industry for FDI in Vietnam. The weak supporting industries and the unclear situation of FDI linkage in the economy present an interesting hypothesis for the empirical study to test. The study focuses on the present period of the economy, rather than reviewing the whole period of FDI, which has already been studied in the vast literature. -- The study has the following structure: Section I reviews the situation of FDI to date; Section II presents econometric models for FDI impact analysis; Section III discusses the changes of FDI policy in the post-World Trade Organization (WTO) period; and Section IV draws some policy implications. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

users in Hanoi, Vietnam (n = 1,115). Mean age at initiation of heroin use (smoking) was 18.4 and mean age of onset of heroin injection was 20.9 years. Full multivariate analysis indicates that the interval between first heroin use (smoking) and first heroin injection has been significantly attenuated among more recent heroin initiates (P = 0.0043), suggesting that heroin users in Vietnam may be at increased risk for exposure to HIV relatively soon after onset of heroin use, highlighting the need for behavioral interventions that target heroin smokers. Critical intervention goals include delaying the onset of injection and improved education about safer drug sharing and drug injection practices. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Brand Loyalty in Emerging Markets. Tho Dinh Nguyen, Nigel J Barrett, Kenneth E Miller. (2011) Marketing Intelligence & Planning, Vol. 29 Iss: 3. Abstract: Purpose - This study compares some key antecedents of brand loyalty between two emerging markets: Thailand and Vietnam. Design/methodology/approach - Using a sample of female 603 consumers of international shampoo brands, including 304 consumers in Bangkok, Thailand and 299 users in Hanoi, Vietnam, we tested a model that incorporates key determinants of brand loyalty – perceived quality, brand awareness, advertising attitudes and distribution intensity – by means of structural equation modeling. Findings - We found positive relationships between perceived quality and brand loyalty, between distribution intensity and brand awareness in both markets. However, the relationship between distribution intensity and brand awareness was only found in the Thai market. Finally, no relationship between distribution intensity and perceived quality was found in both markets. Research implications/implications - A major limitations of this study is the examination of only one concept that stands for strong brands, i.e., brand loyalty. Several other concepts, such as brand relationship quality and brand impressions, should be investigated in future research in order to compare and contrast with those found in advanced economies. Practical implications - The results of this study suggests that managers of international brands in emerging markets should recognize the differences between markets in order to design effective loyalty programs for each market. Originality/value - A major contribution of this study is to empirically compare the impacts of perceived quality, brand awareness, advertising attitude, and store image on brand loyalty in two emerging markets, Thailand and Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Cải cách thể chế, không phải là cải cách hành chính. Faisal Naru và Nguyễn Đình Cung. 2010. Mô đun: Việt Nam đã có những thay đổi quan trọng về tốc độ tăng trưởng kinh tế, giảm nghèo và tăng phúc lợi xã hội. Trong vài năm qua, Việt Nam đã có những điều chỉnh trong cách thức điều hành nền kinh tế, chuyển từ điều hành kinh tế tăng trưởng nhanh sang điều hành kinh tế trong bởi cạnh kháng hoằng kinh tế toàn cầu. Điều này có nghĩa là Chính phủ quan tâm hơn đến việc xác định các nhân tố có thể cản trở hoặc thúc đẩy tăng trưởng kinh tế, như năng lực cạnh tranh của Việt Nam như thế nào và đâu là các ưu thế cần đổi mới. Theo Báo cáo Chỉ số Çalış tranh Toàn cầu (GCI) của Diễn đàn Kinh tế Thế giới năm 2009-2010, Việt Nam xếp thứ 75 trong tổng số 139 quốc gia, từ 5 hạng so với năm 2008 và 7 hạng so với năm 20075. Điều thủ vị là thủ vững của Việt Nam được cải thiện lên vị trí 59 trong tổng số 139 quốc gia theo Báo cáo GCI năm 2009 – 2011. Tuy nhiên, kết quả này chủ yếu là do doanh nghiệp tại Việt Nam có khả năng thích ứng và trình độ phát triển cao và do các yếu tố trong môi trường kinh tế toàn cầu chứ không phải do môi trường cạnh tranh của Việt Nam đã được cải thiện. -- Trên thực tế, báo cáo GCI năm 2010 – 11 đã cho thấy gần không quy định, tính hiệu quả của hệ thống pháp luật và tính minh bạch của công tác hoạch định chính sách của Việt Nam đều giảm. Điều này có nghĩa là Việt Nam còn nhiều việc phải làm để cải thiện năng lực cạnh tranh của mình. Một cách thức
Civil society in ASEAN: a healthy development? Andrew Wells-Dang, Giang Wells-Dang. The Lancet. London: Mar 5-Mar 11, 2011. Vol. 377, Iss. 9768; p. 792. First paragraph: Across southeast Asia, local citizens engage in collective action for health, the basis of networks of trust that are often overlooked by state agencies and the Lancet. London: Mar 5-Mar 11, 2011. Vol. 377, Iss. 9768; p. 792. First paragraph: Across southeast Asia, local citizens engage in collective action for health, the basis of networks of trust that are often overlooked by state agencies and external observers. Informal groups and Buddhist monks provided first aid and food assistance to survivors after Myanmar’s cyclone Nargis in 2008, in the absence of governmental and external assistance. In Vietnam, support provided by local Buddhist and Catholic congregations, and organisations such as the Women's Union, have expanded to... Free full text http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)61923-X/fulltext.

Cost-effectiveness analysis as a methodology to compare sanitation options in peri-urban Can Tho, Vietnam. J. Willetts, N. Carrard, M. Retamal, C. Mitchell, Nguyen Hieu Trung, Nguyen Dinh Giang Nam and M. Paddon. IRC Symposium 2010: Pumps, Pipes and Promises. Abstract: It is challenging to make decisions about sanitation scale and technology choice for urban areas, however costing analyses have an important role to play in assisting determination of the most appropriate systems for a given context. The most appropriate technological system is the one that finds a locally acceptable balance between social (e.g., public health) outcomes, environmental (e.g., pollution, resource use and resource recovery) outcomes, and financial and economic outcomes (i.e. the costs and benefits for individuals, public and private organisations, and local society). There are many costing methods available. This paper describes the use of a cost-effectiveness analysis built on integrated resource planning principles. This method is suited to situations where the overall goal is already clear (in this case, that a wastewater service is required) and the analysis is conducted to identify the least cost solution to reach this goal. This costing method was used in conjunction with a deliberative sustainability assessment process that addressed non-monetary factors. The paper outlines the analytical approach adopted in the cost analysis as well as providing detailed discussion of the many decisions inherent in undertaking such an analysis. It describes how the analytical system boundaries were constructed, what level of detail was adhered to and how different cost perspectives and time value of money were taken into account. The explanation of the methodology is grounded in a case study undertaken in Can Tho Vietnam. The cost analysis results indicate that for the particular case study context, the ‘least cost’ solution was a combination of centralised and decentralised systems. Following discussion of the findings of this costing study, the challenges and limitations of the methodology employed are outlined. Finally, the authors note the need for a greater number of costing studies of this type to broaden the evidence base for decisionmakers about the most cost-effective infrastructure options. Free full text http://www.irc.nl/redir/content/download/152975/521313/file/8_Willetts_Carrard%2520et%2520al_Cost-effectivenessAnalysis-MethodologyToCompareSanitation.pdf.

Enhancing relationship value between manufacturers and distributors through personal interaction: Evidence from Vietnam. Tho D. Nguyen and Trang T.M. Nguyen. Journal of Management Development, 2011, Vol. 30 Iss: 4, pp.316 - 328. Abstract: Purpose – Realizing the importance of personal interaction in business relationships between manufacturers and distributors, this study aims to explore the role of personal interaction in relationship value, and subsequently in distributor performance, in a transition market, Vietnam. Design/methodology/approach – A sample of 472 distributors in the south of Vietnam was surveyed to test the theoretical model. Structural equation modeling was used to analyze the data. Findings – It was found that personal interaction drives product support, information support, and delivery performance perceived by

distributors. In addition, product support, information support, and delivery performance are key factors that nurture the value of relationships between manufacturers and distributors. Finally, relationship value is a determinant of distributor performance. Research limitations/implications – A key limitation of this study is the heavy reliance on the hypothetico-deductive approach. Business relationships of firms in transitional economies, due to differences in cultures and economies, might exhibit some differences in value drivers. An inductive approach may be a suitable alternative method to explore relationship value and its determinants in transition economies like Vietnam. Practical implications – The results of this study suggest that manufacturers should invest more time and efforts in personal interaction with their key distributors to enhance the value of their relationships with those distributors. Originality/value – This study is the first of its kind in Vietnam, which explores the role of personal interaction in relationship value in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Global recession and higher education in eastern Asia: China, Mongolia and Vietnam. Gerard A. Postiglione. Higher Education, published online April 2011. Abstract: This paper presents a perspective on the capacity of colleges and universities during past and present economic shocks. The main argument is that the environment of the global recession—an Asia far more economically integrated than during past economic shocks, with more unified aspirations to be globally competitive and socially responsible—no longer delay reforms in higher education. In fact, the global recession has become an opportune time for higher education in Asia, specifically developing countries in eastern (East and Southeast) Asia, to continue reforming governance and administration, access and equity, internal and external efficiency, and regional collaboration. Economic shocks have accelerated reforms in higher education, especially those for promoting innovation in their economies, though more is needed in improving governance and access for underserved populations. This paper examines the cases of China, Mongolia, and Vietnam as examples of how the global recession and regional integration are growing forces in shaping their higher education reform and development. The paper also identifies a series of measures for increasing the resilience of higher education systems in serving poor and vulnerable populations during economic recessions. Responses to the global economic recession by nations in eastern Asia are likely to improve the global shift in economy and human capital. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/d265443381784631/.

Good Morning, Vietnam! Opportunities and Challenges in a Developing Franchise Sector. Nguyen Ba Binh; Andrew Terry. Journal of Marketing Channels, Volume 18, Issue 2, 2011, Pages 147 - 163. Abstract: Until recently the development of franchising in Vietnam was hampered by a regulatory framework that did not recognize franchising as a discrete business relationship. The introduction of Vietnam's Franchise Law in 2005 provided, for the first time, a legal foundation for franchising, which was a necessary prerequisite for sector development. Although there are currently few business format franchise systems operating in Vietnam, there is an increasing presence of established international franchise systems and increasing numbers of local systems albeit at an early “product distribution” evolutionary stage. Moreover, the commercial environment for franchising is increasingly favorable: Vietnam is the fastest growing Asian economy after China and India and is experiencing strong gross domestic product growth and annual retail growth. This article addresses the development of franchising, and the challenges and opportunities for franchisers in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Illegal Logging in Vietnam: Lam Tac (Forest Hijackers) in Practice and Talk. Thomas Sikor; Phuc Xuan To. Society & Natural Resources: An International Journal. First published on 22 March 2011. Abstract: This article examines the political economy of illegal logging through a case study from Vietnam. The study examines the extraction and trade of a particular timber species through commodity-chain analysis and looks at national-level debates about illegal logging, corruption, and the state. Its findings suggest that central government concerns over authority and public discussions about corruption informed the criminalization of much logging. Criminalization provided the grounds for powerful wholesalers, brokers, and government officials to engage in the timber business and control the timber trade. The logging operations, in turn, fed back into the concerns of the central government and public. The article concludes that these interactions between local political economy and national politics may be a more general dynamic of illegal logging. A
singular focus on law enforcement may serve neither local livelihoods nor forest protection in areas with smallholder extraction. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Introduction: As one of the transitional economies from socialist planning economy to market economy, Vietnam has experienced many changes under the influence of economic reform and globalization. The development of the labour market has been a sensitive issue during the reform period and has been marked by institutional reforms at the macro level and changing employment relations at the enterprise level. In 1986 the Vietnamese government commenced reforms aimed at shifting from a centrally planned system to a market-oriented economy with a multi-sectoral economic structure and a multi-ownership system. This process, known as Doi Moi, has had a major effect on the economic and social fabric of Vietnam. While a body of literature has developed, there has been little research on how these economic changes have affected the formation and development of the labour market. In particular, there is a gap in the literature on the relationship between the new forms of economic structure and economic systems, including the diversity of ownership, and how the labour market and enterprises have developed and utilized their human resources. -- This chapter will therefore explore these relationships through an analysis of the national context an the different types of labour markets, both informal and formal. In addition, it will illustrate the role of major institutions of the labour market, such as human resources management (HRM), trade unions, and state policy. Finally, the policy and practices of human resource development (HRD) and labour market flexibility will be discussed. The chapter will conclude by considering future trends in the context of globalization, political and economic reforms, and enterprise restructuring. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Livelihood and environment trade-off in Doi Moi: Industrial water use and wastewater management in a craft village in peri-urban Hanoi. In: Water Rights and Social Justice in the Mekong Region. Edited by Kate Lazarus, Bernadette P. Resurreccion, Nga Dao, Nathan Badenoch. Earthscan March 2011. Summary: This book reviews the issues faced by people living in the Mekong River region, in South East Asia, who are increasingly being marginalized and under-represented by the big businesses, planners and politicians--the powerful elite--influencing and deciding the trajectories of development in the region. -- It also shows how complex human- and nature-induced developments in the Mekong Region are increasingly widening existing gaps in wealth, resource access and power. Fair and equal fields for decision-making and governance are needed to strengthen not only the rights but also the resilience of vulnerable groups and communities against uncertainty, particularly for climate-related changes. The authors show how vitally important it is that water governance is democratized to allow a more equitable sharing of water resources and counteract the pressures of economic growth. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Mekong Hydropower Development. R. Edward Grumbine and Jianchu Xu. Science 8 April 2011: Vol. 332 no. 6026 pp. 178-179. Summary: The Mekong River is one of the world's last large rivers remaining mostly undammed. But China is constructing a series of eight hydropower projects on the upper Mekong. Although there are currently no dams across the mainstream channel (not including the tributaries) in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB), nevertheless, in September 2010, the Lao People's Democratic Republic petitioned the Mekong River Commission (MRC) to begin the formal process of approving the first of 11 proposed dams across the lower Mekong (see the figure) (1). Although such a cascade would provide substantial power, it would likely reduce biodiversity and ecosystem service values of the LMB, while undercutting the livelihood and food security of millions of people. Decisions on this initial proposal expected over the coming months by the MRC countries may contribute to promoting high-impact hydropower development or to a movement toward integrated, transboundary river-basin management that could serve as a model for other rivers. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

annually in the world despite existing evidence-based knowledge with the potential to prevent many of these deaths. Effective knowledge translation (KT) could help to bridge this know-do gap in global health. The aim of this study was to explore aspects of KT at the primary healthcare level in a northern province in Vietnam. -

Methods: Six focus-group discussions were conducted with primary healthcare staff members who provided neonatal care in districts that represented three types of geographical areas existing in the province (urban, rural, and mountainous). Recordings were transcribed verbatim, translated into English, and analyzed using content analysis. -- Results: We identified three main categories of importance for KT. Healthcare staff used several channels for acquisition and management of knowledge (1), but none appeared to work well. Participants preferred formal training to reading guideline documents, and they expressed interest in interacting with colleagues at higher levels, which rarely happened. In some geographical areas, traditional medicine (2) seemed to compete with evidence-based practices, whereas in other areas it was a complement. Lack of resources, low frequency of deliveries and, poorly paid staff were observed barriers to keeping skills at an adequate level in the healthcare context (3). -- Conclusions: This study indicates that primary healthcare staff work in a context that to some extent enables them to translate knowledge into practice. However, the established and structured healthcare system in Vietnam does constitute a base where such processes could be expected to work more effectively. To accelerate the development, thorough considerations over the current situation and carefully targeted actions are required. The complete article is available as a provisional PDF at http://www.implementationscience.com/content/pdf/1748-5908-6-29.pdf. The fully formatted PDF and HTML versions are in production.

Planning and Implementation of the Dyke Systems in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. PHAM Cong Huu. PhD thesis, University of Bonn, 2011. Abstract: Floods are a dangerous threat and an implicit risk for farming communities in rural floodplains of the Mekong Delta (MD). The Vietnamese government decided the dyke system construction to control floods and ensure safety for life and livelihood of flood affected communities. The case study of this dissertation refers to Can Tho city, an average floodplain community of the MD, covering also 9 districts. Here a comprehensive dyke system has been constructed to control flood risks. -- This thesis investigates the existing problems in the dyke system planning and its implementation, dyke impacts on the natural environment and socio-economic development as well as the adaptability of the flood affected farming communities in the protected floodplains. The study used both qualitative and quantitative research methods to collect information and data. Besides Global Positioning System (GPS) and a digital camera were used to identify the location of the most important samples in the field and during the fieldwork. Fieldwork itself was mainly based on the two rural communes of Thanh Thang and Thanh Phu, which are representative for the overall rural situation in Can Tho city and the MD. -- The study found that the Vietnamese government had made a basically correct decision concerning the necessity of flood risk control by the construction of a dyke system. Dykes have practically guaranteed safety for agricultural livelihoods of the flood affected farming communities and positively contributed to agricultural farming transformation from rice into integrated rice-fish production and rural road improvement. However, a centralized top-down approach was strongly applied thus not considering the experiences and all expectations of public organizations and local people. The individuals and local organizations played a very weak role in the whole planning and implementation process. Dyke system construction consequently created conflicts between central planners and local people. In addition, the negative impacts of the dyke system have become a great threat for sustainable development in terms of water pollution, natural fish exhaustion, soil fertility reduction, erosion and in some instances, also due to increasing inundation of the fields. Thus, the dyke system construction and planning as well as implementation strategies need to be studied further to minimize the negative impacts of dyke systems and to ensure a stronger inclusion of local people and their knowledge in further planning approaches. Free full text http://hss.ulb.uni-bonn.de/2011/2479/2479a.pdf.

Poverty in small-scale fisheries: old issue, new analysis. Christophe Béné, Richard M. Friend. Progress in Development Studies April 4, 2011 vol. 11 no. 2, 119-144. Abstract: Using a new framework combining vulnerability and exclusion as two central dimensions of poverty, this article revisits some of the long-standing beliefs about poverty in small-scale fisheries. We argue that the issue of poverty in fish-dependent communities cannot be reduced to a simple correlation between income poverty and fishery dependence. A
more thorough analysis is required that must account for the diversity of fishing-related livelihoods and the complexity of causes of poverty, both inside and outside the sector. The article highlights how poverty in fishing communities often relates to a wide range of socio-institutional factors other than income, including landownership, debt, access to health, education and financial capital, and marginalisation from political decision making. The empirical examples used in this article refer to inland capture fisheries from the Volta and Mekong basins but, arguably, the analysis applies to other fisheries (inland and coastal) in developing countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Regulatory reform not administrative reform. Faisal Naru và Nguyễn Đình Cung. 2010. Introduction: Vietnam’s rapid economic growth, reduction in poverty and increase in societal well being has been well documented. In the past few years the leadership’s focus has drastically changed from a rapidly growing economy to managing Vietnam’s economy in the context of a global economic crisis. This has meant asking difficult questions about factors that can stifle or encourage economic growth, such as how competitive is Vietnam and what are the risks that Vietnam should address? According to the 2009 – 2010 World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), Vietnam’s competitiveness has decreased since 2007. Vietnam was ranked 75 out of 133 countries, a drop of 5 places from 2008 and a drop of 7 places from 2007. The 2010 – 2011 GCI, interestingly has increased Vietnam’s ranking to 59 out of 139 countries. However this is largely due to business adaptability and sophistication in Vietnam as well as the comparative global economic environment rather than an improvement in Vietnam’s competitive environment itself. -- In fact, the 2010 – 11 GCI, shows that the burden of government regulation, efficiency of the legal framework, and transparency of government policy making have all deteriorated further in 2010 - 2011. This shows there is much room for improvement in how Vietnam strives to become more competitive. And how Vietnam competes in a global economy, with a somewhat economic upturn and countries competing more aggressively for investment, is the key challenge that the Vietnamese leadership will face next with little room for complacency about attracting investment without improving the regulatory environment. -- This short paper looks at the obstacles for Vietnam from the perspective of economic governance and the regulatory system within Vietnam. This paper provides the following: 1. An explanation of regulatory reform and the Better Regulation agenda; 2. An analysis of the current regulatory environment and machinery in Vietnam; 3. Current regulatory reform efforts in Vietnam; 4. Recommendations for improving Vietnam’s regulatory machinery. Free full text http://download.vietprofessor.com/Books(STAT)/caicachtheche/Regulating%20better%20in%20Vietnam_final_Nov%2025.pdf.

Social capital and life satisfaction: a cross-sectional study on persons with musculoskeletal impairments in Hanoi, Vietnam. Kyo Takahashi, Nguyen Thi Minh Thuy, Krishna C Poudel, Kayako Sakisaka, Masamine Jimba, Junko Yasuoka. BMC Public Health 2011, 11:206. Abstract: --Background: Social capital has been recognized as a major social determinant of health, but less attention has been given to social capital of persons with musculoskeletal impairments. The present study aimed to explore the associations between social capital and life satisfaction of persons with musculoskeletal impairments in Hanoi, Vietnam. -- Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted in Hanoi, Vietnam. From June to July 2008, we collected data from 136 persons with musculoskeletal impairments who belonged to disabled people’s groups. Social capital was measured using a short version of the Adapted Social Capital Assessment Tool that included group membership, support from groups, support from individuals, citizenship activities, and cognitive social capital. Life satisfaction was measured using the Satisfaction with Life Scale. As possible confounding factors, we measured socio-economic factors and disability-related factors such as activities of daily living. -- Results: After controlling for confounding effects, group membership remained significantly associated with the level of life satisfaction reported by the persons with musculoskeletal impairments. In particular, being an active member of two or more groups was associated with higher life satisfaction. In contrast, other components of social capital such as citizenship activities and cognitive social capital were not significant in the multiple regression analysis of this study. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-11-206.pdf.
**Sustainable Use of Arsenic-Removing Sand Filters in Vietnam: Psychological and Social Factors.** Robert Tobias and Michael Berg. Environ. Sci. Technol. Publication Date (Web): March 28, 2011. Abstract: Elevated arsenic concentrations in drinking water pose a health threat to millions of people. Although point-of-use sand filters provide an effective technical solution for mitigating arsenic exposure, the actual reduction in health risk also depends on psychological factors that influence behaviors related to this device. For example, acquiring a sand filter must be preferred to competing options for investing effort and money and, once installed, the users must regularly maintain the filters. These key behaviors of sustainable use are related to psychological factors, such as problem awareness, benefits and costs, social and affective influences, and the perception of practical difficulties. This study investigated the sustainable use of arsenic-removing sand filters in Vietnam. Based on questionnaire surveys, data were gathered in 319 rural households and analyzed with regression models. Psychological factors explained significant variance in the investigated key behaviors. Significant factors included perceived improvements in water healthiness and taste, monetary costs, social norms, and affective influences. In questions with open answers, interviewees mentioned various practical problems, particularly those related to the inflexibility of the device and the effort of changing the sand. Interestingly, many interviewees operate the sand filters for removing iron from the water but are unaware of problems with arsenic. Full text http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/es102076x.

**The impact of trade liberalization on the return to education in Vietnam: wage versus employment effect.** Remco H. Oostendorp, Doan Hong Quang. Tinbergen Institute Discussion Paper, September 2010. ABSTRACT: Several studies have identified the impact of trade liberalization in developing countries on the return to education within a Mincerian framework through a difference-indifference estimator or with industry-level measures of trade openness. These studies have typically estimated the return to education in terms of changes in wages rather than employment, effectively ignoring the fact that trade liberalization affects not only wages but also employment opportunities. In this paper we use four large-scale representative household surveys from Vietnam for the period 1998-2006 to estimate the impact of trade liberalization on the return to education taking into account both changes in wages and employment. The results show that the impact was large in Vietnam but is severely underestimated if changes in employment opportunities are ignored. Free full text http://www.tinbergen.nl/discussionpapers/11060.pdf.

**The international developmental state: The Japanese intellectual property system in Vietnam.** Tim Reiffenstein, Ha Thanh Nguyen. Geoforum, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 31 March 2011. Abstract: This article explores the international implications of the developmental state model of Japanese capitalism. It does so by investigating the extension of Japanese intellectual property (IP) policy and practice in Vietnam. The escalating role of intellectual property within Japanese industrial policy is first framed according to Johnson’s developmental state thesis and extended in reference to the ‘flying geese’ model of regional development in East Asia. This latter approach anticipates Vietnam’s growing importance as a site for Japanese foreign direct investment and technology transfer. Interviews with key informants from both countries and analysis of policy documents provide evidence of the extra-territorial practices employed by Japanese companies, government agencies, and IP intermediaries in Vietnam. These accounts bring to light key developmental mechanisms, such as the packaging of IP internationalization within Japan’s official development assistance (ODA) and the overseas pro-bono work performed by IP intermediary associations in which the line between benevolence and self-interest is blurred. The paper concludes by interpreting these practices in accordance with the broader strategic imperatives of Japan in the region. -- Highlights: ► The article investigates the Japanese promotion of intellectual property rights (IPR) in Vietnam. ► It points to the specific challenges of institutionalizing property rights in a transitional context. ► Highlights the role of legal intermediaries who connect the objectives of Japanese public and private actors. ► Illustrates the coherence and distinctions between bilateral and multilateral IPR policy as developmental tools. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V68-52HBKSW-1&_user=1916569&_coverDate=03%2F31%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=fba2c48da79116a528be674546da4c88&searchtype=a.
The national community mental health care project in Vietnam: a review for future guidance. Chee Hong Ng, Phong Thai Than, Cuong Duc La, Quang Van Than and Chu Van Dieu. Australas Psychiatry. 2011; 19: 143.

Objectives: The aim of this paper is to review the national community mental health care (CMHC) project in Vietnam and recommend improvements to the model based on findings reported at a national workshop of major service providers, and supplemented by information gathered from site visits and discussions with mental health leaders, professionals and stakeholders in the hospital and community mental health services.

Conclusion: Since 2000, the CMHC project has been carried out in all 63 provinces with an overall national district coverage of around 64% and a total registry of 145 160 patients. It demonstrates a commitment by the government to integrate mental health into primary health care, in line with the World Health Organization recommendations, and set up a national community mental health network. Free treatment is provided for patients, mostly with schizophrenia (62.83%) and epilepsy (34.78%), at the local community level, and a national monitoring system is well established. However, the limitations include the lack of project funds, human resources and facilities, treatment scope, and linkages with families and community. A revised model of CMHC that builds on the strengths of existing services is proposed. While progress in community mental health care in Vietnam has been significant, many challenges facing the CMHC project need addressing. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The participation of affected communities in the Son La Hydropower project's resettlement program. In: Water Rights and Social Justice in the Mekong Region. Edited by Kate Lazarus, Bernadette P. Resurreccion, Nga Dao, Nathan Badenoch. Earthscan March 2011. Summary: This book reviews the issues faced by people living in the Mekong River region, in South East Asia, who are increasingly being marginalized and under-represented by the big businesses, planners and politicians--the powerful elite--influencing and deciding the trajectories of development in the region. It also shows how complex human- and nature-induced developments in the Mekong Region are increasingly widening existing gaps in wealth, resource access and power. Fair and equal fields for decision-making and governance are needed to strengthen not only the rights but also the resilience of vulnerable groups and communities against uncertainty, particularly for climate-related changes. The authors show how vitally important it is that water governance is democratized to allow a more equitable sharing of water resources and counteract the pressures of economic growth. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The relevance of CCS as a climate policy instrument in Vietnam: Report submitted to Chair d'Enseignement et de Recherche sur le CTSC. Prepared by Nguyen Thanh Nhan, Centre International de Recherche sur l'Environnement et le Développement (CIRED), France, With contributions from Minh Ha-Duong, Hoang Anh Nguyen. CIRED, March 4th, 2011. Introductive summary: IEA (2008a) suggested that CO2 capture and storage (CCS) is the only technology available for large-scale fossil fuel use to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Developing countries with large usage of coal-fired electricity could potentially benefit from funding opportunities through the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) or CDM-like mechanism by deployment of CCS projects. At the current stage, none of CDM projects is for a coal-fired power plant with CCS but there have been at least three proposals to include CCS projects under the CDM including the White Tiger Field project in Vietnam (IEA, 2008a). It involves the collection of CO2 gas from combined cycle natural gas power plants in the Phu My power complex, and its transport, via a 144 km pipeline, to the injection site at While Tiger Oil Field (WTOF) with enhanced oil recovery. The CCS project would have a high sustainable development value since it is likely to become the first commercial CCS project in Asia. It is expected to generate emissions reductions of approximately 7.7 million tCO2 per year and the recovery of an average of 50 thousand barrels of crude oil per day (UNFCCC, 2009) as well as employment opportunities for the country. Therefore, the adoption of CCS technology for Vietnamese electric-power generation industry, which has high CO2 emissions source from coal-fired generation plants, would be not an implausible scenario. Specially, it would allow for a better balance between industry expansion and environmental protection and potentially brings sustainable opportunities to the country through the Clean Development Mechanism or other like-CDM mechanism if any... Finally, the option of carbon capture ready plants for the future development stages of the power sector is recommended if the CCS is included as a key climate mitigation
The three Ps: The missing governance functions in Vietnam. Faisal Naru và Nguyễn Đình Cung. 2010. Introduction: Vietnam has many reforms to improve its governance structures. This includes Public Administration Reform and the 5 Year Socio-Economic Development Plan 2006-10 which promotes modern governance as one of the four pillars for the country’s development. The legislative process and levels of accountability are also undertaking reforms to become more open, transparent and democratic. In analyzing the way that government operates when it regulates, there are three functions that are commonly found in developed economies which appear to be weak in Vietnam, to the point of appearing absent. -- The Three Ps: The fundamental issue for Vietnam’s governance machinery is the weakness and almost lack of three core functions being institutionalized and systemically implemented across government. These three functions are (the three Ps): 1. Policy Making Function; 2. Policy Coordination Function; 3. Professionalism of Legal Drafting. -- The lack of these core functions being effectively implemented in Vietnam is making the regulatory environment in Vietnam more difficult for enterprises and citizens. Free full text http://download.vietprofessor.com/Books(STAT)/caicachtheche/Regulating%20better%20in%20Vietnam_final_Nov%202025.pdf.

Tobacco and poverty: evidence from Vietnam. Debra Efroymson, Hoang Anh Pham, Lori Jones, Sian FitzGerald, Le Thi Thu, Le Thi Thu Hien. Tob Control. 2011. Abstract: This review examined existing evidence to investigate the link between tobacco and poverty in Vietnam, to assess the impact of tobacco control policies on employment related to tobacco consumption and to identify information gaps that require further research for the purposes of advocating stronger tobacco control policies. A Medline, PubMed and Google Scholar search identified studies addressing the tobacco and poverty association in Vietnam using extensive criteria. In all, 22 articles related either to tobacco and health or economics, or to the potential impact of tobacco control policies, were identified from titles, abstracts or the full text. 28 additional publications were identified by other means. PHA, LTT and LTTH reviewed the publications and prepared the initial literature review. There is extensive evidence that tobacco use contributes to poverty and inequality in Vietnam and that tobacco control policies would not have a negative impact on overall employment. Tobacco use wastes household and national financial resources and widens social inequality. The implementation and enforcement of a range of tobacco control measures could prove beneficial not only to improve public health but also to alleviate poverty. Full text http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/early/2011/03/31/tc.2010.039735.full.

Trade Policies in Southeast Asia in the Wider Asian Perspective. Razeen Sally, Rahul Sen. The World economy 34(4): 568-601. April 2011. Abstract: This paper takes stock of trade policies in Southeast Asia after the Asian crisis and in the wake of the current global economic crisis. It compares trade policies in individual Southeast Asian countries; places them in the context of regional and global economic integration; and particularly draws implications for the region from the rise of China and India. The first section looks at recent trade and FDI patterns in Southeast Asia. Then follows an overview of key trade-policy trends, in the region overall and in individual countries. The next sections examine ASEAN countries in international trade negotiations and agreements: first in the WTO, especially in the Doha Round; then within ASEAN; and finally on cross-regional FTAs. The paper concludes that ASEAN countries cannot rely on external tracks ‘from above’ for meaningful trade policy reform. Since the Asian crisis there has been a slowdown of reform momentum, and too much reliance on trade negotiations – especially FTAs. Rather, countries in the region have to rely on themselves – ‘from below’ as it were. The engine of liberalisation and regulatory reform has to be home-driven – as it was before the Asian crisis – with governments taking unilateral measures in response to internal and external conditions. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9701.2011.01336.x/full.

Transmission of World Prices to the Domestic Market in Vietnam. Philip Abbott, Ce Wu and Finn Tarp. Paper prepared for the 8th Midwest International Economic Development Conference. April 2011. Abstract: During the past two decades Vietnam has witnessed increasing engagement with the world market, achieved through
entry into numerous international trading agreements, altered border policies, institutional reforms, and relaxation of controls on foreign investment. These endeavors have been repaid with rapid GDP growth, expanding trade, and increasing foreign investment. High rates of inflation have also accompanied the development process at times, especially in recent years after Vietnam joined the WTO. -- This study explored how these two macroeconomic phenomena -- increasing world market integration and inflation -- impact domestic prices. Specifically, the degree to which the world price changes are transmitted into the domestic market and the level of sectoral inflation pass-through are investigated. Model specifications include the most basic form which only contains world price as the independent variable, level regression models with world price and inflation as independent variables, and error correction models with and without an inflation term. Three alternative model specifications were estimated to test for the effects of home goods, wages, and trade policy interventions on world price transmission. With price and tariff data from General Statistics Office of Vietnam (2009), inflation and real exchange rate data from IMF (2010), and wage data from the Economist (2010), models were estimated at three levels of sectoral aggregation for the period from 1999 to 2008… Free full text http://www.aae.wisc.edu/mwiedc/papers/2011/Ce_Wu.pdf.

Urban growth and change analysis using remote sensing and spatial metrics from 1975 to 2003 for Hanoi, Vietnam. Authors: Hai Minh Pham; Yasushi Yamaguchi. International Journal of Remote Sensing, Volume 32, Issue 7, 2011, Pages 1901 - 1915. Abstract: Since the beginning of the 'Doi Moi' policy in 1986, Hanoi has witnessed significant changes in its urban areas. Landsat and Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) scenes were used to identify built-up areas in Hanoi, and spatial metrics were used to characterize urban change patterns from 1975 to 2003. Firstly, a spatial metric called the 'percentage of like adjacency' was used to discern urban growth patterns, which were classified into three sub-patterns: expansion growth, infill growth and outlying growth. Secondly, the driving force underlying the urbanization of the city for the 1975-1984, 1984-1992, 1992-2001, 2001-2003 periods was investigated using a spatial metric analysis programme (FRAGSTATS). The expansion of urban areas along major transportation routes in the latter 1980s was identified as the main form of urbanization in Hanoi. This paper shows the potential application of spatial metrics as secondary sources of information for supporting remotely sensed data and their use to characterize urban growth patterns. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Viet Nam: Reducing Government Dominance and Formalizing Microfinance. In RURAL AND MICROFINANCE IN THE LOWER MEKONG REGION: Policies, Institutions, and Market Outcomes. Binh T. Nguyen and Robert Vogel. Asian Development Bank, 2011, pp. 76-93. First paragraph: The formal rural and microfinance sector in Viet Nam consists of two state-owned banks, the Vietnam Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (VBARD or AgriBank) and the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies (VBSP); the state-owned Vietnam Postal Savings Company; and the network of nearly 1,000 People’s Credit Funds (PCFs) that operate as credit and savings cooperatives. Despite the existence of these institutions, access to formal finance in rural areas is low with less than 25% of the rural population having some kind of access to financial services. Viet Nam’s overall financial depth is likewise rather shallow, although this has deepened sharply in more recent years; in 2007, the ratio of credit to gross domestic product reached 82.5%, and the ratio of M2 money to gross domestic product hit 112.1%. Furthermore, targeted policy lending with subsidized interest rates remains substantial in the country’s microfinance sector through the operation of government poverty-reduction funds under the VBSP. Free full text http://www.adb.org/documents/books/finance-lower-mekong/default.asp.

What is “Ecological” in Local Ecological Knowledge? Lessons from Canada and Vietnam. Kenneth Ruddle; Anthony Davis. Society & Natural Resources: An International Journal. First published on 22 March 2011. Abstract: Case studies from Canada and Vietnam demonstrate both the importance and content limitations of local ecological knowledge (LEK) acquired during collaborative research between local fishers and scientists. The Canadian research disproved fishers’ contentions that white hake (Urophycis tenuis) was the main predator on juvenile lobster (Homarus americanus). In the Vietnam case, the LEK of 400 fishers was used to test a hypothesis about monsoon seasonality and the availability of fish for fermentation. Fishers’ LEK was
important in both confirming the basis of the hypothesis and highlighting anomalies. The cases demonstrate that although important, harvesters' local experiences and observations may not characterize accurately such ecosystem processes as predator-prey dynamics or seasonality. It is unrealistic to expect fishers' LEK and understanding of ecology to embody such attributes, since stomach contents of commercially important target species are rarely examined, and fishers interact with ecosystems primarily to earn a living. Full text http://pdfserve.informaworld.com/120298_731194610_935266901.pdf.

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Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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"It is not that I forget, it's just that I don't want other people to know": barriers to and strategies for adherence to antiretroviral therapy among HIV patients in Northern Vietnam. Vu Van Tam, Anastasia Pharris, Anna Thorson, Tobias Alfven, Mattias Larsson. AIDS Care. Abingdon: Feb 2011. Vol. 23, Iss. 2; p. 139

Abstract: Antiretroviral therapy (ART) started to become more widely available in Vietnam in 2005. However, up to now, very little is known about factors influencing ART adherence among people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Vietnam. This qualitative study aimed to describe factors influencing ART adherence among PLHIV in a northern province in Vietnam, and to explore possibilities of home delivery of ART. Forty-eight participants (36 men and 12 women), including patients on ART and their relatives, were divided in seven focus group discussions. The topics discussed included: adherence obstacles encountered during ART, methods patients used to enhance adherence, treatment support structures, and attitudes toward home delivery of ART. All interviews were audio-recorded, then transcribed in Vietnamese. Manual manifest and latent content analysis was applied for data analysis in order to elucidate the presence of, meaning of, and relationships between concepts in the text. Stigma was identified as a strong barrier to ART adherence, as patients feared that taking medications in the presence of other persons would lead to suspicion or inadvertent disclosure of their HIV status. In addition to desires for non-disclosure influencing PLHIV's adherence, it also shaped their attitudes toward opting for more confidential ways of receiving ART support and care. Home delivery of ART medications was seen as undesirable by participants, who feared that it might increase social stigmatization. Participants wished for more community-based support, preferably from PLHIV who had received sufficient training. Based on the results of this study, an intervention strategy using PLHIV as community-based adherence supporters is currently being evaluated in a randomized controlled trial intervention, including 640 patients in Quang Ninh, Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Abstract: During the last years, the increased use of pesticides and growing awareness of associated environmental and health problems have led to the implementation of various monitoring programmes in South-East Asia. The introduction of numerous new active ingredients and commercial pesticide formulations in connection with reports on pesticide-related health problems strongly indicate that the analytical procedures should be tested and evaluated for currently used pesticides. Coping with matrix effects and ensuring pesticide stability when samples are taken in remote areas are paramount. In the present study, we tested an analytical method that targets nine currently used pesticides in surface water in North Vietnam. The method consists of solid phase extraction, storage at 18°C in the adsorbed state, and capillary gas chromatography with nitrogen-phosphorus-detection of five insecticides (dichlorvos, fenobucarb, dimethoate, fenitrothion, and chlorpyrifos), three fungicides (chlorothalonil, metalaxyl, and edifenphos) and one herbicide (atrazine). We evaluated the potential analytical bias caused by matrix effect and investigated its possible causes. We also tested the long-term stability (up to 9 months) of pesticides adsorbed to Carbopack SPE cartridges when stored at temperatures below 18°C. Adopting a matrix-matched calibration technique considerably improved the recovery values of seven of the nine tested pesticides. At spiking levels of 0.1 mgL
1 and 1 mg L\(^{-1}\) and after storage of 119 days at 18 °C, recovery values of these pesticides ranged from 67% to 107% and from 68% to 155%, respectively. For the remaining two pesticides recovered at 53–55% at both spiking levels – dichlorvos and chlorothalonil – the method could still be useful for semi-quantitative analysis or as a screening tool. Even though the general recommendation is to minimise storage time to reduce pesticides degradation, our results showed that storage times up to 9 months can be adopted for atrazine, metalaxyl, fenitrothion, and chlorpyrifos. Full text available upon request.

Assessment of plastic waste generation and its potential recycling of household solid waste in Can Tho City, Vietnam. Nguyen Phuc Thanh, Yasuhiro Matsui, Takeshi Fujiwara. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. Dordrecht: Apr 2011. Vol. 175, Iss. 1-4; p. 23 Abstract: Plastic solid waste has become a serious problem when considering the disposal alternatives following the sequential hierarchy of sound solid waste management. This study was undertaken to assess the quantity and composition of household solid waste, especially plastic waste to identify opportunities for waste recycling. A 1-month survey of 130 households was carried out in Can Tho City, the capital city of the Mekong Delta region in southern Vietnam. Household solid waste was collected from each household and classified into ten physical categories; especially plastic waste was sorted into 22 subcategories. The average household solid waste generation rate was 281.27 g/cap/day. The compostable and recyclable shares respectively accounted for high percentage as 80.74% and 11%. Regarding plastic waste, the average plastic waste generation rate was 17.24 g/cap/day; plastic packaging and plastic containers dominated with the high percentage, 95.64% of plastic waste. Plastic shopping bags were especially identified as the major component, accounting for 45.72% of total plastic waste. Relevant factors such as household income and household size were found to have an existing correlation to plastic waste generation in detailed composition. The household habits and behaviors of plastic waste discharge and the aspects of environmental impacts and resource consumption for plastic waste disposal alternatives were also evaluated. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Breeding and supply chain systems incorporating local pig breeds for small-scale pig producers in Northwest Vietnam. Herold, P., Roessler, R., Willam, A., Momm, H., Valle Zárate, A. 2010. Livestock Science 129: 63-72. Abstract: In Vietnam, pig production and pork demand are developing rapidly. Still, 80% of the national pig herd is kept on smallholder farms while policy mainly focuses on intensification of pig production. The aim of this study is to evaluate possibilities to organize pig breeding and marketing channels in remote areas in the uplands of Northern Vietnam. The study compiles three parts: (1) Evaluation of farmers breeding management and breed and trait preferences for pigs; (2) Evaluation of different crossbreeding schemes for leaner meat production; and (3) Design of appropriate organizational settings for pig breeding and marketing. Ban pigs are the second most predominant breed next to the Mong Cai. Ban pigs are valued by farmers for their feed intake spectrum, feed intake capacity, disease tolerance, health/strength, growth rate and carcass quality. For all modelled crossbreeding schemes, genetic gain is low; the Yorkshire × Ban crossbreeding scheme shows the highest overall genetic gain. The traditional production and fattening of Exotic boar × Local dam F1 crosses does not require particular organizational setups. This system already exists in an improvised way. The advantage of an organized scheme would be the controlled maintenance of the local breed. For the latter, a stratified pig breeding system seems promising, requiring innovative organizational setups. A short food supply chain is proposed. This system builds links between remote and close-to-market villages and populations. Critical organizational aspects like poorly developed infrastructure, poor access to input and output markets and information can be overcome. Full text

Does WTO accession matter for the dynamics of foreign direct investment and trade? By: Hanh, Pham Thi Hong. Economics of Transition, Apr2011, Vol. 19 Issue 2, p255-285, 31p; Abstract: The aim of this article is to study the impacts of World Trade Organization accession on the dynamics of foreign direct investment (FDI) and trade in Vietnam. In order to do this, we employ an augmented gravity model and use a panel data
set covering bilateral trade and FDI between Vietnam and its 17 most important partner countries, over the period 1990-2008. Firstly, we find that WTO accession has a significantly positive effect both on Vietnam's imports and on inward FDI. Secondly, even though we find no evidence to demonstrate convincingly that WTO accession influences Vietnam's exports, this accession seems to indirectly encourage Vietnam's exports through the FDI channel due to a strong connection between these two.


Abstract: This paper examines an apparent ‘early stage’ governance transformation in the Tam Giang Lagoon, Vietnam. In this context, the role of key policy windows for innovative governance practice is assessed (e.g., changes to Land and Fisheries Laws). Also examined is the emergence of recent initiatives to catalyze a wider shift in governance practice in the region, including the formation of co-management institutional networks that contribute to trust building and learning, and the allocation of collective territorial use rights for fisheries. While these changes are consistent with experiences in other coastal marine contexts, the paper shows that place-based and longitudinal research is necessary to explain and predict the conditions and incentives that catalyze governance shifts. Differences between a governance change and more fundamental transformation are difficult to discern using point-in-time analysis. Moreover, the results show that current declines in ecological conditions in the lagoon may not be reversed by changes to access rights or the emergence of co-management. Rather, these governance changes may simply help to stabilize the situation and buy time until other livelihood opportunities arise. Assessments of governance transformation thus need to be linked to ecological outcomes (i.e., reversing degradation of coastal marine systems, avoiding biophysical tipping points) which may not be easily identified in the short-term. Despite uncertainty, the emergence of policy windows, evidence of institutional innovation, and small-scale rights allocation experiments, all suggest important shifts in the trajectory of governance are underway in the Tam Giang Lagoon. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VCD-52C45N7-1&_user=1916569&_coverDate=03%2F11%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1682156732&_rerunOrigin=scholar.google&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&userid=1916569&md5=b37b8c448edfe99fa14a0e63a7037ad8&searchtype=a.


Farm types for beef production and their economic success in a mountainous province of northern Vietnam. Huyen, L.T.T., Herold, P., Valle Zárate, A. 2010. Agricultural Systems 103: 137-145. Abstract: -- The objective of this study was to compare the management and economic success of beef production by three types of farm in northwestern Vietnam. The potential of household farms to supply beef for the market and their competition with large farms were examined. -- The fieldwork was done in 2007 on 73 farms consisting of 58 small mixed farms (small farms), 10 medium mixed farms (medium farms) and 5 specialised large-scale beef farms (large farms) in Son La province. The three types of farm differed in ethnicity (Thai, H’mong, and Kinh), remoteness (lowland, highland), production objectives (subsistence, market output), degree of specialization (mixed farm, specialised beef farm) and integration of production (single farmers, cooperative). Data on biological productivity, inputs and outputs, and the social contribution of cattle production were
collected by household and key person interviews, participatory rural appraisal tools and cattle body measurements. Economic values were derived by assessment of market or replacement costs. Quantitative data analysis was done with linear models (PROC GLM) in the SAS software (version 9.1). -- Lowland small farms had higher costs for cattle production than the highland farms (0.8 Mill. VND head−1 year−1 compared with 0.02 Mill. VND head−1 year−1, respectively). The large farms had high production costs, with an average of 2.5–3.6 Mill. VND head−1 year−1. Cattle brought high benefits of non-cash values to the household farms. The total revenue from cattle was in the range 4.5–11.5 Mill. VND head−1 year−1, which depended on the use of non-market functions of cattle on the household farm. The value of net benefit/kg live weight (LW) of lowland small farms with an average of 39,000 VND/kg LW was significantly higher than that of the medium and small farms in the highlands (26,000 VND/kg LW). However, the small farms kept fewer cattle than the medium farms (average of 2–4 cattle/farm compared with 9 cattle/farm, respectively) because of forage and labour shortages and have no option to further develop cattle production. Keeping larger numbers of cattle based on available natural pasture brought high benefit from stock value as farm liquidity to only the medium farms. This was the most promising type of farm for future development of beef production, given its actual success and the availability of underutilised resources. Large-scale farms suffered high economic losses of 0.3–1.4 Mill. VND cattle−1 year−1, due to the lack of professional management, high feed costs and low animal performance, and showed no potential for developing cattle production. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6T3W-4XTP2SR-2&_user=1916569&_coverDate=03%2F31%2F2010&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&gateway&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=1d4cfde97af28b8a43535355da5facd3&searchtype=a.

Globalization Crises, Trade, and Development in Vietnam. Philip Abbott and Finn Tarp. UNU-WIDER Working Paper No. 2011/20. Abstract: Vietnam has been among the most successful East Asian economies, especially in weathering the external shocks of recent globalization crises—the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis and the 2008-09 great recession, financial crisis and collapse of global trade. Its success contradicts its characterization as an example of export-led growth and highlights the role of the state, particularly in maintaining and influencing investment. Examination of economic performance and policy responses shows rising dependence on foreign finance around each crisis, and actions by the government to counteract that dependence and bolster the domestic economy while continuing to restructure the economy toward greater emphasis on the private sector. Growth, employment and poverty alleviation have been maintained at the expense of renewed inflation, larger budget deficits, and currency depreciation. The ‘stop-go’ nature of present macroeconomic policy is the consequence of balancing growth versus inflation, responding to severe external shocks and holding to a growth objective in the face of substantial internal and external criticism. Free full text http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/working-papers/2011/en_GB/wp2011-020/_files/85264898580873295/default/wp2011-020.pdf.

Health-financing reforms in southeast Asia: challenges in achieving universal coverage. Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, Por Ir, Syed Mohamed Aljunid, et al. The Lancet. London: Mar 5-Mar 11, 2011. Vol. 377, Iss. 9768; p. 863 (11 pages). Summary: In this sixth paper of the Series, we review health-financing reforms in seven countries in southeast Asia that have sought to reduce dependence on out-of-pocket payments, increase pooled health finance, and expand service use as steps towards universal coverage. Laos and Cambodia, both resource-poor countries, have mostly relied on donor-supported health equity funds to reach the poor, and reliable funding and appropriate identification of the eligible poor are two major challenges for nationwide expansion. For Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam, social health insurance financed by payroll tax is commonly used for formal sector employees (excluding Malaysia), with varying outcomes in terms of financial protection. Alternative payment methods have different implications for provider behaviour and financial protection. Two alternative approaches for financial protection of the non-poor outside the formal sector have emerged—contributory arrangements and tax-financed schemes—with different abilities to achieve high population coverage rapidly. Fiscal space and mobilisation of payroll contributions are both important in accelerating financial protection. Expanding
coverage of good-quality services and ensuring adequate human resources are also important to achieve universal coverage. As health-financing reform is complex, institutional capacity to generate evidence and inform policy is essential and should be strengthened. Free full text http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)61890-9/abstract.

Higher education in East Asia and Singapore: rise of the Confucian Model. Simon Marginson. Higher Education. Amsterdam: May 2011. Vol. 61, Iss. 5; p. 587. Abstract: The paper reviews Asia–Pacific higher education and university research, focusing principally on the “Confucian” education nations Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong China, Taiwan, Singapore and Vietnam. Except for Vietnam, these systems exhibit a special developmental dynamism—still playing out everywhere except Japan—and have created a distinctive model of higher education more effective in some respects than systems in North America, the English-speaking world and Europe where the modern university was incubated. The Confucian Model rests on four interdependent elements: (1) strong nation-state shaping of structures, funding and priorities; (2) a tendency to universal tertiary participation, partly financed by growing levels of household funding of tuition, sustained by a private duty, grounded in Confucian values, to invest in education; (3) “one chance” national examinations that mediate social competition and university hierarchy and focus family commitments to education; (4) accelerated public investment in research and “world-class” universities. The Model has downsides for social equity in participation, and in the potential for state interference in executive autonomy and academic creativity. But together with economic growth amid low tax regimes, the Confucian Model enables these systems to move forward rapidly and simultaneously in relation to each and all of mass tertiary participation, university quality, and research quantity and quality. Full text available upon request.

Impacts of Household Credit on the Poor in Peri-urban Areas of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. PhD thesis. Tinh Thanh, DOAN. University of Waikato, 2011 February. Abstract: Access to credit is universally believed to be an effective tool to help the poor out of poverty. Yet the evidence for this has not considered all settings, especially the peri-urban areas of rapidly industrialising Asian countries. In these areas human capital is the main asset of the poor, so it is important to understand the input of credit on human capital. Therefore, this thesis begins with Chapter 2 showing the importance of human capital in income generation in Vietnam during the economic transition. The thesis then examines factors affecting credit participation and credit constraints for the poor in the peri-urban areas, and investigates whether credit participation impacts the poor’s education and healthcare spending and benefits their children’s schooling... Free full text http://researchcommons.waikato.ac.nz/bitstream/10289/5165/3/thesis.pdf.

Income Shocks and Household Risk-Coping Strategies: Evidence from rural Vietnam. Fiona Wainwright and Carol Newman. Institute for International Integration Studies, IIIS Discussion Paper No.358 / March 2011. Abstract: This paper considers the various strategies rural households employ to avoid consumption shortfalls caused by realizations of adverse income shocks. First, we develop an ex post theoretical model within an inter-temporal utility maximizing framework which we use to explain households’ decisions to insure against idiosyncratic risk and save to protect against uninsurable spatially covariant risk. In the theoretical model we show that the latter can take a variety of different asset forms depending on the absolute level of risk aversion of the household and the variability in asset returns. Second, using household level panel data from Vietnam we test the extent to which households’ smooth consumption over time and how this depends on the presence of insurance and saving instruments. Third, we consider savings and liquid asset holdings as a form of self-insurance or precautionary savings against spatially covariant shocks. Overall, our results suggest that households deplete their stock of total liquid assets in the event of exposure to both exogenous and idiosyncratic income shocks. The ability of households to cope is also dependent on their receipt of public and private transfers in the event of an exogenous natural shock with insurance claims serving to alleviate the depletion of livestock holdings in the event of insurable idiosyncratic income shocks. These results are particularly pronounced for low and middle wealth groups. Free full text http://www.tcd.ie/iiis/documents/discussion/pdfs/iiisdp358.pdf
Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Rural Economy. By: Emran, M. Shahe; Shilpi, Forhad. Journal of Human Resources, Spring 2011, Vol. 46 Issue 2, p427-458, 32p; Abstract: This paper presents evidence on intergenerational occupational mobility from agriculture to the nonfarm sector using survey data from Nepal and Vietnam. In the absence of credible instruments, the degree of selection on observables is used as a guide to the degree of selection on unobservables, à la Altonji et al. (2005) to address the unobserved genetic correlations. The results show that intergenerational occupational mobility is lower among women in both countries, and is lower in Nepal compared with Vietnam. In the case of Nepal, strong evidence favors a causal role played by the mother's nonfarm participation in the daughter's occupation choice, possibly because of cultural inheritance in a traditional society. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=59373888&site=ehost-live.

Micro-landform classification and flood hazard assessment of the Thu Bon alluvial plain, central Vietnam via an integrated method utilizing remotely sensed data. Loan T.K. Ho, and Masatomo Umitsu. Applied Geography, Volume 31, Issue 3, July 2011, Pages 1082-1093. Abstract: In this study, we developed an integrated method for classifying micro-landforms and flood hazard zones based on a geomorphological approach utilizing Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission (SRTM) and LANDSAT ETM + (Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus) data combined with field investigation. Micro-landform units on an alluvial plain were classified in relation to flood conditions by integrating an SRTM digital elevation model (DEM) with spectral characteristics from a pair of LANDSAT images from dry and flood seasons. In addition, the LANDSAT ETM + band4-band3 of the flood season image was calculated to identify moist surfaces. Next, a flood hazard zonation map was generated by categorizing geomorphological features and the average elevation of each landform into flood hazard classes. Then, three-dimensional (3D) diagrams of the composed maps were produced using GRASS 6.3 to visualize the geomorphology and flooding risk. The results were validated using field surveys, topographic maps and past inundation images. This case study was undertaken for the Thu Bon alluvial plain, central Vietnam. The findings of this study revealed a close interaction between the geomorphological characteristics of this region and flood conditions. Flooding and sedimentation mechanisms cause dynamic formations of fluvial and coastal landforms, and these geomorphological features in turn affect flood hazard. Furthermore, 43.34% of the area of this plain is classified as having a very high or high flood hazard in lowland areas and a flash flood hazard in higher areas. -- Highlights: ► This study generated a flood hazard map based on a landform classification map in the Thu Bon alluvial plain, central Vietnam. ► The used data are SRTM and LANDSAT ETM+. ► This study demonstrates the effectiveness of flood mapping by geomorphological method. ► Moreover, this method indicates the nature of flood inundation in various areas. ► Results revealed good relationship between flood conditions and micro-landforms in this area. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Modern retailers in transition economies: The case of Vietnam. Masayoshi Maruyama, Le Viet Trung. Kobe University Discussion Paper Series DP 2011-08. March 2011. Abstract: This paper reports the findings of a study on modern domestic retailers in Vietnam. We based this study on (1) a survey of 56 firms that control almost all the modern retail format stores in Vietnam, (2) in-depth interviews with CEOs and government officials, and (3) store visits and observations which were carried out by the authors. We discuss the operation and retail renovations of local modern retailers, the structure and the background of competitors, the problems retailers face, and their prospects for future development. Our findings provide a comprehensive picture of modern retailers in Vietnam and have significant implications for policy makers, as well as for local and foreign retailers. Free full text http://www.rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp/academic/ra/dp/English/DP2011-08.pdf.

Municipal Solid Waste Management in Vietnam: Status and the Strategic Actions. Thanh, N. P. and Matsui , Y. Int. J. Environ. Res., 5(2):285-296, Spring 2011. ABSTRACT: In Vietnam, municipal solid waste (MSW) has been become increasing complex due to variety of reasons as the increasing quantity, changing composition of MSW, rising public awareness and municipal administration policies among different cities and surrounding communities. There is not currently an efficient management system in place for facilities such as storage, collection, transfer, transportation and disposal of MSW. Against this backdrop, this paper attempts to analyze the present system of MSW addressing variety of aspects such as quantity and
composition of MSW generation, operational management, legal system as well as financial aspect. The systematic assessment has revealed the problems like lack of legal framework, low coverage, improper waste storage, less encouragement for composting, and lack of proper disposal practices. Finally, an action plan is proposed suggestion for current and future addressing the issues as the operational management, institutional, financial aspect, public participation, environmental education, and legal and policies. Full text available upon request.

New Asian Challenges: Missing Linkages in Asian Agricultural Innovation and the Role of Public Research Organisations in Four Small- and Medium-Sized Asian Countries. Goevert Gijsbers and Rob Van Tulder. Science Technology and Society. 2011; 16:29-51. Abstract: Asian agriculture is faced with major new challenges as a result of globalisation, urbanisation and environmental problems such as climate change. To meet these challenges, Asian agriculture needs to become more knowledge intensive and innovation oriented. This article frames the new Asian challenge in terms of innovation theory, emphasising the importance of the co-evolution of technological and institutional change and linkages between actors in open, interactive innovation processes. It studies the performance of agricultural research and technology organisations (RTOs) in four small and medium-sized South and Southeast Asian economies: Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Indonesia and Vietnam. A key performance issue is the linkages between actors, which is a key weakness in the agricultural innovation systems of most Asian countries. The need for effective linkages is growing as agricultural production and innovation are becoming increasingly complex due to the impact of the consecutive green, sustainability, biotechnology and supermarket revolutions. Linkages are in short supply, but the demand for them is exploding. As a consequence, traditional public agricultural research organisations in Asia, created at the time of the green revolution, no longer play a central role in agricultural innovation as they did when countries faced only one challenge. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Number and timing of antenatal HIV testing: Evidence from a community-based study in Northern Vietnam. Nguyen TT Hanh, Tine M Gammeltoft, Vibeke Rasch. BMC Public Health 2011, 11:183. Abstract: -- Background: HIV testing for pregnant women is an important component for the success of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT). A lack of antenatal HIV testing results in loss of benefits for HIV-infected mothers and their children. However, the provision of unnecessary repeat tests at a very late stage of pregnancy will reduce the beneficial effects of PMTCT and impose unnecessary costs for the individual woman as well as the health system. This study aims to assess the number and timing of antenatal HIV testing in a low-income setting where PMTCT programmes have been scaled up to reach first level health facilities. -- Methods: A cross-sectional community-based study was conducted among 1108 recently delivered mothers through face-to-face interviews following a structured questionnaire that focused on socio-economic characteristics, experiences of antenatal care and HIV testing. -- Results: The prevalence of women who lacked HIV testing among the study group was 10% while more than half of the women tested had had more than two tests during pregnancy. The following factors were associated with the lack of antenatal HIV test: having two children (aOR 2.1, 95% CI 1.3-3.4), living in a remote rural area (aOR 7.8, 95% CI 3.4-17.8), late antenatal care attendance (aOR 3.6, 95% CI 1.3-10.1) and not being informed about PMTCT at their first antenatal care visits (aOR 7.4, 95% CI 2.6-21.1). Among women who had multiple tests, 80% had the second test after 36 weeks of gestation. Women who had first ANC and first HIV testing at health facilities at primary level were more likely to be tested multiple times (OR 2.9 95% CI 1.9-4.3 and OR=4.7 95% CI 3.5-6.4), respectively. -- Conclusions: Not having an HIV test during pregnancy was associated with poor socioeconomic characteristics among the women and with not receiving information about PMTCT at the first ANC visit. Multiple testing during pregnancy prevailed; the second tests were often provided at a late stage of gestation. Full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-11-183.pdf.

Perceptions of Mental Health and Help-Seeking Behavior in an Urban Community in Vietnam: An Explorative Study. Lia van der Ham, Pamela Wright, Thang Vo Van, Vuong D. K. Doan and Jacqueline E. W. Broerse. Community Mental Health Journal. 2011-03-15. Abstract: This explorative study assesses perceptions of mental health and help-seeking behavior among adults in Vietnam. Methods included questionnaires (200) and focus group discussions (eight). Respondents were often unable to name specific mental illnesses.
Frequently mentioned symptoms of mental illness were talking nonsense, talking/laughing alone and wandering. Pressure/stress and studying/thinking too much were often identified causes. Most respondents showed a preference for medical treatment options, often in combination with family care. The results show that perceptions of mental health and help-seeking behaviour are influenced by a lack of knowledge and a mix of traditional and modern views. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/y263727p053m2w37/.

**Perceptions of Risk and Risk Management in Vietnamese Catfish Farming: An Empirical Study.** Le, Tru Cong; Cheong, France. Aquaculture Economics and Management, October-December 2010, v. 14, iss. 4, pp. 282-314. Abstract: Although Vietnamese catfish farming has grown at a rapid rate in recent years, the industry has also faced many problems that affect its sustainability. This paper explores the perceptions of catfish farmers regarding risk and risk management strategies in their production activities. The relationships between farm and farmer socioeconomic characteristics and perceptions of risk and risk management are also examined. Data for the study were collected in 2008 from a sample of 261 catfish farmers in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam using a questionnaire survey. The results show that, in general, price and production risks were perceived as the most significant risks. Farm management and technical measures were perceived to be more effective than other kinds of risk management strategies in risk reduction. Although price risks were rated as important, price risk management strategies were not perceived as important measures for risk mitigation. The results of the study are discussed to identify the implications for various industry stakeholders, including policymakers, processors, advisors, and developers of new risk management strategies. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


**Separation Hypothesis Tests in the Agricultural Household Model.** Le, Kien T. American Journal of Agricultural Economics, October 2010, v. 92, iss. 5, pp. 1420-31. Abstract: In an agricultural household model, farmers’ production decisions can be either separated or nonseparated from preferences. Since previous studies on agricultural household behavior and policy effects have shown that the model with separation yields different results than the model with nonseparation, it is important to have a test to identify the correct model. This paper provides new tests that extend current tests in two directions. First, the new tests avoid issues that current tests have to address, such as simultaneity bias and the estimation of the production function. Second, the new tests make use of more information implied from the separation hypothesis than current tests. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Social capital and human resource management in international joint ventures in Vietnam: a perspective from a transitional economy.** Authors: C. Christopher Baughn; Kent E. Neupert; Phan Thi Thuc Anh; Ngo Thi Minh Hang. The International Journal of Human Resource Management, Volume 22, Issue 5, 2011, Pages 1017 - 1035. Abstract: This study highlights the importance of social capital in international joint ventures (IJVs), and examines human resource practices as a factor shaping such social capital. Comprehensive measures of social capital are developed and tested, which extend prior work on 'bonding' and 'bridging' social capital. We also link social capital with its anticipated antecedents and consequences. The study's findings are based on data collected from 164 IJVs located in Vietnam. IJV performance was predicted by training and by the level of trust and cooperation between foreign and local personnel. Training (including acquisition of management skills, technology, and cross-cultural understanding) also was predictive of the measures of social capital. A key practical implication arising from this study is that the return on investment from training of joint venture personnel can stem not only from the transfer of technical and management skills needed for developing competitive advantage, but also from the positive impact on social capital, which further contributes to venture success. The establishment of written objectives and plans for the venture, as well as the IJV's level of control regarding its own HR functions also was found to be related to some components of social capital. The findings of this study reinforce the call to build on the contributions of local personnel in joint ventures, and in Vietnam in particular. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
The European Union, Vietnam and the Clean Development Mechanism: A Multi-level and Multi-actor Approach. Belis, David and Hans Bruyninckx. 2011. European Studies Review, Hanoi. ABSTRACT: The European Union, Vietnam and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) from a multi-level and multi-actor perspective. In a first attempt towards a comprehensive mapping of EU-Vietnam CDM cooperation, the paper presents the CDM Design Classification Tool (CDM-DCT), an analytic framework developed to shed light on the intricate web of relationships between the different actors at the local, national and international level. At the moment, the European Union’s Emission Trading System (EU ETS) is the main source of demand for Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) resulting from CDM projects. Vietnam, on the other hand, is one of the most potential non-BASIC developing countries engaged in the CDM world-wide. The processes and particulars of EU-Vietnam CDM relations are hence important points of reference for other bilateral CDM relations, for the different business and government actors involved and for international climate governance in general. Free full text http://www.ggs.kuleuven.be/nieuw/publications/research%20reports/rr02%20belis_bruyninckx.pdf.

The Expansion of Farm-Based Plantation Forestry in Vietnam. Mats Sandewall, Bo Ohlsson, R Kajsa Sandewall, Le Sy Viet. Ambio. Stockholm: Dec 2010. Vol. 39, Iss. 8; p. 567 (13 pages) Abstract: This study targets plantation forestry by farm households (small holders), which is increasing globally and most rapidly in China and Vietnam. By use of an interdisciplinary approach on three study sites in Vietnam, we examined the trends in farmers’ tree planting over time, the various pre-requisites for farm-based plantation forestry and its impact on rural people’s livelihood strategies, socio-economic status, income and security. The findings indicated a change from subsistence to cash-based household economy, diversification of farmers’ incomes and a transformation of the landscape from mainly natural forests, via deforestation and shifting cultivation, to a landscape dominated by farm-based plantations. The trend of transformation, over a period of some 30 years, towards cash crops and forestry was induced by a combination of policy, market, institutional, infrastructural and other conditions and the existence of professional farming communities, and was most rapid close to the industrial market. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


The impact of oil prices, real effective exchange rate and inflation on economic activity: Novel evidence for Vietnam. Le Viet Trung, Nguyen Thi Thuy Vinh. Kobe University Discussion Paper series DP 2011-09. March 15, 2011. Abstract: The goal of this paper is to examine the impact of oil prices on Vietnam’s economic activity using vector autoregressive (VAR) modeling and cointegration techniques. We use monthly data for the period 1995-2009 and include inflation and the real effective exchange rate as additional determinants of economic activity. We find evidence of a long-run relationship between oil prices, inflation, exchange rate, and economic activity. The results suggest that both oil prices and the real effective exchange rates have strongly significant impact on economic activity. An increase in oil price or depreciation may enhance economic activity. Vietnamese economic activity is influenced more by changes of value of Vietnamese currency than the fluctuations of oil prices. Inflation has a positive impact on economic activity however its impact is not highly significant. This suggests that moderate inflation is helpful rather than harmful to economic activity. Free full text http://www.rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp/academic/ra/dp/English/DP2011-09.pdf.

The relationship among parents and children in Vietnamese families nowadays. Nguyen Thi Van Hanh. Revista de Cercetare şi Intervenţie Socială. Issn: 15833410. 2011, Volume: 3. pages: 131-139. Abstract: Family is a social institution. It is a product of history defined by the economic, political, cultural and social conditions of a given society. In Vietnam, industrialization and urbanization have considerably affected to family, changing its size, structure, relationship and quality. This article has the objective of studying the relationship among
parents and children in Vietnamese family nowadays through the below factors: (1) the care of parents on their children; (2) the amount of time parents use for taking care of their children; (3) the way parents use for teaching their children; (3) behavior and desires of parents on son and daughter. Main methods used are secondary data analyzing and in-depth interview. Figures on Vietnamese family used in this paper are taken from National Survey on Family 2006 carried out by Family Department of the Population, Family and Children Committee, the General Statistics Office, the Family and Gender research Institute and the United Nation Children’s Fund and some other resources. We can see from the result that there are many changes in the relationship among parents and children in Vietnamese family nowadays. On one hand, it is getting more democratic and there are more equality among sons and daughters. On the other hand, parents seem not to care much about their children as before for they have lots of other things to do. The changes in the relationship among parents and children in Vietnamese family are considered the consequence of the industrialization and urbanization period, and to its turn, it is one of the main causes for the instability of Vietnamese family structure. Full text is available upon request.

The Relationship between the United States and Vietnam Stock Markets. Thuan, Luu Tien. International Journal of Business and Finance Research, 2011, v. 5, iss. 1, pp. 77-89. Abstract: This paper uses the generalized autoregressive conditional heteroscedasticity-autoregressive moving average (GARCH-ARMA) and the exponentially general autoregressive conditional heteroscedasticity-autoregressive moving average (EGARCH-ARMA) models to examine the relationship between United States and Vietnam stock markets. The paper analyzes 1,483 daily observations from 2003-2009. The study finds that the U.S. market has a positive and significant influence on the Vietnam market. Specifically, the S&P 500 Index has a positive and strong significant influence to the VN-Index return in recent years. However, there is no evidence of a volatility effect of the S&P 500 Index on the VN-Index. To support the initial findings, the study performs robustness tests to examine the effect of Dow Jones Index on the VN-Index return and shows similar results. Not only do these findings provide additional evidence that Vietnam is a viable market economy but also indicates that fund managers' should consider movement of the U.S. stock market before making Vietnam investment decisions.ISSN: 19310269Publication Type: Journal ArticleAvailability: http://www.theibfr.com/ijbfr.htmUpdate Code: 201102AN: 1151958Copyright: Copyright of International Journal of Business & Finance Research (IJBF) is the property of Institute for Business & Finance Research and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=eoh&AN=1151958&site=ehost-live.

The WTO, Marketing and Innovativeness Capabilities of Vietnamese Firms. Tho Nguyen, Trang T.M. Nguyen. Management Research Review, Volume: 34, Issue: 6, Year: 2011. Abstract: -- Purpose - This study explores the impact of Vietnamese firms’ expectations of opportunities provided by the World Trade Organization – expected WTO opportunities – on their marketing and innovativeness capabilities, and subsequently, on business performance. -- Design/methodology/approach - Using a sample of 323 Vietnamese firms in Ho Chi Minh City, we tested a model incorporating expected WTO opportunities, marketing and innovativeness capabilities, and business performance by means of structural equation modeling. -- Findings - We find that expected WTO opportunities had positive impacts on both marketing and innovativeness capabilities. Further, marketing and innovativeness capabilities underlie business performance of Vietnamese firms. -- Research limitations/implications - A key limitation of this study is the examination of the impact of expected WTO on only two firm capabilities: marketing and innovativeness capabilities. There might be several other firm capabilities that may be affected by expected WTO such as entrepreneurial orientation and learning orientation. -- Practical implications - The results of this study suggest that firms should be prepared to take advantage of the WTO: to evaluate its opportunities, as well as threats, in order to design and implement appropriate strategies for doing business in a new and challenging environment. -- Originality/value - This study is a first study of this type to Vietnam’s entry into the WTO is an important event for Vietnamese firms. The findings of this study suggest expected WTO opportunities play an important role in strengthening marketing and innovativeness capabilities, and subsequently, on business performance. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Transformations of Vietnamese Shrimp Aquaculture Policy: Empirical Evidence from the Mekong Delta. Tran, Thi Thu Ha; Bush, Simon R. Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy, December 2010, v. 28, iss. 6, pp. 1101-19. Abstract: International environmental and social concerns about tropical shrimp production have led to the emergence of private transnational governance and regulation. Using cases from Ca Mau we investigate how the shift to private transnational regulatory networks has changed the role of the government from a regulator to a facilitator of global private governance interests and arrangements. The rise of these various schemes has also been part of a shift from quantitative to qualitative policy goals within the Vietnamese aquaculture sector. In turn, this has led to new internal relationships, most notably the repositioning of private interests and community-based management within the Vietnamese state framework. We conclude that the ongoing transformation of the government's role in environmental shrimp governance requires mechanisms that foster improved participation and compliance between the state and private actors. To achieve this efforts are needed to better include local government at both communal and village levels and to use existing global market incentives more strategically. Full text http://www.envplan.com.libproxy-wb.imf.org/abstract.cgi?id=c09194.

Unequal regional development in rural Vietnam: Spatial disparities and policy considerations. Hoang Van Long and Mitsuyasu Yabe. In: 2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH (2nd ICBER 2011) PROCEEDING. ABSTRACT: In Vietnam, the poor have long been assumed to be the ethnic minorities mostly living in the highlands. After more than two decades of introducing Doi moi2 policy into the economy, along with having enjoyed various improvements in social and economic aspects, the disparities between the majority and ethnic majorities, the lowlands and the highlands, and between regions, still have been widened. This paper aims at examining income inequality, its affecting factors in rural areas, and exploring the current situation of regional economic disparities using both development policy review and econometrics approaches. Data from Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey (VHLSS) 2008 was used in the study. The expenditure per capita was employed as the dependent variable to regress with household characteristics and resources. In addition, the regional dummy variables were employed to show the different effects from different geographic locations. The results showed that the household characteristics and resources such as education level, perennial land area, water surface area, and the accessibility to infrastructure facilities such as road, electricity and local market had positive effect on expenditure. Furthermore, the North Central Coast region showed negative impact on household expenditure. Interestingly, this finding does not absolutely follow the hypothesis and indicates that the economic development strategy and polices should be adjusted to decrease the gap among regions based on their economic advantages for balancing the economic situation of the whole country in the future. Free full text http://www.internationalconference.com.my/proceeding/2ndicber2011_proceeding/119-2nd%20ICBER%202011%20PG%20293-303%20Spatial%20Disparities.pdf.
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2011 March 15 issue – Supplementary

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Aggregate Demand, Aggregate Supply and Economic Growth of Vietnam: Theory and evidence on an econometric analysis. Osamu Nakamura. International University of Japan, Economics & Management Series EMS-2011-08. Abstract: This paper examines the determinants of economic growth of Vietnam focusing on an aggregate demand and aggregate supply with an econometric analysis. According to the regression and scenario simulation analysis, we can see that although the Vietnamese economy has achieved steady growth since Doi Moi, the supply-side is still too weak to meet the demand-side increases, which results in the macro imbalances including trade deficit and inflation as experienced in 2007-08. FDI inflows have played a significant role to strengthen the supply-side economy so that the Vietnamese government needs to improve her environments to attract foreign capital inflows for sustainable growth. Free full text http://www.iuj.ac.jp/research/workingpapers/EMS_2011_08.pdf.

Assessing injury emergency response of village health workers and volunteers in five provinces in Vietnam. T H T Nguyen, L T T Ngoc, H T L Nguyen, and M A Luong. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A76. [Abstract: In Vietnam, road traffic injury is the leading cause of injuries with about 12 000 death cases per year. The prehospital care is still a new issue in the injury prevention work. Village health workers (VHWs) and health volunteers are considered as first tiers of prehospital care in Vietnam. Therefore, it is necessary to assess the injury emergency response capacity of village health workers and volunteers in order to strengthen their capacity. Methodology Cross sectional and qualitative methods including interview of 3000 VHWs and volunteers in 60 communes in Vietnam. Result Nearly 70% of volunteer and VHW graduated from middle school and high school. In 60 communes, the main cause of injury mortality during 2007–2008 was road traffic 64.5%. There were three death cases due to RTA in each commune in average. The VHW and volunteers provided prehospital care for 10% of road traffic injury (equal about 400 cases) equipped with essential tools for providing injuries and accident emergency care. 74.5% of volunteers and VHW had seen traffic accidents. 36.7% of volunteers had experiences with traffic injury emergency care. 22% of volunteers/VHW had reported on injuries and accidents; 31.2% of volunteers/VHW had participated in training courses for injuries emergency care and 37.7% of them had got training from local hospitals. Conclusion Volunteers and VHW should be provided training, essential emergency trauma care equipments for road traffic injuries.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Catfish, Shrimp, and the WTO: Vietnam Loses Its Innocence Cong, D.T. VANDERBILT JOURNAL OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW 2010 VOL 43; NUMB 5, page(s) 1235-1264 Vanderbilt University Law School; 1999. ABSTRACT: This Article explores the advantages that WTO membership brings to Vietnam in connection with antidumping disputes. In particular, this Article examines the trade relationship between Vietnam and the United States, including disputes over catfish and shrimp, prior to Vietnam’s accession to the WTO. The Article concludes that Vietnam’s WTO membership and experience with catfish and shrimp will serve exporters well when new trade disputes arise. Vietnamese exporters will better understand their options and will be better equipped to defend themselves in antidumping disputes. Free full text
Challenges of drink-driving enforcement in Vietnam. H Nguyen, J Passmore, N Nguyen, and C Pham. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A270-A271. [Abstract: Alcohol is a well documented risk factor for road traffic crashes, however information on drinking and driving in low income countries is often limited. In Vietnam, despite the fact that the control of drink-driving (DD) has been part of road safety law since 2001, implementation and enforcement has been limited. In 2008, the National People’s Assembly approved a revised law which included strengthening of efforts in DD prevention including a decrease in blood and breath alcohol concentration limits down from 80mg/dl (0.08) to 50mg/dl (0.05) (0.25mg/l breath) for motorcycle riders and from 0.08 to zero for drivers of cars and other four wheel vehicles. The law came into effect on 1 July, 2009. To describe the current knowledge, attitude and practice of DD in Vietnam, a cross sectional survey of 1200 adult household members was conducted in three provinces. Nearly 80% of respondents where aware of new restrictions for DD, however, less than 20% knew what that limit was and when it took effect. More than 90% of respondents reported awareness of the dangers of DD and that the threshold was necessary, however, more than 80% still reported that they drive or ride after drinking and 58% would still travel as a passenger with a motorcycle rider who had drunk alcohol. These results show a number of challenges to implementing DD regulations in Vietnam. Further communication and education on the risks and consequences of DD is required however these in themselves will be ineffective without consistent enforcement and strengthening the perception of being caught. Currently, incomplete police procedures as well as a lack of equipment is limiting enforcement capacity.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Childhood injury prevention and safe community development in Vietnam. L T T Ngoc. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A190. [Abstract: Background In Vietnam, injury is increasing and becomes the leading causes of mortality among hospitalised cases. Recently, Injury prevention and Safe community development is a concerned duty. Objective Injury prevention and Safe community development. Design and subjects Collecting data from 63 provinces nationwide. Results From 2005 to 2008, there were 25 childhood mortality cases per 100 000 children. Of which, there were 12 drowning cases, 6 traffic injury cases, 2 suicides and other causes such as poisoning, burning, falling, violence. In order to prevent childhood injury, Vietnam has implemented interventions especially safe community. Until 2008, 11 communes have designated as international safe communities and nearly 50 communes have designated as Vietnam safe communities. Conclusion and recommendation Drowning and Road traffic injury are leading causes of injury mortality of children aged from 0 to 19 year old. Injury prevention and safe community development plays an important role in childhood injury prevention. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Contribution of Forest Resources to Local People's Income: A Case Study in Cat Tien Biosphere Reserve, Vietnam Sang, D.T. Ogata, K. Yabe, M. JOURNAL- FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE KYUSHU UNIVERSITY 2010 VOL 55; NUMB 2, page(s) 397-402. Abstract: Through a case study of Vietnam, this paper explores what happens to neoliberal ideas about development when they encounter the very different political and cultural context of a developing country. The paper argues that although much scholarship tends implicitly or explicitly to emphasise the very great power of neoliberal institutions in our world today, an analysis of continuity and change in Vietnam during two decades of extensive engagement with neoliberal actors suggests that the influence of neoliberalism on the working of the Vietnamese state has been relatively small. The paper seeks both to document and explain this through an account which is attentive to both structure and agency and which in turn sheds new light on the nature of power in our world. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis in the private sector, Vietnam [letter]. Hoa NB, Cobelens FGJ, Sy DN, Nhung NV, Borgdorff MW, Tiemersma EW. Emerg Infect Dis [serial on the Internet]. 2011 Mar [date cited]. First paragraph: In many countries, the private sector (practitioners not employed by government and nongovernment institutions, e.g., hospitals, pharmacies) is a major source of care, even for poor persons, and the area where services for the public are widely available (1,2). However, little information is available from
high-incidence countries about the role of the private sector in tuberculosis (TB) detection and treatment (3). In Vietnam, <40% of all TB cases in Ho Chi Minh City (the largest city in Vietnam and with the highest rate of economic growth in the country) were estimated to be treated in the private sector (4), and half of all patients with a diagnosis of TB in the public sector (National Tuberculosis Program [NTP]) in Ho Chi Minh City initially sought help in the private sector (5). However, this estimate does not reflect private care in the entire country. Free full text http://www.cdc.gov/EID/content/17/3/562.htm.

Distance decay in delivery care utilisation associated with neonatal mortality: A case referent study in northern Vietnam. Author: Målqvist Mats; Sohel Nazmul; Do Tran; Eriksson Leif; Persson Lars-Åke. BMC Public Health, 2010, Volume: 10, Issue: 1. Abstract: -- Background: Efforts to reduce neonatal mortality are essential if the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 is to be met. The impact of spatial dimensions of neonatal survival has not been thoroughly investigated even though access to good quality delivery care is considered to be one of the main priorities when trying to reduce neonatal mortality. This study examined the association between distance from the mother's home to the closest health facility and neonatal mortality, and investigated the influence of distance on patterns of perinatal health care utilisation. -- Methods: A surveillance system of live births and neonatal deaths was set up in eight districts of Quang Ninh province, Vietnam, from July 2008 to December 2009. Case referent design including all neonatal deaths and randomly selected newborn referents from the same population. Interviews were performed with mothers of all subjects and GIS coordinates for mothers' homes and all health facilities in the study area were obtained. Straight-line distances were calculated using ArcGIS software. -- Results: A total of 197 neonatal deaths and 11,708 births were registered and 686 referents selected. Health care utilisation prior to and at delivery varied with distance to the health facility. Mothers living farthest away (4th and 5th quintile, ≥1257 meters) from a health facility had an increased risk of neonatal mortality (OR 1.96, 95% CI 1.40 - 2.75, adjusted for maternal age at delivery and marital status). When stratified for socio-economic factors there was an increased risk for neonatal mortality for mothers with low education and from poor households who lived farther away from a health facility. Mothers who delivered at home had more than twice as long to a health facility compared to mothers who delivered at a health care facility. There was no difference in age at death when comparing neonates born at home or health facility deliveries (p = 0.56). -- Conclusion: Distance to the closest health facility was negatively associated with neonatal mortality risk. Health care utilisation in the prenatal period could partly explain this risk elevation since there was a distance decay in health system usage prior to and at delivery. The geographical dimension must be taken into consideration when planning interventions for improved neonatal survival, especially when targeting socio-economically disadvantaged groups. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/10/762.

Drink-driving in Vietnam: perceptions and risk. T M Nguyen. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A273. [Abstract: Rapidly increasing motorisation and an expanding alcohol industry in Vietnam have placed traffic injury among the leading causes of death. However, there is little local research into the specific contribution of alcohol to this burden and the socio-cultural contexts of drink driving. Objectives (1) To measure alcohol intoxication of male patrons in restaurants and males with traffic-related injuries at an Emergency Department, (2) To estimate risk of traffic injury after acute alcohol consumption using case–crossover analysis, and (3) To compare perceptions toward drink-driving of injured and uninjured males. Methods Male patrons at seven restaurants (n=464) and men admitted to hospital following traffic injuries (n=480) were interviewed and measured for blood alcohol concentration (BAC) by a breathalyzer. Results Among the uninjured restaurant patrons, 76.6% had a BAC over the legal limit (0.08g/100ml) and 39.7% were above 0.15g/100ml. Among patients, 57.5% were over 0.08g/100ml and 45.6% above 0.15g/100ml. The odd-ratio of traffic injury for patients who drank alcohol within 6 h prior to injury was 8.5 (95% CI 5.34 to 13.51) and this followed a clear dose–response relationship. There was no significant cant difference between the two groups of men in perceptions toward drink-driving. Most respondents over-estimated the number of drinks they could consume in 1 h to drive safely and legally and most had never planned to avoid driving after drinking. Most men experienced peer approval for drink-driving while very few perceived risk of detection by the police. Conclusion Programs to raise community awareness and effective legal enforcement are necessary and urgent in Vietnam.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Epidemiology Research Training in Vietnam: Evaluation at the Five Year Mark. Goto, A. Vinh, N.Q. Van, N.T.T. Yokokawa, H. Yasumura, S. Khue, N.T. FUKUSHIMA JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE 2010, VOL 56; PART 1, pages 63-70. Abstract: Recently, the importance of research capacity development has been rediscovered as a vital approach to help strengthen health systems for improved global health. The University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City (UMP) in Vietnam in collaboration with the Department of Public Health at the Fukushima Medical University School of Medicine (PHFMU) developed an epidemiology training course for mid-career Vietnamese physicians. We trained a total of 128 participants over four courses since 2004. In order to balance basic and advanced course content for first-time and returning participants, we encouraged active participation of past graduates in teaching Course IV in 2009. Not only did this provide further training opportunities for advanced learners, it also increased project ownership by Vietnamese participants. Although more rigorous evaluation is needed, we believe that this summary of our past activities presents a useful example for others undertaking similar initiatives. To further upgrade the project in Vietnam, institutional support is required to nurture a strong scientific emphasis as well as self-sustainability in research capacity development. Free full text http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/fms/56/1/63/_pdf.

Equitability in Access to Rural Public Services in Vietnam: An Outlook from the Red River Delta. Le Huu Anh, Giam Quang Do, Bui Thi Lam, Vu Ngoc Huyen, Tran Huu Cuong. International Business and Management, Vol. 2, No. 1. 2011, pp. 209-218. Abstract: In the transition to a market oriented economy, rural public services in Vietnam are moving towards decentralization. public service users now have to pay for service fees, instead of an existing provision where the services were provided at no cost. This paper attempts to answer the questions of how people in rural areas in Vietnam receive services provided by government institutions with respect to their contributions to the government budget, and, how equitability in benefiting rural public services in different groups of people is explored. This will be done by looking closer at basic public services (i.e., education and healthcare) in the Red River Delta, a dynamic and prioritized economic region in Northern Vietnam. It is considered an area with well-equipped public services compared to other rural areas in Vietnam. The empirical findings from the public services in the Red River Delta are good policy implications for those in other rural areas in Vietnam. Free full text http://cscanada.net/index.php/ibm/article/viewFile/1682/2006.

Essential trauma care capacity for road traffic injury in five provinces in Vietnam. T L H Nguyen, L T T Ngoc, and T T H Nguyen. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A63. [Abstract: Background In Vietnam, injury is the leading cause of death in children under 18, and road traffic accidents are the fth leading cause of death. Essential trauma care for road traffic accidents (RTI) is very important in Vietnam. Objectives To assess injury situation and the existing level of essential trauma care (ETC) capacity for RTI in five provinces. Design and Subjects A cross-sectional study was conducted in 15 districts in 2008. We studied 17 district hospitals, 60 commune health stations, 3000 village health workers and volunteers (VHW). Results The injury mortality in 2008 were different between provinces, ranged from 21.17 to 40.69/100 000 (year-1). Road traffic accidents were the leading cause of injury (41.6%). The 20–59 group had the highest proportion of injury (63.6%). Three out of five provinces have an emergency medical centre. Commune health stations and district hospitals provided trauma care for 8.5% and 30.7% of injured cases respectively. Less than 40% of district hospitals and 30% of commune health stations had enough equipment for ETC. From 8.8% to 37% of VHW were provided some basic first aid equipment. Only 36.7% of VWH had provided first aid for RTI and 31.2% of VWH were trained on first aid for RTI. Conclusion The results reveal that RTI is a major health problem in five provinces and the ETC capacity for RTI is weak. Study results may assist decision-makers in identifying interventions to improve ETC capacity.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

determinants of neonatal mortality through a case-referent design, with special emphasis on socio-economic factors and health system utilization. -- METHODS: From July 2008 until December 2009, we included 183 neonatal mortality cases and 599 referents and their mothers were interviewed. -- RESULTS: Ethnicity was the main socio-economic determinant for neonatal mortality (OR 2.08, 95% CI 1.39-3.10, adjusted for mothers' education and household economic status). Health system utilization before and at delivery could partly explain the risk elevation, with an increased risk of neonatal mortality for mothers who did not attend antenatal care and who delivered at home (OR 4.79, 95% CI 2.98-7.71). However, even if mothers of an ethnic minority attended antenatal care or delivered at a health facility, the increased risk for this group was sustained. -- CONCLUSION: Our study demonstrates inequity in neonatal survival that is related to ethnicity rather than family economy or education level of the mother and highlights the need to include the ethnic dimension in the efforts to reduce neonatal mortality. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Evaluation of the state of water resources using Modified Water Poverty Index: a case study in the Srepok River basin, Vietnam - Cambodia. Van Ty, T. Sunada, K. Ichikawa, Y. Oishi, S. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT 2010, VOL 8; NUMB 3/4, pages 305-318. Abstract: In order to evaluate clearly the state of water resources in the Srepok River basin - a typical rural area in South-East Asia, a Modified Water Poverty Index (MWPI) was developed. Indicators of five components of MWPI were evaluated using the benchmark approach. The cross-correlation among indicators of each component as well as among components were checked; and the high-correlated indicators were eliminated. The calculated MWPI and its components were then mapped and analysed to three different scales (basin, sub-basin and district). From the overall MWPI score, a general conclusion was drawn on the water poverty situation in the basin. The results reveal the variation of water poverty across the basin with the overall MWPI of 64.8, indicating that the basin is in a 'medium-low' water-poor situation. 'Access' and 'Capacity' components are observed to be the main causes of the water problem in the basin. There is a high disparity among the five components of MWPI when spatial and temporal variation of variables is taken into account. It is recommended that the state of water resources should be assessed based on the components rather than the composite index. The differences that scales make indicate the importance of selecting an appropriate scale for water resources assessment. By using the benchmark approach, the pertinence of MWPI results are improved and the potential for wider applicability can be extended. By examining the indicators in the five components, a policy for water development and management is proposed and specific interventions recommended. This result can provide useful information for decision-makers in prioritizing investments in the water sector. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

From Visibility to Readability: Domestic Tourism in Asia: a Few Reflections from China, India, Indonesia and Vietnam. Cabasset, C. Peyvel, E. Sacareau, I. Taunay, B. ESPACE POPULATIONS SOCIETES 2010, NUMB 2/3, pages 221-235. Abstract: Because of a focus laid on western international tourism, the extent of domestic tourism has been ignored for a long time in the so-called Southern countries. And yet, the stakes are high, especially in Asia, regarding the mobilized masses, the significance of these new mobilities and the tourist forms they engender, which arise from a complex hybridization between the integration of western places and practices and the invention of specific forms. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Healthcare response to domestic violence in Vietnam: lessons learnt from interventions and policy implications. M Le Thi Phuong and P Le Tuan. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A56-A57. [Abstract: This paper reviewed the lessons learnt from pilot intervention models on healthcare response to domestic violence and provided recommendations for a comprehensive healthcare strategy to support domestic violence victims in Vietnam. The intervention models were implemented at five hospitals in Vietnam. The interventions included training of health staff on gender sensitivity, domestic violence (DV), and skills to identify and support victims. In addition, guidelines for health providers working with victims were developed and used by health workers. The favourable environment for DV prevention and screen was established. The counselling centres were established in the studied hospitals to provide psychological counselling and other supports to victims. Findings From 2002 to June 2010 more than 2300 victims of DV were identified and received medical treatment and emotional counselling. Intervention has brought about changes in health providers knowledge,
attitude and practice. However, health providers have yet adequately linked their knowledge and awareness with professional duties in DV prevention and screen. Screening on sexual abuse was not culturally practical in health facilities. Follow-up with victims after discharge from hospital was limited. Conclusions The lessons learnt from intervention models can be used for development of a comprehensive healthcare strategy to support GBV/DV victims. This strategy should include strengthening advocacy for health providers, especially health leaders/managers on DV prevention; ensuring health providers responsibility to addressing GBV as an essential component of their routine professional work; and monitoring the screening and providing healthcare for DV victims in health facilities.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Informality, business outcomes and heterogeneity among rural non-farm household enterprises in Vietnam: an application of multivariate analysis. Chi Nguyen Huu & Thu Tran Kim & Bich Tran Thi (2011). Vietnam Economist Annual Meeting (VEAM) 2010, the 3rd Conference, Cua Lo, Nghe An, Vietnam, August 24-25. Abstract: This paper highlights some features in terms of informality and heterogeneity of the rural non-farm household enterprises in Vietnam. Multivariate data analysis is applied to the data set of Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey in 2004. The results show that informality is largely explained by firm size, initial capital, and economic outcomes. Cluster analysis is, then, used to identify economic typology of rural non-farm household enterprises. Five distinct groups are identified from the analysis, showing big differentials from one another in terms of economic activities and outcomes, linkages to social networks, and heads of enterprise characteristics. The results are the first-ever empirical evidence on informality and heterogeneity of the rural non-farm household enterprises in Vietnam, which are valuable for policy responses. Free full text http://veam.org/papers2010/21-%20Informality-business-outcome-nfhe_CHI_THU_BICH.pdf

Injury mortality surveillance in Vietnam: results and recommendations. T L H Nguyen and L T T Ngoc. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A93. [Abstract: Background In Vietnam, the rate of deaths due to injury was three times as high as that of deaths due to infectious diseases and injury is the leading cause of death in children under 18. Injury surveillance system was set up in 2005. Objectives To assess injury mortality and quality of injury mortality data recording. Design and Subjects We studied injury death statistic of about 90% of total 10 000 communes in 2005–2008 and conducted indept-interview with 42 health staff and 70 family members of death cases due to injuries. Results Injury mortality decreased from 45.01/100 000 (year-1) in 2005 to 4384/100 000 (year-1) in 2008. The 20–59 group had the highest proportion of injury mortality, followed by group of over 60. Road traffic injuries were the leading cause of death among those 15 aged and over. Drowning accounted for the highest injury mortality among those under 15. Poisoning was more common in the 20 and more age group. Falling accounted for the highest proportion of injury mortality in the 60 and more age group. Proportion of village health workers trained on recording injury mortality was low. Causes of death had not been identified and classified correctly in many communes. Conclusions and Recommendations This study provides use baseline information on injury mortality. The results reveal that death due to injury caused mainly by road traffic injuries and drowning and the quality of injury mortality data recording was poor and needs to be improved.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

was to assess the injury burden in Vietnam. Periodic injury reports of 63 provinces and cities and road traffic injury (RTI) reports of 100 central and provincial hospitals are described. In comparison to 6 months of 2008 and 6 months of 2009 injury cases increased to 26,112 cases and death cases were reduced by 0.3%. The 20–60 age group had the highest proportions of injury morbidity and mortality. Injury morbidity and mortality were higher among males. The study showed that road traffic accidents were the leading cause of injury morbidity, followed by occupational accident, fall and violence. In comparison with 6 months of 2008, road traffic injury morbidity and mortality decreased by 2.1% and 0.9%, respectively. The study showed how RTI accounted for 33.5% of hospitalized injury cases. Brain injury among RTI accounted for 24.3% and were mainly male (74.3%), those over 60 years (27.2%) and under 4 years (26.8%). The study showed how 19.2% of the brain injury cases did not wear helmets. The study showed how drinking-driving among RTI accounted for 8.8%. RTI involving motorcycles accounted for 66.2% and injury data were different between different ministries. In the first six months of 2009, the health sector reported 68,510 hospitalized RTI cases while the Ministry of Transportation reported only 5,127 RTI cases. Injury is a major health problem in Vietnam. This study described how the injury surveillance system provides information data for decision making, planning and interventions. However, injury data from different sectors should be united and integrated. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Injury surveillance system in Vietnam: achievements and challenges.** T Khieu, Thi Quynh, and L Tran Thi Ngoc. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A175. [Abstract: Vietnam is coping with an alarming increase of injury morbidity and mortality. Injury data is an indispensable component for developing and implementing prevention policies and programs. Injury information in the health sector is obtained through a regular system. This surveillance system has been conducted since 2003 aimed to examine injury causes in community quarterly, 6-monthly, 9-monthly and annually. At grass root level, injury cases are recorded by volunteers and then gathered at communal health station. Next, a report on injury situation of the commune is sent to district preventive health centre. At this level, statistics is synthesised and submitted to the provincial preventive medicine centre. At last, Ministry of Health is responsible for collecting reports from 64 provinces nationwide. Statistics indicates that in the first half of 2009, there were 497,611 injury cases. Among that, the number of deaths was 3492 which accounted for 0.7% of total of injuries and dropped 0.3% in compare with 2008. The morbidity and mortality in age group of 20–60 were highest with 62.9% and 70.8%, respectively. Road traffic accidents were the predominant cause of injuries with 39% of total cases. The surveillance system provides a great amount of valuable data for injury interventions conducting and safe community developing. Now 100% provinces implement the system, whereas there were a negligible number of provinces done it in 2003. However, there are still some gaps in the system such as inadequate and incorrect information, lack of staff and equipments.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Intermediate goods trade between Vietnam and China.** Ha Thi Hong Van. 2011. In Intermediate goods trade in East Asia: Economic deepening through FTAs/EPAs, edited by Mitsuhiro Kagami, BRC research report no. 5, Bangkok Research Center, IDE-JETRO, Bangkok, Thailand. Introduction: China’s economic rise has affected world economics in various ways. For each country, these effects are different. Vietnam and China share many similarities in terms of economics, politics, culture and society. Both countries have transformed from a centrally planned economy to a socialist-oriented market economy. In addition, Vietnam and China have undergone industrialization. However, Vietnam’s development level is lower than China’s; the per capital GDP of Vietnam is about one-third that of China. The Chinese economic scale overwhelms Vietnam’s with much faster growth. China has a large population, which means it has big market potential. Therefore, my question in this research paper is: Can Vietnam seize the opportunity to stimulate export activities, such as Mexico did in taking advantages of intra-industry trad with the United States? This paper aims to examine the intermediate goods trade between Vietnam and China in the 1998–2008 period. The method used in this paper is literature review combined with analysis of data from UN Comtrade, Vietnam’s Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and the Lai Chau and Lao Cai provinces of Northern Vietnam. Full text http://www.ide.go.jp/English/Publish/Download/Brc/pdf/05_chapter10.pdf.
Is Vietnam economic paradigm sustainable for catch up. Anh Nguyen Tu & Thuy Nguyen Thu (2011). Abstract: In the course of catching-up, Vietnam faces risks in two sectors: in real sector and in financial sector. In this paper we focus mostly on risk in real sector: the risk of getting stuck in middle-income trap. Vietnam is still far lagged behind her neighbors and much more further to developed economies. Does the economic paradigm that Vietnam follows in the last two decades allow her to catch up with those economies? We show that Vietnam’s economic growth in the last two decades based essentially on cheap but low skill labor and physical capital. Participation in international and regional production network probably lock Vietnam in low-tech position, hence low value added. If Vietnam keeps on growing in present paradigm, hardly can it catch up the neighboring economies. Free full text http://veam.org/papers2010/09%20-%20Vietnam%20economy-Tu%20Anh.pdf


Low-value freshwater fish market in the south central Vietnam, a case study from Khanh Hoa Province. Hung, P.Q. AQUACULTURE ASIA 2010, VOL 15; NUMB 3, pages 22-25. Abstract: Khanh Hoa is a coastal province in south central Viet Nam and well-known for its tourist industry and with availability of diversity of good quality seafood. However, freshwater aquaculture plays an important role in contributing to total production of aquaculture and providing protein sources for communities living far from the sea. Therefore, to help better understanding about the low value freshwater fi sh market in the south central Vietnam, we investigated freshwater fish market in Khanh Hoa province as a case study representing in the southern coastal provinces in region. The current study was undertaken with an emphasis on consumption, species composition available in local markets and the use of low-value freshwater fi sh in households in the province. The present study hopes to contribute to better understanding a picture of freshwater fi sh market in coastal provinces in Vietnam, where marine fi sh dominates and freshwater becomes minor in comparison to Red River delta at the north and Mekong River Delta at the south in the country. We conducted a survey in nine markets. Six key markets were in Nha Trang city, and the other three were in Cam Ranh, Dien Khanh and Ninh Hoa districts in Khanh Hoa province. There were three visits each to the respective markets at monthly intervals in October, November and December, 2008. The total fish sellers interviewed in October, November and December were 31, 30 and 29, respectively. Questionnaire was prepared based on issues related to market. Direct interview at the market was applied to collect information. In each market, three to five freshwater fish sellers were interviewed. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistical methods. Free full text http://library.enaca.org/AquacultureAsia/Articles/oct-dec-2010/5-low-value-fish-vietnam.pdf

Maternal reports of child health practices in Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam. CLARICE N. CHAU, KATHRYN H. JACOBSEN and BAO NGOC VU. JRuralTropPublicHealth 2011, VOL 10, p. 15 – 20. ABSTRACT: Objectives: To examine current rates of participation in several child health practices promoted in the 1980s in urban Vietnam as part of the GOBI (growth monitoring, oral rehydration therapy, breastfeeding, immunisation) initiative. Methods: In the 1980s during the GOBI campaign, District 4 of Ho Chi Minh City offered community-based child health classes focused on the four GOBI areas. In 2008, 297 mothers of children aged 5 or younger in District 4 were interviewed about their child health practices. Results: In total, 84% of mothers reported using a growth chart for their child, 56% reported treating diarrhoea with oral rehydration therapy, 75% reported breastfeeding their child for at least some duration, and 98% said their child had received at least one immunisation. Additionally, nearly all women reported treating drinking water, about three-quarters reported washing their hands regularly, over two-thirds reported using insecticides in the home, and just over half reported that they and their children slept under a bed net. Conclusions: Mothers in the 2000s reported fairly high levels of adherence to the core child health practices promoted by the GOBI initiative in the 1980s. The rates of healthy parenting practices in this study appeared similar to those reported in the 1990s and higher than those from the early 1980s prior to the implementation of GOBI. Free full text http://www.jcu.edu.au/jrtph/vol/JRTPH_Vol10_p15-20_Jacobsen.pdf.
Money Supply M1 and the Stock Price Behavior in a Transitional Economy: The Case of Vietnam. Nguyen, C.V. JOURNAL OF EMERGING MARKETS 2010, VOL 15; NUMB 2, pages 21-32. Abstract: This study uses the Momentum Threshold Autoregressive model to document an asymmetric co-integration relationship between the Vietnamese stock price index and the money supply. Empirical results revealed Granger bidirectionally asymmetric co-integration causality between the stock price index and the narrowest defined money supply. The findings also suggest that the stock price is more responsive to signals of possible expansionary monetary policy as reflected in increases in the money supply M1 to capture the gains from the bull market. As to the long run adjustment, the estimation results suggest that the stock prices adjust to the long-run equilibrium faster when the monetary authorities pursue an expansionary monetary policy than when they pursue a contractionary policy. Moreover, the results indicate that the Vietnamese money supply is weakly exogenous in the asymmetric co-integration relationship between the stock price and the money supply. The empirical findings reveal the moral hazard phenomenon, which may be attributable to the institutional arrangements in the Vietnamese economy. The resulting temperament of the equity investors appears to imply that the government will, in different ways, bail them out of financial losses; therefore, they are not much concerned about the negative consequences of contractionary monetary policy both in the short and long run. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Motorcycle helmet usage to improve road traffic safety in Vietnam. T A Trinh and P Le Tuan. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A137-A138. [Abstract: The number and severity of road accident are increasing, especially motorcycle mode. 50% among the road accident was traumatic brain injury (TBI) with 25% rate of death. From 2007, the Government force motorcyclist to wear helmet, then the number of accident reduced 40%, TBI reduced 30% and the rate of death reduced to 15% for the short time. However, from the end of 2008, even accident number decreasing, number of TBI and death is jumping. This paper aims to analyse the reason of TBI and death happening increased, by doing specific surveys. The first survey was taken to 1038 motorcyclists to identify the use of helmet and reason of using standard/non-standard helmet including five factors: price, type, colour and form, brand, quality. The second survey was taken at the helmet market and the third survey toward 9 traffic safety agencies. It was reveal that most of people use non-standard helmet even those with certification stamp. According to the fourth survey that was taken to five hospitals, number of road accident into the hospital occupied of a whole. Out of road accident cases, a half were physical-broken injuries and a half were traumatic brain injuries. Data show in many cases, motorcycle drivers wear nonstandard helmet (of a whole) or in a wrong way (left), then the accident would be heavy and the victim would suffer TBI. Therefore enforcement and education is very important to change people’s attitude and awareness to improve road safety in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Oral Health Status of Vietnamese Adults: Findings From the National Oral Health Survey of Vietnam 1999. Loc Giang Do, Andrew John Spencer, Kaye Frances Roberts-Thomson, Hai Dinh Trinh, and Thuy Thanh Nguyen. Asia Pac J Public Health. 2011; 23:228-236. [Abstract: Background. The National Oral Health Survey of Vietnam 1999 was conducted to inform policy development. Aims. This article aims to describe the oral health status, analyze its socioeconomic distribution, and evaluate change over time in the oral health of the adult population of Vietnam. Methods. A multistaged stratified sampling process was used. Adults aged 18+ years completed a social survey and were examined by trained and calibrated dentists. Results. Oral symptoms were frequent. Dental care utilization was low and mostly problem driven. One third of adults had periodontal pockets. Calculus was highly prevalent. Caries level was moderate with a mean decayed, missing, and filled teeth score of 4.98 (SD 5.7), with most as untreated decay. Factors related to caries were gender, hygiene practices, socioeconomic status, location, and dental visiting. Conclusions. The oral health status of the Vietnamese adult population was compromised by various factors. There was indication of deteriorating oral health of this population. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

analyze its socioeconomic distribution, and to evaluate change over time in the oral health of Vietnamese children. Methods. A multistaged stratified sampling process was employed. Children aged 6 to 17 years were examined by trained and calibrated dental examiners. A parental questionnaire was used. Drinking water was analyzed. Results. Preventive oral health behaviors and dental care utilization were infrequent. The decayed, missing, and filled surfaces referring to primary dentition (dmfs) and permanent dentition (DMFS) scores (SD) were 8.9 (11.3) and 2.5 (4.4), respectively. Primary caries experience was associated with fluoride level in drinking water, age, gender, residential status, and geographical location. Permanent caries was also associated with dental visiting and parental education. There was an increase in the prevalence of dental caries in the Vietnamese child population compared with 10 years earlier. Conclusion. The oral health of Vietnamese children was characterized by high level of dental caries with variation among socioeconomic groups. It suggests the need for a population oral health program that includes measures to target high-need children. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

PCBs in Central Vietnam coastal lagoons: Levels and trends in dynamic environments. Silvia Giuliani, Rossano Piazza, Luca Giorgio Bellucci, Nguyen Huu Cu, Marco Vecchiato, Stefania Romano, Cristian Mugnai, Dang Hoai Nhon, Mauro Frignani. Marine Pollution Bulletin, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 12 March 2011. Abstract: PCBs were analysed in surficial sediments and selected sediment cores collected between 2002 and 2008 in Central Vietnam coastal lagoons. The aim was to determine contamination levels and trends, and to evaluate the effects of anthropogenic pressures and natural events. Samples were mostly fine-grained with low total PCB concentrations (0.367–44.7 µg kg−1). Atmospheric transport and post depositional processes modify to some degree the fingerprint of PCB inputs to the environment favouring the predominance of 3, 4 and 5 chlorinated congeners. The similarity of congener distributions in contemporary surficial samples also suggests the presence of a unique source over the entire study area, probably connected to mobilisation and long range transports from land-based stocks. The removal of consistent sediment layers is hypothesised based on repeated samplings of the same area. Natural meteorological events (such as typhoons) are suspected to be responsible for these sediment losses. -- Research highlights: ► PCBs were analysed in repeated sediment samplings of Central Vietnam’s lagoons. ► PCB contamination in these environments is presently not particularly worrying. ► PCB sources are principally remote urbanized locations and land-based stocks. ► Long distance atmospheric transport affects also the observed PCB composition. ► The effect of natural and anthropogenic events is evidenced by repeated samplings. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V6N-52C842K7&_user=1916569&_coverDate=03%2F12%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=bc04e6a16fee33e8e5ca657c21e9a61c&searchtype=a.

Pesticide Pollution in Surface- and Groundwater by Paddy Rice Cultivation: A Case Study from Northern Vietnam. Marc Lamers, Maria Anyusheva, Nguyen La, Van Vien Nguyen, Thilo Streck. CLEAN – Soil, Air, Water. Article first published online: 11 MAR 2011. Abstract: This study was designed to examine the environmental exposure of surface- and groundwater pollution in remote mountainous regions of northern Vietnam. In 2008, we monitored the loss of four commonly applied pesticides (imidacloprid, fenitrothion, fenobucarb, dichlorvos) from paddy rice farming systems to a receiving stream on the watershed scale and quantified groundwater pollution. For the entire monitoring period, runoff loss of pesticides from the watershed was estimated to range between 0.4% (dichlorvos) and 16% (fenitrothion) of the total applied mass. These losses were correlated well with the octanol–water partition coefficient and water solubility of pesticides (r² = 0.78–0.99). In the groundwater collected from eight wells, all target pesticides were frequently detected. Maximum measured concentrations were 0.47, 0.22, 0.17, and 0.07 µg L−1 for fenitrothion, imidaclorpid, fenobucarb, and dichlorvos, respectively. Our results strongly indicate that under the current management practice pesticide use in paddy fields poses a serious environmental problem in mountainous regions of northern Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

which is the biggest city. It is revealing that number of accident was not distributed in a whole road network but focus on specific points of the network which may be called black spot or hotspot. The paper aimed to develop, to examine and to apply a predict model for identifying hotspot with regarding to the road network, the traffic flow information characteristic and traffic accident data of Hochiminh city. Number, type, time and location of traffic accident would be collected following kind of road and intersection in early 5 year. The research outputs were build an appropriate model to predict black spot or hotspot in each kind of road and intersection and to propose some measures for increasing traffic safety level and preventing implicit traffic accidents. Besides that, there are not only number of traffic accident but also the detail and potential traffic accident reasons to be found very clearly. Hence, they will be very helpful for decision making of the local governor and the relative authorities to reduce road traffic accident in future. The research found a new approach to identify and predict hotspot and high accident locations in Hochiminh city by a predict model that have not mentioned in Vietnam.

Present but not Powerful: Neoliberalism, the State, and Development in Vietnam  Gainsborough, M. GLOBALIZATIONS 2010 VOL 7; NUMBER 4, page(s) 475-488. Abstract: Through a case study of Vietnam, this paper explores what happens to neoliberal ideas about development when they encounter the very different political and cultural context of a developing country. The paper argues that although much scholarship tends implicitly or explicitly to emphasise the very great power of neoliberal institutions in our world today, an analysis of continuity and change in Vietnam during two decades of extensive engagement with neoliberal actors suggests that the influence of neoliberalism on the working of the Vietnamese state has been relatively small. The paper seeks both to document and explain this through an account which is attentive to both structure and agency and which in turn sheds new light on the nature of power in our world. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Rapidly changing aquaculture scene in the Red River Delta, Vietnam. Edwards, P. AQUACULTURE ASIA 2010, VOL 15; NUMB 4, pages 3-10. Abstract: Major changes are taking place in two traditional integrated aquaculture systems, the VAC and wastewater-fed aquaculture in the Red River Delta, Vietnam, especially in peri-urban Hanoi and adjacent provinces. Traditional aquaculture is integrated with other human activity systems as these provided the only available sources of nutritional inputs for farmed aquatic organisms in the past. However, farmers are intensifying to earn more money through introduction of new or improved higher value species, sometimes raised in monoculture, and increasing integration with feedlot livestock and/or using pelleted feed. Full text available upon request.

Remittances, Living Arrangements and the Welfare of the Elderly in Vietnam. Pfau, W.D. Long, G.T. ASIAN AND PACIFIC MIGRATION JOURNAL 2010, VOL 19; NUMB 4, pages 447-472. Abstract: During a time of rapid economic transformation in Vietnam, we examine two possibilities for elderly support: living together with children and receiving remittances. Our analysis uses four household surveys conducted in Vietnam between 1992 and 2004. With the highly detailed 1997/98 survey, we find that 73.1 percent of Vietnamese elderly are living with children and 34.8 percent were either receiving remittances directly or married to a recipient. From our logistic regression analysis, we can further determine that living with children and remittances both serve continuing roles for elderly support, and our findings suggest that expanding the pension system in Vietnam can potentially play an important role in reducing elderly poverty without crowding out these other support mechanisms. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply. Free full text of working paper version http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/19121/1/vdfwp0901_Pfau_and_Long_Remittances_and_LivingArrangementsElderlyVietnam.pdf

Road safety for Xe-Om riders in Hoa An Bus Station, Da Nang City, Vietnam. N Nguyen Phuong, K Xuyen, T Nguyen, and J Passmore. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A67-A68. [Abstract: Xe-om (motorbike-taxi) is a very popular form of passengers transportation in Vietnam. However, xe-om riders have little knowledge about quality helmet, ways of correct use and the risks of drunk driving. This initiative provided education on helmet use and drink-driving prevention for them at Hoa An Bus Station, Da Nang City, aiming at improving their own
and passengers’ safety. Pre and post evaluations were conducted to assess the changes in KAP of xe-om riders after interventions. Activities 120 xe-om riders were targeted for interventions from February to October 2009. Xe-om riders were given trainings and practice on selecting quality helmets and its correct use. Risks of drink driving were also provided through talks, and visual education materials. Hoa An bus station management and health staff provided random monitoring & day-today enforcement of helmet use. Results Helmet wearing was maintained at 100% among xe-om riders. Rate of drink driving reduced to 6.7% (2009) from 67.8% (2008). Knowledge on selection of quality helmet has also increased sharply. Important quality criteria such as EPS liner or the shell have increased from 26.27% to 97.45% and 13.56% to 100%, respectively. Knowledge of correct helmet use such as wearing upright on head with straps fit below the chin has increased from 36% to over 95%. Conclusions Selected education and communication activities for target group coupled with close monitoring and enforcement can bring positive changes to the practice of xe-om riders.} Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Social Capital and Savings Behaviour: Evidence from Vietnam.** Carol Newman & Finn Tarp & Katleen Van Den Broeck (2011). IIIS Discussion Paper No. 351. Abstract: We explore the extent to which social capital can play a role in imparting information about the returns to saving where potential knowledge gaps and mistrust exists. Using data from Vietnam we find strong evidence to support the hypothesis that information transmitted via reputable social organizations increases the proportion of liquid assets held in the form of deposits that yield a return. Our results imply that targeting information on the benefits of deposit saving through formal networks or groups would be effective in increasing the number of households that save at grassroots level. Free full text: http://www.tcd.ie/iiis/documents/discussion/pdfs/iiisd351.pdf.

**Speciation of Arsenic in Environmental Samples of the Nha Trang Harbor, Vietnam, Using HPLC Coupled HG-AAS.** Lan Anh Le, Anh Duc Trinh, Dinh Thuat Nguyen and Minh Ly Bui. Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology 2011 Mar 2. [Epub ahead of print]. Abstract: A coupled High Performance Liquid Chromatography – Hydride Generation-Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy system was used to determine the speciation of Arsenic in samples from the Nha Trang Harbor, Vietnam. Concentrations of Arsenic in seawater, pore water, suspended solid, and sediment were 4.12–9.81 µg/L, 13.10–24.32 µg/L, 1.87–6.42 µg/g, and 3.37–9.06 µg/g, respectively. Extraction using H3PO4 + NH2OH•HCl and ultrasonic digestion was optimized to yield a 76–85% of total Arsenic. Arsenic (III) was the most abundant species in suspended solids and sediments whereas Arsenic (V) represented for 30–50% of Arsenic (III) concentration. Monomethylarsonic acid and Dimethylarsinic acid species were undetectable. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Technology Transfer to Vietnam for Process Innovation through Engineer Exchanges under China plus One Strategy, Firm-level Evidence.** Tomohiro Machikita & Chi Binh Truong Thi & Yasushi Ueki (2011). DEPOCEN Working Paper Series No. 2011/17. Abstract: Increasing wages in coastal areas and the risk of Yuan appreciation in China will encourage firms in China to adopt China plus One strategy. More firms establish plants in Vietnam to take advantage of supporting industries in China and hedge China risk. Hanoi and its surrounding region will be one of the main destinations for FDIs into manufacturing sectors. Although Vietnam can provide cheap labor forces, firms in Vietnam do not have sufficient technological and managerial capabilities to participate in international production networks. International technology transfer is needed for Vietnam to achieve international business standards. This paper presents firm-level evidence on process innovation through technology transfer to firms in Hanoi. We emphasize engineer exchanges as a channel of technology transfer. A case study of Japanese firm invested from China to establish a plant in Hanoi is also introduced to complement the empirical result. Free full text: http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/Yasushi%20Ueki/Technology%20Transfer%20to%20Vietnam%20for%20Process%20Innovation%20through%20Engineer%20Exchanges%20under%20China%20plus%20One%20Strategy%20Firm%20level%20Evidence_DEPOCENWP.pdf

has been very successful for the last two decades, since the adoption of “Doi moi” in 1986. Over the last two decades, an economic growth rate in Vietnam has been one of the highest worldwide (with GDP growing by respectively 8% per year). The increase of the Vietnamese share of world trade is the highest of all major Asian exporters (including China) since the mid-1990s. « Why is Vietnam so competitive with respect to other Asian exporters? » This paper considers Vietnam's competitiveness, its definition and measurement. The major characteristic of East Asian economic development is rapid industrialization. It has been accelerated by export orientation and a specialization pattern that has evolved from simple (ie garment, shoes, toys, etc.) to more sophisticated products. Countries have used their comparative advantage to catch up industrialized economies. According to Okita (1985) the great diversity among the Asian nations in their stages of development and resource endowments. Free full text:

The development and implementation of mandatory motorcycle helmet legislation in Vietnam. J Passmore, N Phuong Nam, N Lan Huong, and N Trong Ha. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A217-A218. [Abstract: Road traffic injuries are a leading cause of death and disability in Vietnam with 11 243 deaths and 7771 serious injuries on the roads in 2008, of which an estimated 60% of deaths occurred in motorcycle riders and passengers. Motorcycles represent 95% of Vietnam’s 27 million registered vehicles. In recognition of this problem, Vietnam has had partial motorcycle helmet legislation since 1995, however for a variety of reasons, implementation and enforcement have been limited. On 29 June 2007, Vietnam introduced the first universal mandatory helmet law. Taking effect on 15 December 2007, this legislation covered all riders and passengers on all roads. Penalties were increased tenfold and cohorts of police were mobilised for enforcement. Despite past barriers to enforcement, prioritisation within traffic police resulted in 680 000 infringements being issued for non-wearing in 2008. In selected provinces, helmet wearing increased significantly in the first 6 months of the helmet law. In Danang, for example, increasing from 27% to 99%. Preliminary data from 20 hospitals indicated that the risk of head injuries and deaths decreased by 16% and 18%, respectively; in the 3 months after the helmet law was introduced. Vietnam has a long history of limited effectiveness in helmet legislation. However, through political leadership, advance public education and stringent enforcement from the day the legislation took effect, reductions in head injuries and deaths are evident. Continual monitoring the implementation of the legislation has identified ed loopholes detrimental to the effectiveness of the law which have subsequently either have been or are being addressed.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The Impacts of Corporate Governance On the Performance of Privatized Firms In Vietnam. Tran Thi, Que Giang (2011). DRM-CEREG, Paris Dauphine University. Abstract: This paper examines the impact of corporate governance on the performance of 450 privatized firms in Vietnam. To study the effect of changes in management and the role of state ownership on the performance of privatized firms, we utilize a panel of 450 Vietnamese firms privatized over the 2000-2004 period. As the state ownership of these firms was determined exogenously, we avoid the simultaneity problem often present in studies on transition economies where existing managers become owners or are replaced. In addition, due to the limited number of managers with market-economy skills in Vietnam, we avoid the selection problem often present in studies for market economies where new managers may be better suited than existing managers to manage the firm. Free full text

Training survival swim to prevent drowning for children at primary school in Da Nang city, Summer 2009. V Nguyen, C Pham, and M Linnan. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A142. [Abstract: Drowning is a global public health problem. In Vietnam, according to Vietnam Multi-centre Injury Survey, drowning was the leading killer of children under 18 years old with the rate of 22.6/100 000 annually. The drowning rate of children is 10 times bigger than developed country in comparison. Researches gave evident that training on survival swim could be the most achieved method to reduce risks of children drowning. The SwimSafe program aims to train 5000 children from Da nang 20 lessons of survival swimming and water safety knowledge in 3 months summer
2009. Three kinds of model were practiced as followed: ten portable pools based at the primary schools, one community pool and two beach locations. Training materials were revised and translated from Royal Life Saving Society Australia (RLSSA) documents which can be applied on local situation and physical strength of Vietnamese children. 120 instructors and 8 lifeguards were recruited and trained that included 19 RLSSA certified instructors. After 3 months program, total 4718 children participated in the certification test with requirements of continuously swimming 25 meters and floating for 90 s, demonstrating basic knowledge of water safety and, for children over 10 years old, basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation techniques. The number of boys participated as much as girls, highest numbers are focused on 9 and 10 years old. 25 m swimming and 90 s floating capacity were in direct ratio with ages and attendances. SwimSafe program was touched the success. Lots of worthy experiences learnt could be applied to other communities in Vietnam.

Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


**Vietnam: Food security in a rice-exporting country.** Kazunari Tsukada. 2011. In The world food crisis and the strategies of Asian rice exporters. IDE-JETRO. Introduction: This chapter examines the role of Vietnam’s policy in the development of its rice economy as well as in the achievement of national food security. In what ways export restrictions can be implemented under current policy arrangements will also be examined. The emphasis is placed on obtaining a precise perspective regarding the role of rice-export policy over the past several decades, which in turn will be a key to understanding Vietnam’s responses to the recent food crisis. Although export restrictions were repeatedly applied in Vietnam, the country had never encountered such a sharp rise in global rice prices before 2008. Indeed, unintended consequences were observed arising from export restrictions during the food crisis. Therefore, this chapter finally discusses potential problems of export restrictions, and draws some lessons for Vietnam. Free full text http://www.ide.go.jp/English/Publish/Download/Spot/pdf/201102_05.pdf.

**Working together to make a difference in child injury prevention in Vietnam.** A Nguyen. Inj. Prev. 2010; 16:A274-A275. [Abstract: Every day in Viet Nam, injuries takes away the lives of more than 20 children and adolescents (aged 0–19) and mortality represents only the tip of the iceberg in terms of the real burden of injury. It is estimated that for every child injury related death, 12 children are admitted to hospital or permanently disabled and 34 children require medical care or miss school because of injury. UNICEF has been working with the Government of Viet Nam to combat child injuries since 2001 through public awareness raising, policy advocacy and model demonstration. Important achievements have been obtained in this field, contributing to raising awareness of national public, and to advocating policy makers on child injury prevention. Today, child injury is no longer an invisible issue in Viet Nam. However, work in this area is just getting started. Child injury prevention remains a huge challenge in Viet Nam that will require continued commitment of a wide range of partners, sectors and communities under a strong governmental leadership. In the coming years, UNICEF Vietnam will continue to support Vietnamese Government in the following areas:  ▶ Develop a comprehensive plan of action on child injury prevention, which includes legislative, enforcement and environmental changes to support existing education and public awareness campaigns;  ▶ Enhance inter-sectoral coordination of child injury prevention and ▶ Improve the quality and quantity of data for child injury prevention.] Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

2011 March issue - Supplementary

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After the Reforms: Determinants of Wage Growth and Change in Wage Inequality in Vietnam - 1998-2008. FANG Zheng, Chris SAKELLARIOU. MPRA Paper No. 27518, September 2010. Abstract: The Vietnam “renovation” reforms were implemented during the 1990s, but their full effect was only felt several years later. We present evidence on the developments in real wage growth and inequality in Vietnam from 1998 to 2008. Wage growth was underpinned by changes in the wage structure (mainly associated with experience group) and residual changes. Growth in productive characteristics (mainly education) contributed to wage growth only at higher points of the wage distribution. Conventional measures of inequality as well as a decomposition of the Gini coefficient show that wage inequality decreased sharply through the 1990s until 2006, but levelled-off subsequently. The main contributors to changing inequality were again education (through the composition effect) and over-time changes in the return to experience. The paper also discusses the possible effects of minimum wage policies on wage inequality in Vietnam. Free full text http://www3.ntu.edu.sg/hss2/egc/wp/2010/2010-06(revised17Jan11).pdf or http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/27518/1/MPRA_paper_27518.pdf.

Analysis on Vietnam's Economic Development and the Economic Cooperation between Sino-Vietnam. Gao Ge. Asia-Pacific Economic Review 2010. Abstract: Vietnam provides a bigger platform for economic cooperation between Sino-Vietnam with its rapid economic growth, particularly after finished CAFTA. It is a key for further expanding the cooperation between the both sides with increasing investment in Vietnam by Chinese businessmen. They can betterly use the rules of origin in CAFTA with investment for expanding China’s foreign trade. It benefits for their investment effect to understand the business environment and invest in industrial parks in Vietnam, and make use of the cross-border economic cooperation zones between Sino-Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Antiretroviral therapy: unmet need and associated socio-demographic characteristics among HIV-positive women in Haiphong, Vietnam. Nguyen Thi Thu Nam, Ib Christian Bygbjerg, Hanne Overgaard Mogensen, Vibeke Rasch. AIDS Care. Abingdon: Jan 2011. Vol. 23, Iss. 1; p. 1 Abstract In Vietnam, ARV access has been scaled up since 2005 in high HIV prevalence areas in order to meet increasing demands for HIV treatment. This paper aims to estimate ARV unmet need and its associated socio-demographic characteristics among HIV-positive women in Haiphong, Vietnam. A cross-sectional study using structured questionnaires and CD4 cell count was conducted with 353 HIV-positive women recruited from groups of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), by snowball technique through member of PLWHA groups and the local AIDS management system (Provincial AIDS Center (PAC)). The percentage of HIV-positive women having an unmet ARV need was estimated to be 40%, particularly high among women who were not registered at PAC. Having an unmet ARV need was associated with not participating in PLWHA groups (OR 6.5; 2.4-17.2) and being younger than 30 years old (OR 2.9; 1.1-7.3). Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Area informatics and trigrs model for study shallow landslide vulnerability assessment. A case study in Bavi area, Hanoi region, Vietnam. Truong Xuan Luan, Ngo Hung Long, Mamoru Shibayama, Massimiliano
Cannata. Paper prepared for the GeoInformatics for Spatial-Infrastructure Development in Earth and Allied Sciences (GIS-IDEAS) 9-11 December 2010. Abstract: Recently, we obtained a number of modern techniques for studying hazards, but these do not synchronize, slow, and not much effect. One big question is to enhance the capacity of developing communities resilient to shallow landslide disaster. Authors had using the TRIGRS model (Transient Rainfall Infiltration and Grid-based Regional Slope-Stability Model) with area informatics (GIS technology, RS data, physical geography, geological structure, sociological investigation,…), and GRASS-GIS to estimate where shallow landslide may occur and what areas are involved. With many parameters involved (natural moisture content, natural density, specific gravity, porosity, degree of saturation, void ratio, liquid limit, plastic limit, plasticity index, consistency, coefficient of compression, friction angle, cohesion,…), we had a good result in area study. Some areas where we forecasted was happened shallow landslide in some week ago (on 26-27th July 2010). This result can support the realization of early warning systems, capable to timely inform agencies and population of risks in order to take appropriate measures and limit the loss of lives and damages. Free full text http://wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas10/viewabstract.php?id=369

Arsenic Contamination. M. J. Friedrich. Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) February 16, 2011, Vol 305, No. 7, pp 645-732. First 150 words of the full text: Contamination of groundwater with arsenic and 32 other toxic compounds in Vietnam's Red River Delta poses a health hazard for 7 million people in this area, according to findings of researchers from Switzerland and Vietnam (Winkel LHE et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 10.1073/pnas.1011915108 [published online ahead of print, January 18, 2011]). The researchers sampled 512 private wells across the region, which includes Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, and is one of the world's most densely populated areas. They found that 27% of the wells had arsenic concentrations exceeding the World Health Organization's safety standards and 44% had unsafe levels of manganese, which can affect neurological development in children. The researchers also generated 3-dimensional risk maps to show areas … Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Arsenic pollution of groundwater in Vietnam exacerbated by deep aquifer exploitation for more than a century. Lenny H. E. Winkel, Pham Thi Kim Trang, Vi Mai Lan, Caroline Stengel, Manouchehr Amini, Nguyen Thi Ha, Pham Hung Viet, and Michael Berg. PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA). published 18 January 2011. Abstract: Arsenic contamination of shallow groundwater is among the biggest health threats in the developing world. Targeting uncontaminated deep aquifers is a popular mitigation option although its long-term impact remains unknown. Here we present the alarming results of a large-scale groundwater survey covering the entire Red River Delta and a unique probability model based on three-dimensional Quaternary geology. Our unprecedented dataset reveals that ~7 million delta inhabitants use groundwater contaminated with toxic elements, including manganese, selenium, and barium. Depth-resolved probabilities and arsenic concentrations indicate drawdown of arsenic-enriched waters from Holocene aquifers to naturally uncontaminated Pleistocene aquifers as a result of > 100 years of groundwater abstraction. Vertical arsenic migration induced by large-scale pumping from deep aquifers has been discussed to occur elsewhere, but has never been shown to occur at the scale seen here. The present situation in the Red River Delta is a warning for other As-affected regions where groundwater is extensively pumped from uncontaminated aquifers underlying high arsenic aquifers or zones. (Full text available upon request. Proquest).


Assessing the quality of data for analysing the sex ratio at birth in Viet Nam. Bang Nguyen Pham, Chalapati Rao, Timothy Adair, Peter S Hill, Wayne Hall. Asian Population Studies. Abingdon: Nov 2010. Vol. 6, Iss. 3; p. 263 Abstract: Despite widespread concern about high sex ratio at birth (SRB) in Viet Nam, little attention has been given to the quality of the data sources on which SRB estimates are based. This paper reviews the key data sources available for SRB analysis in Viet Nam. A standard assessment framework is developed and used to assess the quality of three national-scale datasets from a population change survey, the health
A comparative triangulation analysis is conducted to determine the consistencies and differentials in SRB estimates at the national, regional and provincial levels. A map of SRB at the provincial level is developed to demonstrate geographical variations. The analyses show the differentials in SRB estimates across the three datasets, and identify six northern provinces centred in the Red River Delta region that appear to have consistently high SRBs. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Attracting doctors and medical students to rural Vietnam: Insights from a Discrete Choice Experiment. Marko Vujicic, Marco Alfano, Bukhuti Shengelia, Sophie Witter. Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP) Discussion Paper, World Bank, December, 2010. Abstract: Persuading medical doctors to work in rural areas is one of the main challenges facing health policy makers, in both developing and developed countries. Discrete choice experiments (DCEs) have increasingly been used to analyze the preferences of health workers, and how they would respond to alternative incentives associated with working in a rural location. Previous DCE studies focusing on the rural recruitment and retention problem have sampled either in-service health workers or students in the final year of their training program. This study is the first to sample both of these groups in the same setting. We carry out a DCE to compare how doctors and final-year medical students in Vietnam value six job attributes, and use the results to simulate the impact of alternative incentive packages on recruitment in rural areas. Results show significant differences between the two groups. The location of workplace (rural or urban) was by far the most important attribute for doctors; for medical students it was long-term education. More surprising, however, was the magnitude of the differences: there were fivefold differences in willingness-to-pay estimates for some job attributes. These differences strongly suggest that policy makers in Vietnam should consider moving away from the current uniform approach to rectifying rural shortages and tailor separate incentive packages to students and doctors. Our results also suggest that future DCE studies should carefully consider the choice of sample if results are to be used for policy making. Free full text http://siteresources.worldbank.org/HEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/Resources/281627-1095698140167/GettingDoctorsMedicalStudentstoRuralVietnam.pdf


Benefits of traceability in fish supply chains: case studies. Nga Mai, Sigurdur Greitar Bogason, Sigurjon Arason, Sveinn Vikingur Arnason, Thorolfur Geir Matthiasson. British Food Journal. Bradford: 2010. Vol. 112, Iss. 9; p. 976 Abstract The purpose of this paper is to investigate how the seafood industry perceives benefits of traceability implementation. Furthermore, ex ante cost-benefit analyses (CBAs) of adopting new traceability systems are conducted for two firms, operating at different steps of the seafood supply chains, to obtain preliminary knowledge on the net benefits of the project and on how costs and benefits are distributed among the actors. --Design/methodology/approach - This is a case-based study. -- Findings - The surveyed companies perceive improving supply chain management as the most important benefit of traceability. Other benefits are increase of the ability to retain existing customers; product quality improvement; product differentiation; and reduction of customer complaints. However, the quantifiable benefits are perceived differently by the actors at different steps in the supply chains, e.g. implementing radio frequency identification (RFID) tags on pallets in the seafood trading company case study shows tangibly quantifiable benefits. -- Originality/value - The paper is useful for both practitioners and academics regarding perceived benefits of traceability in fish supply chains. The research provides initial insight into seafood companies' perspectives on the benefits of adopting RFID-based traceability solutions. The paper suggests that the
financial burden of implementing traceability may be borne by the processing firms, while gains are reaped by firms in the distribution business closer to the end consumer. This could provide a partial explanation as to why traceability has been slow to gain ground as a visible value-adding marketing tool, and is mainly being driven by food safety regulations. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Building sustained capacity to use geospatial data effectively for conservation in Lao PDR and Vietnam. Quynh Ha Quy, Le Minh Hanh, Le Xuan Canh, and Ned Horning. Paper prepared for the Geoinformatics for Spatial-Infrastructure Development in Earth and Allied Sciences (GIS-IDEAS) 9-11 December 2010. ABSTRACT: This paper introduces a training center which aims to strengthen and ensure the long-term capacity to provide geospatial training and data access support for biodiversity conservation in Vietnam and Lao PDR using expertise available in the region. This is being accomplished by establishing two training and data centers; one in Vietnam and one in Laos, to provide services to support the geospatial needs for biodiversity conservation such as managing protected areas. Two components required for effective conservation monitoring and management are a well-trained workforce and access to data. In recent years there has been a growth of well-trained geospatial experts in Vietnam and Lao PDR capable of training conservation practitioners in geospatial techniques required for effective conservation monitoring and management. Unfortunately, these trainers, from many different organizations, do not have access to appropriate materials such as data, and training modules necessary for effective training. The center will: 1) create opportunities so local geospatial experts can contribute their skills for training and provide data services to conservation projects throughout the region; 2) provide services to assist projects to access data in a format that is appropriate for the intended use; 3) provide instruction manuals and/or software so projects can access and process data on their own. The regional conservation community will benefit from a facility that supports the collection and distribution of data and maintains an archive of the most accurate set of base data. The production of and access to metadata and appropriate licensing of data will be encouraged to improve data access as well. Free full text http://wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas10/viewabstract.php?id=372

Certifying catfish in Vietnam and Bangladesh: Who will make the grade and will it matter? Ben Beltona, Mohammad Mahfujul Haqueb, David C. Littlea, and Le Xuan Sinh. Food Policy. Article in Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 13 January 2011. Abstract: Certification is an increasingly pervasive form of market governance through which retailers and NGOs are able to exert control over producers of primary products in order to secure their commercial and institutional interests. This paper assesses the likely outcomes of emerging certification standards intended to govern production of a new global commodity, Pangasius catfish. This evaluation focuses on Pangasius producers in Vietnam and Bangladesh, and one of the key areas which standards seek to regulate; the environment. We conclude that certification is likely to result in greater differentiation and polarisation between larger and smaller farm operators and will increasingly act to exclude of the latter from access to Western European and North American markets, and that any local environmental gains produced may be of relatively minor significance. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VCB-51XWW97-1&_user=1916569&_coverDate=01%2F13%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1661351359&_rerunOrigin=google&_acct=C000055300&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=1908fa1f5af6d619b20716dd842d320b&searchtype=a.

Changes in Property Rights, Forest use and Forest Dependency of Katu Communities in Nam Dong District, Thua Thien Hue Province, Vietnam. T. N. Thang, G. P. Shivakoti and M. Inoue. International Forestry Review 12(4):307-319. 2010. SUMMARY: Sustainable participatory management and conservation requires an understanding of site-specific, rights structure, resource use and resource dependency patterns over time. This paper documents these issues by examining the resource use pattern overtime by the Katu people in Nam Dong district, Thua Thien Hue province, central Vietnam, before and after allocation of natural forest to the households of the community. Household interview, key informant and group discussions were used for data collection and crosscheck. Descriptive analysis and pairsample T-test are main tools used to explore those parameters. We found a weak performance of property rights and differences in the De facto to the De jure
rights of forest recipients. On contrary to the increased rights, forest use and forest dependency of local people have been reduced due to the degradation of resources, and availability of alternative opportunities from emerging agriculture and animal grazing options. Considering dynamic nature of resource dependency over time, it is necessary to consider in the post-allocation programme which embrace the local context to have better forest protection and management as well as the satisfaction of local people on the forest resources they manage. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Vietnam.** Author(s): Huy Nguyen, Rajib Shaw. Volume: 5 Editor(s): Rajib Shaw. In Rajib Shaw (ed.) Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: An Asian Perspective (Community, Environment and Disaster Risk Management, Volume 5), Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2010, pp.373-391. Abstract: Vietnam is a stretch of land strengthening along Indochinese peninsula, which is located in Southeast Asia. Vietnam's mainland stretches from 23023' to 08002' north latitude and widens from 102008' to 109028' east longitude. Length counted in straight line from north to south stays at about 1,650km, width from west to east maximizes at 600km and minimizes at 50km. Entire territory of Vietnam includes 331,112km2 of mainland and 1 million square kilometers of territorial sea. Currently, Vietnam enjoys 63 provinces, central cities with 622 administrative units of districts and cities and 10,511 administrative units of communes and wards. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Climate Change and Agricultural Production in Vietnam.** Nguyen Van Viet. In: The Economic, Social and Political Elements of Climate Change. Climate Change Management, 2011, Part 2, 227-243, Abstract: This report will discuss some results of a case study on climate change and agricultural production in Vietnam, showing the trend of agro-climate element changes such as average temperature; the dates of beginning and ending temperature through 20 and 25°C; absolute minimum temperature; sunshine duration; rainfall, by month, season and year in all agro-economical regions. Moreover, it aims to show that climate change and sea level rise have impacted on agricultural production such as rice crop areas and production of maize, soybean and groundnut in the Red river delta, Central Region, Mekong River Delta and other regions. Furthermore, it provides suggested strategies to cope with climate change and sea level rise by different scenarios in 2050 and after 2050. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Commercialising higher education: lessons from Vietnam.** Nguyen Thi Thuy Linh. Journal of the Pacific Circle Consortium for Education, Vol. 22, No. 1, December 2010, 45–56. Abstract: This article investigates potential changes to student identities when the credit system replaces the fixed study plan in Vietnamese higher education. It starts with explaining the reasons for introducing the credit system in Vietnam, before analysing Bernstein’s concepts of singulars, regions, and generic modes as explanatory bases for students’ identity formation. Based on this theoretical frame, together with a review of the particular history of the Vietnamese higher education system, the article problematises claims made by the Vietnamese government about the benefits of a credit system. Although the article has a narrow focus, the argument found here can be generalised to both developed and developing countries where the education system is increasingly influenced by market forces. Free full text http://pacificcircleconsortium.org/uploads/PAE_22__1__final_10.pdf#page=45

**Comparison of Three Maps at Multiple Resolutions: A Case Study of Land Change Simulation in Cho Don District, Vietnam.** Robert Gilmore Pontius Jr, Smitha Peethambaram, Jean-Christophe Castella. Association of American Geographers. Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Washington: Jan 2011. Vol. 101, Iss. 1; p. 45 Abstract Geographic modelers frequently compare maps of observed land transitions to maps of simulated land transitions to relate the patterns in reference maps to the output from a simulation model. Pixel-by-pixel analysis of raster maps at a single resolution is useful for this task at a single scale, but scientists often need to consider additional scales. This article presents methods to satisfy this need by proposing a multiple-resolution method to compare land categories in three maps: a reference map of time 1, a reference map of time 2, and a simulation map of time 2. The method generates a three-dimensional table that gives the percentage of the study area for each combination of categories at the maps' native resolution and at several nested sets of coarser squares. The method differentiates allocation disagreement within coarse
squares, allocation disagreement among coarse squares, quantity disagreement, and agreement. We illustrate the method with output from a run of the SAMBA agent-based model from 1990 to 2001 using 32-m resolution pixels for Cho Don District, Vietnam. Results show that half of the overall disagreement is attributable to allocation disagreement within squares that are 506 m × 506 m, which is about the average size of a village. Much of the remaining disagreement is misallocation of forest and shrub between the northern and southern parts of the district, which is caused by differences between the data and the simulation concerning transitions from the crop and shrub categories. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Converging and conflicting interests in adaptation to environmental change in central Vietnam. Author: Beckman, Malin. Source: Climate and Development, Sustainable adaptation to climate change: Prioritising social equity and environmental integrity, Earthscan 2011 , pp. 32-41(10). Abstract: The article is based on qualitative research in the provinces of Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue in central Vietnam during the years 1996-2009, by the author and colleagues at Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry. The focus of the article is on policies that, while increasing resilience at one scale, may cause increased vulnerability at other scales. Policies on forest protection and construction of hydroelectric dams contribute to regulating flooding of the lowland areas. However, the policies also result in severe constraints in access to land and forest products for the mountain population, which has impacts on their capacity to manage risk and adapt to environmental change. Forest resources have previously functioned as an important buffer for mountain households when coping with crises like serious floods. This reduced adaptive capacity may be a critical issue for equity and social sustainability in adaptation. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Determinants of child health in developing countries: the experience of China and Vietnam. Alberto Gabriele1,a and Francesco Schettino2,b In: Economics of Developing Countries. Editor: Tiago N. Caldeira © 2009 Nova Science Publishers, Inc. Abstract: In the first section of the chapter, having identified the main clusters of food insecure households worldwide and their prevailing livelihood profiles, we discuss the interaction and relevance of key economic and social factors affecting child health in developing countries. Using the World Bank WDI database, we carry out a cross-country econometric analysis on the impact of income and non-income factors on child health in developing countries. Our main findings are threefold. First, among income factors, each country’s overall level of economic development is paramount, but income distribution also plays an important role. Second, each country's relative propensity to spend on basic services is significantly and negatively correlated with child malnutrition and mortality. Third, women’s level of education and relative status play an important role. In the second section, on the basis of this general framework of interpretation of child health and human development outcomes in the developing world, we focus specifically on the performance of China and Vietnam in reducing under-five child malnutrition and mortality. Under the market socialist model, both countries achieved very high rates of GDP growth, and managed to decrease significantly the prevalence of malnutrition. However, China’s progress in reducing child mortality was relatively slow in the 1980s and 1990s, before improving in the early 2000s. Vietnam’s record was markedly better, notwithstanding the fact that Vietnam is still much poorer than its giant Northern neighbour. We show that this apparent paradox is due mainly to the negative sideeffects of market-oriented reforms, which have reached a more advanced stage in China than in Vietnam. Our results also suggest that the relatively better status of women in Vietnam with respect to China is an additional factor. This phenomenon appears to have been exacerbated by the perverse effects of China’s rigid population control policies, and by the increasingly, uncontrolled and quasi-privatized availability of advanced medical services. In the policy conclusions, we criticize the market-oriented bias of social sectors reforms, and advocate in favour of recovering some essential features of the original socialist approach, which had been particularly effective in the crucial task of providing universally accessible basic public services. Free full text http://lhrgateway.nu.edu.pk/articles/Economics%20of%20Developing%20Countries.pdf#page=130

Distance decay in delivery care utilization associated with neonatal mortality. A case referent study in northern Vietnam. Mats Målqvist, Nazmul Sohel, Tran T Do, Leif Eriksson, Lars-Åke Persson. BMC Public Health 2010, 10:762. Abstract: Background: Efforts to reduce neonatal mortality are essential if the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 is to be met. The impact of spatial dimensions of neonatal survival has not been
thoroughly investigated even though access to good quality delivery care is considered to be one of the main priorities when trying to reduce neonatal mortality. This study examined the association between distance from the mother’s home to the closest health facility and neonatal mortality, and investigated the influence of distance on patterns of perinatal health care utilisation. --Methods: A surveillance system of live births and neonatal deaths was set up in eight districts of Quang Ninh province, Vietnam, from July 2008 to December 2009. Case referent design including all neonatal deaths and randomly selected newborn referents from the same population. Interviews were performed with mothers of all subjects and GIS coordinates for mothers’ homes and all health facilities in the study area were obtained. Straightline distances were calculated using ArcGIS software. -- Results: A total of 197 neonatal deaths and 11 708 births were registered and 686 referents selected. Health care utilisation prior to and at delivery varied with distance to the health facility. Mothers living farthest away (4th and 5th quintile, =1257 meters) from a health facility had an increased risk of neonatal mortality (OR 1.96, 95% CI 1.40 - 2.75, adjusted for maternal age at delivery and marital status). When stratified for socio-economic factors there was an increased risk for neonatal mortality for mothers with low education and from poor households who lived farther away from a health facility. Mothers who delivered at home had more than twice as long to a health facility compared to mothers who delivered at a health care facility. There was no difference in age at death when comparing neonates born at home or health facility deliveries (p = 0.56). -- Conclusion: Distance to the closest health facility was negatively associated with neonatal mortality risk. Health care utilisation in the prenatal period could partly explain this risk elevation since there was a distance decay in health system usage prior to and at delivery. The geographical dimension must be taken into consideration when planning interventions for improved neonatal survival, especially when targeting socio-economically disadvantaged groups. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-10-762.pdf

Distribution of Arsenic Sulfides in Van Phuc, Vietnam, and Their Relationship to Aquifer Arsenic Concentrations. Bostick, B. C.; Harvey, C.; Stahl, M.; Oates, P., L., Vi; Nguyen, M.; Viet, P.; Trang, P. T.; Berg, M.; Stengel, C.; van Geen, A. American Geophysical Union, Fall Meeting 2010. Abstract: Groundwater arsenic concentrations are highly heterogeneous, in part due to spatial variability in sediment geochemical and hydrological properties on fine scales. The concentration of As in groundwater depends on the balance between sources of dissolved As, and the sinks that can return it to the solid phase. While much effort has focused on Fe(III) reduction as a source of groundwater arsenic, much less research has been devoted the variation in the sinks of arsenic in exhibiting sharp contrasts between As-impacted and As-free waters. It is critical to understand these processes at such boundaries to properly evaluate the long-term viability of low-As aquifers as alternative water sources. Here, we examine the Fe, As, and S speciation in sediments collected while installing a transect of wells across a sharp gradient in dissolved As levels in Van Phuc village, Vietnam. Marked variations in solid phase As speciation as As(V), As(III) and As2S3 were observed as a function of core location and depth. Arsenic sulfides were not found in shallow, weakly reducing and oxic sediments associated with groundwater low in As, but were extensive in some gray sediments from reduced aquifers. Many reduced aquifers also exhibited low dissolved sulfate concentrations. These observations indicate that the formation of these sulfides is tied to sulfate reduction within anoxic aquifers, but the prevalence of arsenic sulfide is not correlated directly to aqueous As levels. Iron speciation indicates that many, but not all, sediments from low-As aquifers materials contain appreciable Fe(III). In such low-As aquifers, As concentrations may be buffered by adsorption to iron oxides. In low-As aquifers within reduced sediments, however, Fe(III) minerals are rare and sulfide minerals may play a dominant role in regulating the fate of arsenic. In either case, the quantity of Fe(III) and sulfate as terminal electron acceptors limits the sediment’s capacity to scavenge As. Thus, the boundaries between high- and low-As groundwaters may not be stable over time. This is a concern in Van Phuc because high-As groundwater elevated appears to be passing through the low-As portion of the aquifer. Extensive groundwater pumping of low-As groundwater may also facilitate this process. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Diversity of resource use and property rights in Tam Giang Lagoon, Vietnam. Ta Thi Thanh Huong, Fikret Berkes. International Journal of the Commons, Vol 5, No 1 (2011) Abstract: Since the early 1990s, aquaculture has become the most important livelihood activity in Tam Giang Lagoon, Vietnam. The
aquaculture boom has reduced the available water area for mobile gear fishers, polarized different user-groups, created resource conflicts, and increased pressures on the lagoon systems. Aquaculture in the lagoon is governed by both customary and legal rights. The objective of this paper is to explore the diversity of resource use and the complexity of property rights in one of the villages located in the lagoon. The paper emphasizes the linkages between changes in commons institutions and changes in resource use and property rights. First, the political and socio-economic changes in Vietnam are examined as well as how they have influenced traditional commons institutions and lagoon resource management in the village. Second, the linkages between common institutions and the diversity of property rights are analyzed. Particular attention is given to the analysis of different types of resource use associated with “bundle of rights” and the diversity of property rights regimes in the village. Free full text http://www.thecommonsjournal.org/index.php/ijc/article/viewArticle/236/184

Does Gender Influence the Provision of Fringe Benefits? Evidence From Vietnamese SMEs. By: Rand, John; Tarp, Finn. Feminist Economics, Jan2011, Vol. 17 Issue 1, p59-87, 29p; Abstract: This contribution studies the provision of fringe benefits using a unique survey of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Vietnam. Analysis of the survey reveals that women who own SMEs are more likely than men who own similar firms to provide employees with fringe benefits such as annual leave, social benefits, and health insurance. This gender effect exists especially with regard to mandatory social insurance and is robust to the inclusion of standard determinants of wage compensation. The study also explores whether this finding is linked to gender differences in social networks and workforce structure, worker recruitment mechanisms, and the degree of unionization. However, these factors cannot fully account for the observed differences in fringe benefits along the 'gender of owner' dimension. There remains a sizable and unexplained fringe benefits premium paid to employees in women-owned firms. Full text http://www.informaworld.com.libproxy-wb.imf.org/smpp/content~content=a932605389~db=all.

Does reinforcing spouses’ land rights improve children’s outcomes? Evidence from a quasi-natural experiment in rural Vietnam. Julia Anna Matz, Gaia Narciso. Institute for International Integration Studies - IIIS, Ireland. Discussion Paper No.348 / December 2010. Abstract: The aim of this paper is to investigate the relationship between laws strengthening women’s rights, and children’s outcomes, namely child labor and educational attainment. We analyze the effects of a land reform introduced in Vietnam in 2003 that had the objective of reinforcing women’s land rights within households. The introduction of the 2003 Land Law represents a quasi-natural experiment which allows us to analyze how legal reforms are transformed and adopted by social norms. We investigate the effects of being part of the population of households targeted by the land law with the help of a household survey that permits detailed investigation of property rights at the plot level. We show that the land reform contributed to reducing girls’ participation in household agricultural production and to increasing girls’ educational attainment. We do not find comparable effects for boys. Free full text http://www.tcd.ie/iiis/documents/discussion/pdfs/iiisd348.pdf.

Early uptake of HIV counseling and testing among pregnant women at different levels of health facilities - experiences from a community-based study in Northern Vietnam. BMC Health Services Research 2011, 11:29. Hanh THI THUY Nguyen, Tine Gammeltoft, Vibeke Rasch. Abstract: Background: HIV counselling and testing for pregnant women is a key factor for successful prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV. Women’s access to testing can be improved by scaling up the distribution of this service at all levels of health facilities. However, this strategy will only be effective if pregnant women are tested early and provided enough counselling. Objective: To assess early uptake of HIV testing and the provision of HIV counselling among pregnant women who attend antenatal care at primary and higher level health facilities. Methods: A community based study was conducted among 1108 nursing mothers. Data was collected during interviews using a structured questionnaire focused on socio-economic background, reproductive history, experience with antenatal HIV counselling and testing as well as types of health facility providing the services. Results: In all 91.0% of the women interviewed had attended antenatal care and 90.3% had been tested for HIV during their most recent pregnancy. Women who had their first antenatal checkup at primary health facilities were significantly more likely to be tested before 34 weeks of gestation (OR = 43.2, CI: 18.9-98.1). The reported
HIV counselling provision was also higher at primary health facilities, where women in comparison with women attending higher level health facilities were nearly three or and four times more likely to receive pre-test (OR=2.7; CI:2.1-3.5) and post-test counseling (OR=4.0; CI: 2.3-6.8). Conclusions: The results suggest that antenatal HIV counseling and testing can be scaled up to primary health facilities and that such scaling up may enhance early uptake of testing and provision of counseling. Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1472-6963-11-29.pdf

Economic impact of farmers-driven vertical integration: the case of safe vegetable chains in Northern Vietnam. Wang H., Moustier P., Thi Tan Loc N.. 2010. In : Actes des 4èmes journées INRA-SFER-CIRAD de recherches en sciences sociales : 9-10 décembre 2010, Rennes. [Online]. Paris : SFER, 23 p.. Journées de recherches en sciences sociales. 4, 2010-12-09/2010-12-10, Rennes, France. Abstract: The paper investigates the respective profitability of contractual arrangements, direct sales and spot marketing for "safe vegetable" farmers in Northern Vietnam. This is based on a survey of 137 peri-urban vegetable farmers, with a minimum of 30 farmers in each category. Selection biases are corrected using propensity score matching methods. The results show that direct sales have a positive significant impact on income relative to contractual arrangements and spot marketing when selection biases are corrected. Contractual arrangements have no significant impact on income compared with the other two categories after correction of selection bias. This may be due to the involvement of purchasers in the production process being still limited. The paper illustrates that direct relations between farmers and consumers, often described in the literature as efficient in the development of consumer confidence as regards quality, can indeed translate into higher incomes than anonymous exchange, or than contractual arrangements with retailing companies. Some limitations of the research and policy recommendations are given in the conclusion. Free full text http://www.sfer.asso.fr/content/download/3749/33034/version/3/file/B4++Wang.pdf.

Education influence in traffic safety: A case study in Vietnam. Khuat Viet Hung, and Le Thu Huyen. IATSS Research. Article in Press, Uncorrected Proof. Available online 7 January 2011. Abstract: It is well known that traffic accidents are of high importance to the public health spectrum around the world. Moreover, in developing countries such as Vietnam, the mortality rate from road traffic accidents is rather high in comparison with other Southeast Asian countries. Not only do the majority of the people killed and seriously injured significantly affect the quality of life of the citizens, but traffic accidents also negatively impact a nation's economic and social development. Statistics show that far more people are injured or die in traffic accidents than are afflicted by any of the most serious diseases. The very high occurrence of traffic accidents in Vietnam has become one of the country's major social issues. The importance of human factors in transport policy discussion is growing. There is a realization that policy options that appear beneficial in principle have to be checked for their feasibility of implementation. Understanding and describing driver behavior become a challenge when one tries to identify driver errors in determining accident/conflict causal factors and countermeasures. -- In recent years, having understood the serious effects of traffic accidents on society at large, scientific researchers, traffic engineers and policy makers in Vietnam have developed many projects and conducted research in the field of traffic safety. The human factor is also considered to be the central element in the whole system. The final goal is to organize a traffic environment that is convenient and safe for road users. -- This article explains the application of the risk analysis approach in evaluating influences of education and enforcement in traffic safety. -- Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6KJD-51WN93T-1&_user=10&_coverDate=01%2F07%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_origin=search&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1647864841&_rerunOrigin=scholar.google&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&md5=7ae8da9601c9a9c7da5e9e9bc33d716b&searchtype=a

Environmental health impacts of mobility and transport in Hai Phong, Vietnam. Stijn Dhondt, Quynh Le Xuan, Hieu Vu Van, Luc Hens. Stochastic Environmental Research and Risk Assessment. Berlin: Mar 2011. Vol. 25, Iss. 3; p. 363 Abstract Traffic is an essential part of modern society and mobility is part of its socio-economic setting. However, signs of counter productivity arise as the current mobility patterns substantially affect our health, including the consequences from traffic accidents, air pollution—which causes even more
victims than traffic accidents—and traffic-noise. The use of private motorised vehicles also contributes to sedentarism, climate change and psychological effects. This paper reviews these mobility related health effects and applies them to the situation in Hai Phong, a Vietnamese port-city in fast development and facing growing mobility patterns. In his Master Plan the city developed a view on its development together with the transportation infrastructure up to 2020. Together with the fast changing mobility patterns, such as a modal change from bicycles to motorcycles and cars, this lead to an increase in motorized vehicles and non-negligible environmental health risks. Applying the methodology of a Health Impact Assessment as used in previous studies the current health burden is estimated, focussing on particulate matter (PM) and noise. For PM10 1287 deaths per year were calculated for the current situation, where the estimated number of deaths by 2020 doubled up to 2741. Hospital admissions due to PM10 raised from 44,954 now to 51,467 in 2020 and for PM2.5 the restricted-activity days were calculated, accounting for 852,352 per year. For noise only calculations for the current state (2007) were performed. The total estimated DALYs due to noise was 4758. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/2836r52763g5jn62/fulltext.pdf.

Estimating the Impact of Small-Scale Farmers’ Collective Action on Food Safety: The Case of Vegetables in Vietnam. Diego Naziri 1, Magali Aubert 2, Jean-Marie Codron 3, Nguyen Thi Tan Loc 4, Paule Moustier 5. 4èmes journées de recherche en sciences sociales à Agrocampus-Ouest (Rennes), 9 et 10 décembre 2010. Summary. – This paper is an original empirical tentative to explain collective action outcome in the domain of food safety. We examine conditions and institutions that influence pesticide residues level in vegetables using econometric analysis on data gathered by 60 farmers organizations in Vietnam. Findings suggest that collective action affects safety by providing members with technical assistance, monitoring and certification. The expected increase of free-riding in larger groups is not an issue when members are properly supported and monitored. The contribution of public authorities and ecological conditions to safety remains controversial while market forces do not seem able to drive the production of safer vegetables. Free full text http://www.sfer.asso.fr/content/download/3713/32926/version/1/file/D2+-+Naziri.pdf.

Exploring gender and pensions in Japan, Malaysia and Vietnam. Athina Vlachantoni and Jane Falkingham. February 2011. Centre for Research on Ageing, School of Social Science, University of Southampton, UK. CRA Discussion Paper no. 1101, CRA DP/1101. Abstract: Gender is an important dimension of the way welfare is organised and distributed around the world, and old-age social protection in Asia is no exception. This paper uses evidence from international policy organisations in order to discuss key issues in the area of pension protection from a gender perspective. In particular, the paper draws on the demographic, socio-economic and policy patterns in three case studies in Asia: Japan, Malaysia and Vietnam. The paper argues that formal social protection needs to be understood by policy-makers in conjunction with developments in the patterns of informal support networks in these countries, in order to address the vulnerability faced by women throughout their lifecourse and particularly in later life. Free full text http://eprints.soton.ac.uk/174799/1/CRA_DP_1101.pdf.

Export Marketing Responsibility: Doing More, Getting What? The Evidence From Vietnam Wood Furniture Industry. Song Hanh Pham. DEPOCEN working paper no. 15, 2011. Abstract: The question whether developing country producers are better off by “sticking to their knitting” in continuing to specialize in upstream activities including manufacturing, while leaving the downstream activities - such as marketing and sales – in the hands of its international partners; or, alternatively, by involving themselves in the downstream activities as an add-on to their own manufacturing has been theoretically debated among different literature streams. This research examines, both theoretically and empirically, whether taking marketing responsibility strengthens export performance of developing country firms. The hypothesis testing based on large scale primary data collected in wooden furniture industry in Vietnam confirm that more involving in export marketing activities except for distribution and after sale in final market significantly relate to better export performance. Free full text http://veam.org/papers2010/16-Export%20marketing%20responsibility%20-%20Song%20Hanh%20FTU.doc.
Female sexual partners of injection drug users in Vietnam: an at-risk population in urgent need of HIV prevention services. Theodore M Hammett, Nghiem Thi Ha Van, Ryan Kling, Kieu Thanh Binh, Khuat Thi Hai Oanh. AIDS Care. Abingdon: Dec 2010. Vol. 22, Iss. 12; p. 1465 Abstract: Vietnam's HIV epidemic has been driven by injection drug use, with HIV prevalence among injection drug users (IDUs) of ~30%. Most IDUs are sexually active and may infect their female sexual partners (SPs). Male dominance in sexual decisions is deeply embedded in Vietnamese culture. There have been few HIV prevention interventions for SPs, who represent an important potential bridging population in the epidemic. We report findings from a baseline survey of SPs conducted in 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam, where peer-based HIV prevention interventions targeting this population are now being implemented. The survey revealed HIV prevalence of 14% among SPs in Hanoi and only 27% reported condom use with their primary male partners half the time or more. About 69% of SPs were in serodiscordant or unknown HIV status relationships but condom use was not more frequent in these relationships than in concordant partnerships. Many SPs feared angry or violent responses if they requested condom use, problems that were even more likely in serodiscordant/unknown status relationships. SPs also reported limited prior access to HIV prevention services. Many SPs in Vietnam are at high risk for HIV and in need of HIV prevention interventions. However, to date, this population has been seriously underserved. Our interventions are in progress and results will be reported subsequently. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

FGLG Vietnam - Community Forestry and Poverty Alleviation: A Synthesis of Project Findings from Field Activities. Nguyen Quang Tan, Tran Ngoc Thanh, Hoang Huy Tuan. IIED code:G02674. Published: Aug 2009 – IIED. The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an initiative across seven African and three Asian countries, working towards better governance in forestry. From September 2006 to 2009, FGLG Vietnam focused on how future state community forest management (CFM) policy could contribute to the alleviation of poverty. The project aims to address the challenges of forest governance through participatory research and shared learning. -- This report details the findings of the research, with FGLG Vietnam having looked at concrete examples of how CFM has worked at the local level through organised visits, surveys and workshops to draw out lessons on governance structure and analyse the factors influencing benefit-sharing arrangements. It also details the methods and results of a learning phase and the final documentation stage of the project. -- Through this process, FGLG Vietnam found that legal titles to land can have benefits when conflicts arise, potentially preventing the encroachment of outsiders, but there remains an unclear relationship between these titles and effective forest management; case studies are given to demonstrate the potential complications. The report further analyses both the forest conditions appropriate for CFM, including the type, location, quality and size; and the community conditions for CFM to work, such as community solidarity and organisational skills. It also considers examples of sustainable forest management and how far benefit-sharing arrangements benefit the poor in different project areas. Free full text http://pubs.iied.org/G02674.html?c=forestry.

Fuelling Conflicts: Overcoming asymmetry between global interests in Vietnam and Indonesia. Paul Burgers, Rizki Pandu Permana and Tran Nam Tu. Development (2011) 54(1), 77–84. Abstract. Many countries in the South ‘host’ foreign and domestic investors who – among others inspired by actions to reduce CO2 emissions – make large-scale investments in the expansion of bio-fuel production (e.g. oil palm plantations), sustainable forest management and land rehabilitation for CO2 compensation. Paul Burgers, Rizki Pandu Permana and Tran Nam Tu argue that such large-scale land acquisitions do not necessarily contribute to poverty reduction and cause conflicts with forest dependent communities.. Free full text http://www.palgrave-journals.com/development/journal/v54/n1/abs/dev201091a.html

Gender Differences in Socioeconomic Status and Health: Evidence from the 2008 Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey. Nidhiya Menon, Yana van der Meulen Rodgers. November 17, 2010. Abstract: The study provides new evidence on gender differences in educational attainment, labor market status, health status, and land titling in Vietnam. Up-to-date statistical evidence on household well-being in Vietnam is particularly important given the heavy weight the government has placed on meeting the needs of vulnerable members of the population, reducing overall poverty, and improving societal well-being. Vietnam’s government has
placed priority emphasis on achieving gender equality in the 2006 Law on Gender Equality. One of the major themes addressed in this report is Vietnam’s demonstrated progress in achieving social development targets. The study also identifies a few areas where female outcomes lag those of men, and suggests policies that might help to reduce the observed gaps. Free full text

Gender, Alcohol Consumption Patterns, and Engagement in Sexually Intimate Behaviors Among Adolescents and Young Adults in Nha Trang, Viet Nam. Linda M. Kaljee, Mackenzie S. Green, Min Zhan, Rosemary Riel, Porntip Lerdboon, Ty W. Lostutter, Le Huu Tho, Vo Van Luong, and Truong Tan Minh. Youth Society. 2011; 43:118-141. [Abstract] [A randomly selected cross-sectional survey was conducted with 880 youth (16 to 24 years) in Nha Trang City to assess relationships between alcohol consumption and sexual behaviors. A timeline followback method was employed. Chi-square, generalized logit modeling and logistic regression analyses were performed. Of the sample, 78.2% male and 56.1% female respondents ever consumed alcohol. Males reporting sexual behaviors (vaginal, anal, oral sex) had a significantly higher calculated peak BAC of 0.151 compared to 0.082 for males reporting no sexual intimacy (p < .0001). Females reporting sexual behaviors had a peak BAC of 0.072 compared to 0.027 for those reporting no sexual intimacy (p = .016). Fifty percent of (33/66) males and 30.4% (7/23) females report event specific drinking and engagement in sexual behaviors. Males reporting 11+ drinks in 30 days had more sexual partners than those reporting 1 to 10 drinks (p = .037). Data suggest different physical and psychosocial mediators between alcohol consumption and sexual behaviors by gender. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Globalisation, competitiveness and human resource management in a transitional economy: the case of Vietnam. Quang Truong, Beatrice I J M van der Heijden, Chris Rowley. International Journal of Business Studies. Perth: Jun 2010. Vol. 18, Iss. 1; p. 75 (26 pages) Abstract: In the light of competition and the search for sources of competitive advantage, developing and managing human resources has increasingly become the focus of attention in some countries. The importance of human assets for success has been recognised and stressed in developed, as well as developing, countries. For example, in Vietnam a new focus was driven by the 'doi moi' ('renovation') policy that was meant to shift a rigid centrally planned system towards a more flexible market-oriented economy. The consequent structural reforms revealed several impediments, including human resource management systems, slowing the pace of development and global integration with implications for ... Full text available upon request. from Proquest.

Hepatitis B Infection in Vietnam: Current Issues and Future Challenges. Van Thi Thuy Nguyen. Asia Pac J Public Health, published 15 December 2010. Abstract: Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection remains a major public health problem in Vietnam. Recent studies have found that prevalence of current HBV infection (HBsAg+) ranges from 10% to 20% in the general population and 20% to 40% among injecting drug users and HIV+ patients. However, HBV prevention and control in Vietnam relies heavily on universal infant vaccination program and HBsAg screening for blood donors. Currently, HBV prevention and control is underfunded by the government and receives little support from international agencies. HBV-related liver disease will continue to create a heavy burden for public health in Vietnam in the next several decades unless appropriate interventions are undertaken urgently. Establishment of a national strategy for HBV prevention and control is crucial to develop and implement effective interventions. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Heterogeneous Credit Impacts of Healthcare Spending of the Poor in Peri-urban Areas, Vietnam: Quantile Treatment Effects Estimation. Tinh Doan, John Gibson and Mark Holmes. University of Waikato, Department of Economics Working Paper in Economics 01/11, February 2011. Abstract Quantile Treatment Effects are estimated to study the impacts of household credit access on health spending by poor households in one District of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. There are significant positive effects of credit on the health budget shares of households with low healthcare spending. In contrast, when an Average Treatment Effect is estimated there is no discernible impact of credit access on health spending. Hence, typical approaches to studying heterogeneous credit impacts that only consider between group differences and not differences over
the distribution of outcomes may miss some heterogeneity of interest to policymakers. Free full text ftp://mngt.waikato.ac.nz/RePEc/wai/econwp/0111.pdf


**Household expenditure and tuberculosis prevalence in VietNam: prediction by a set of household indicators.** Authors: Hoa, N.B.1; Tiemersma, E.W.2; Sy, D.N.1; Nhung, N.V.1; Gebhard, A.3; Borgdorff, M.W.4; Cobelens, F.G.J.5. Source: The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Volume 15, Number 1, January 2011 , pp. 32-37(6). Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To study the association between TB and household expenditure in a nationwide TB prevalence survey in Viet Nam using nine household characteristics. METHOD: To assess the prevalence of TB in Viet Nam, a nationwide stratified cluster sample survey was conducted from 2006 to 2007. Nine household characteristics used in the second Viet Nam Living Standards Survey (VLSS) were scored per household. In the VLSS dataset, we regressed these nine characteristics against household expenditure per capita, and used the coefficients to predict household expenditure level (in quintiles) in our survey and assess its relation with TB prevalence. RESULTS: The prevalence of bacteriologically confirmed TB was 307 per 100?000 population in persons aged =15 years (95%CI 249-366). After adjustment for confounders, prevalence was found to be associated with household expenditure level: the rate was 2.5 times higher for those in the lowest household expenditure quintile (95%CI 1.6-3.9) than those in the highest quintile. CONCLUSION: With a set of nine household characteristics, we were able to predict household expenditure level fairly accurately. There was a significant association between TB prevalence rates and estimated household expenditure level, showing that TB is related to poverty in Viet Nam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**How remote are Vietnam's ethnic minorities? An analysis of spatial patterns of poverty and inequality.** Michael Epprecht, Daniel Müller, Nicholas Minot. The Annals of Regional Science. Heidelberg: Apr 2011. Vol. 46, Iss. 2; p. 349 Abstract This paper investigates whether physical accessibility or ethnicity is a stronger determinant of poverty in Vietnam. Spatially disaggregated welfare indexes for population subgroups show that overall inequality is shaped by an urban–rural welfare divide, closely followed in importance by sharp welfare differences between ethnic groups. Accessibility to urban areas is a weaker determinant of poverty. The findings have important implications for the targeting of rural development investments. Addressing the factors isolating ethnic minorities from the mainstream economy is likely to be a more useful strategy in reducing rural poverty and inequality than simple geographic targeting. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/63p1888506x5r287/fulltext.pdf.

**Influence of Perceived Secondary Stigma and Family on the Response to HIV Infection Among Injection Drug Users in Vietnam.** Megan L. Salter, Vivian F. Go, Nguyen Le Minh, Amy Gregowski, et al. AIDS Education and Prevention. New York: Dec 2010. Vol. 22, Iss. 6; p. 558 Abstract: The full impact of secondary stigma (stigma directed at family) on an HIV-positive individual is unknown. This qualitative research explores perceptions of secondary stigma in the Vietnamese context and its influence on the ways in which an injection drug user (IDU) copes with HIV infection. Data on experiences learning one's HIV status, disclosure decisions, family reactions, and stigma from family and community were collected through in-depth interviews with 25 HIV-positive IDUs recruited through a health center in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam. Participants felt despair when learning they were HIV-positive and expressed concerns focused on the emotional burden and the consequences of HIV stigma that extended to family. Many participants engaged in self-isolating behaviors to prevent transmission and minimize secondary stigma. Data illustrated the strong value given to family in Vietnam and underscored the importance of secondary stigma in the coping process
including gaining social support and engaging in risk reduction. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Integrated assessment of brick kiln emission impacts on air quality.** Hoang Anh Le, Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. Dordrecht: Dec 2010. Vol. 171, Iss. 1-4; p. 381 Abstract: This paper presents monitoring results of daily brick kiln stack emission and the derived emission factors. Emission of individual air pollutant varied significantly during a firing batch (7 days) and between kilns. Average emission factors per 1,000 bricks were 6.35–12.3 kg of CO, 0.52–5.9 kg of SO2 and 0.64–1.4 kg of particulate matter (PM). PM emission size distribution in the stack plume was determined using a modified cascade impactor. Obtained emission factors and PM size distribution data were used in simulation study using the Industrial Source Complex Short-Term (ISCST3) dispersion model. The model performance was successfully evaluated for the local conditions using the simultaneous ambient monitoring data in 2006 and 2007. SO2 was the most critical pollutant, exceeding the hourly National Ambient Air Quality Standards over 63 km2 out of the 100-km2 modelled domain in the base case. Impacts of different emission scenarios on the ambient air quality (SO2, PM, CO, PM dry deposition flux) were assessed. Full text [http://www.springerlink.com/content/311212v665212415/](http://www.springerlink.com/content/311212v665212415/).

**Is Nonfarm Diversification a Way Out of Poverty for Rural Households? Evidence from Vietnam in 1993-2006.** Pham Thai Hung, Bui Anh Tuan, Dao Le Thanh. PMMA working paper 2010-17. Abstract : Using the four high quality household living standards surveys available to date this paper reveals that Vietnam’s rural labour force has been markedly diversifying toward nonfarm activities in the doi moi (renovation) reform period. The employment share of the rural nonfarm sector has increased from 23 percent to 58 percent between the years 1993 and 2006. At the individual level, the results indicate that participation in the rural nonfarm sector is determined by a set of individual-, household-, and community-level characteristics. Gender, ethnicity, and education are reported as main individual-level drivers of nonfarm diversification. Lands as most important physical assets of rural households are found to be negative to nonfarm employment. It is also evident that both physical and institutional infrastructure exert important influences on individual participation in the nonfarm sector. At the household level, a combination of parametric and semi-parametric analysis is adopted to examine whether nonfarm diversification is a poverty exit path for rural households. This paper demonstrates a positive effect of nonfarm diversification on household welfare and this effect is robust to different estimation techniques, measures of nonfarm diversification, and the usage of equivalent scales. However, the poor is reported to benefit less than the non-poor from nonfarm activities. Though promoting a buoyant nonfarm sector is crucial for rural development and poverty reduction, it needs to be associated with enhancing access to nonfarm opportunities for the poor. Free full text [http://portal.pep-net.org/documents/download/id/16678](http://portal.pep-net.org/documents/download/id/16678).

**Land cover analysis in Germany and Vietnam with a combination of remote sensing, landscape metrics and social research.** Paper prepared for the International Symposium on Geoinformatics for Spatial Infrastructure Development in Earth and Allied Sciences 2010. Tobias Matusch. Abstract: The last decades were affected by a continuous designation of protected areas. Countless protected areas all over the world were established, aspired by the hope of a panacea to secure unique landscapes and with it rare species, natural functions or biodiversity. Today over 100.000 protected areas worldwide covering nearly 12 % of the terrestrial earth surface. In detail, the often disillusioning results show that only the designation of a protected area is too easy to solve all the individual challenges protected area managements have to deal with. Low population density within protected areas, additionally a sparse infrastructure, and therewith, a restricted accessibility diminishes mobility. Therefore, more and more activities tend to use remote sensing and aerial photos to solve such problems. Satellite systems like Landsat provide repeatable and comparable images with large extent, useful for time series analysis even in the future. Hence, the images are predestinated for an effective and comprehensive monitoring, to control sustainable development within the protected areas, and to counteract as early as possible undesirable processes. -- Numerous examples document that such approach is appropriate for many case studies. The analyses of the land cover of the biosphere reserve Schorfheide-Chorin and its surrounding area with the aid of remote sensing and qualitative empirical research is one example which
simultaneously combines remote sensing with social research. Within the finished diploma thesis, various Landsat and SPOT images from 1986 to 2006 as well as additional GIS-data were used to analyze the landscape of the biosphere reserve. For this classification step a maximum likelihood and hierarchical decision tree approach was used. The most essential changes in this landscape during the 20 years were the decreasing sizes of water bodies as well as the expansion of urban areas at the expense of urban green areas. With the help of qualitative empirical research it was possible to identify that the influence of the biosphere management is often widely lower than the spatial resolution of the used satellite images. The initiated projects were due to financial and personal restriction of the biosphere management small-sized, for example in comparison to suburbanization processes. However, remote sensing is a useful technology for various monitoring approaches of large landscapes. It is quite obvious, that the combination of remote sensing and social research is very powerful. The approach can support the protected area management not only with data about the land cover, but also with basic knowledge and relationships as well as reasons behind different developments. -- Adopting and improving this approach for other regions is the next step in research which is currently initiated. Hence, the Middle Elbe biosphere reserve in Saxony-Anhalt was chosen as case study for an anthropogenic landscape in Germany. The biosphere reserve covers an area of about 125.510 ha, formed by one of the largest connected water meadow areas in Europe. The Bach Ma National Park, Vietnam, forms the framework for the second case studies. With ca. 37.487 ha, this national park is only one third in size of Middle Elbe, but includes a wide range of vegetation - from tropical rainforest through submontaneous forests. But also the surrounding area should be kept in focus, due to monitoring of activities outside the protected area which could have an influence in future for the protected area or for a possible enlargement of diverse projects. -- Both regions should be analyzed with the same schematic approach, based on a hierarchical classification of Landsat images. The supervised classification approach is followed by an analysis of several landscape metrics, selected on the basis of its possible comparability. Examples for such metrics can be the Mean Patch Size, the Core Area Index, the Edge Density, or the Mean Shape Index. With this broad database about land cover and land cover development, we have a widespread overview in time and space about the regions. To prove the quantitative results, a subsequent qualitative social research study has to be implemented which should fill the quantitative data from remote sensing and GIS with background knowledge and reasons behind developments. This will be carried out with half-standardized expert’s interviews in each case study. The experts will be represented by stakeholders who can provide local knowledge or having an influence on modifying regional structures. Especially this last step is inevitable for a comprehensive monitoring and a deep integration of local stakeholders who possess the required local knowledge. They also hold the necessary local networks, essential to modify regional structures. Such a framework offers the possibility to combine local with external knowledge for an effective and sustainable management. -- The general goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive and cost-effective monitoring approach for protected areas which can be adopted in other regions. This approach should be as simple as possible, so that random protected area managements could operate unaffiliated and support from external institutions can be minimized. -- Free full text http://wgrass.media.osaka-cu.ac.jp/gisideas10/viewabstract.php?id=330

**Lessons learned on linking innovation with social equity: poverty and food supply chains in Vietnam.** Thi Tan Loc N., Dao Thê Anh, Hoang Vu Quang, Moustier P., Sautier D.. 2010. In : Coudel Emilie (ed.), Devautour Hubert (ed.), Soulard Christophe (ed.), Hubert Bernard (ed.). International symposium ISDA 2010. Innovation et sustainable development in agriculture and food : Abstracts and papers. [Cd-Rom]. Montpellier : CIRAD, 2 p.. International symposium ISDA 2010, 2010-06-28/2010-07-01, Montpellier, France. [Abstract] 1. Objective of the paper : Vietnam stands out as a particularly relevant country for innovation and poverty studies. It is a significant example of fast track economic development which has led to curb drastically poverty rate over the last decades. Since the doi mo’i policy reforms have been implemented in the late 1980’s, poverty rate, measured by international standard, was almost reduced at halves during 1993-2002 (from 58% to 29%) (Phung, 2005), and decreased at a -2.6% per year reduction rate from 22% in 2005 to 13% en 2008. Yet this general figure encompasses contrasting realities. This paper offers an original, sectorial view on these processes, through a cross-cutting review of poverty-related effects of agrifood system development, as shown by studies on the food production, trade and retail system in Vietnam. 2. Methods : Data is obtained
from the following collaborative projects, which all involved specific pro-poor objectives and strategies, and dealt with the following innovations - Mobilisation de l'Information au Service des Politiques Agricoles (Market information) - M4P (Making markets work for the poor) (linkages with supermarkets) (Figue & Moustier 2009) - Superchain (buyer-driven quality schemes with internal rules and external contracts) (Moustier et al. 2009) - Gripavi (introduction of new mandatory food safety regulations) - Quality management and collective action (collective production and/or market access management) - Geographical indications feasibility and monitoring studies (land-based labelling) (Binh & Dao 2006). These studies were funded by diverse agencies such as DFID, IFAD, ANR, INRA, ADB, 4. Results This paper brings two types of results. First a review of methods is conducted on how the different studies took into account the link between the respective key innovations, and the equity issue (Rondot et al. 2004). Theoretical references and methodological choices are highlighted and compared. Second, the results themselves are compared, regarding evidence of pathways out of poverty through food production, trade and processing activities, in the peculiar context of Vietnam. Inclusion and exclusion effects of innovations often happen simultaneously. Trade off between rural and urban poverty issues (poor producers vs poor consumers ?) needs to be considered. Finally, innovation systems on food related issues should incorporate consumers as central players. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Local vulnerability and adaptation to extreme climate events along the central coast of Vietnam. Author(s): Bui Duc Tinh, Tran Huu Tuan, Tran Phong, Bui Dung The, Bui Thi Tam. In Rajib Shaw (ed.) Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: An Asian Perspective (Community, Environment and Disaster Risk Management , Volume 5), Emerald Group Publishing Limited, pp.393-416. Abstract: A review of the existing literature on disasters, impact, local vulnerability, and adaptation indicates to the fact that recent increasing frequency of natural disasters (e.g., floods, storms, and drought) have increasingly caused impacts on a diverse set of physical and biological systems, especially for those living in the developing countries where their livelihood strategies rely on natural resources (McCarthy, Canziani, Leary, Dokken, & White, 2001; Selvaraju, Subbiah, Baas, & Juergens, 2006; Kumar, 2007; Cruz et al., 2007). Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Mortality and HIV transmission among male Vietnamese injection drug users. Vu Minh Quan, Nguyen Le Minh, Tran Viet Ha, Nguyen Phuong Ngoc, et al. Addiction. Abingdon: Mar 2011. Vol. 106, Iss. 3; p. 583 Abstract Aims To estimate all-cause mortality rate and to assess predictors of all-cause mortality among injection drug users (IDUs) in Thai Nguyen province, Vietnam between 2005 and 2007. Design Prospective cohort study. Setting Community-dwelling IDUs were enrolled and followed at 3-month intervals for up to 2 years. Participants A total of 894 male IDUs (median age of 32 years, 22.8% HIV-positive, all having injected opioids). Measurements Deaths were confirmed by family members and by reviewing government records. Marginal Cox proportional hazards models for clustered data were constructed to determine the independent predictors of all-cause mortality, using both fixed baseline measurements and time-dependent repeated measurements. Findings During 710.1 person-years of follow-up, 45 (5.0%) drug injectors died. The causes of deaths were AIDS-related (14 cases, 31%), drug overdose (12, 27%), suicide (three, 7%), traffic accident (three, 7%), violence (two, 4%), pneumonia (two, 4%), non-traffic accident (one, 2%) and unknown causes (eight, 18%). The all-cause mortality rate was 6.3% (95% CI = 4.6-8.5) per 100 person-years. The standardized mortality ratio was 13.4. The HIV incidence rate was 5.2 (95% CI = 3.5-7.6) per 100 person-years. In multi-factorial analysis, HIV infection [hazard ratio (HR) = 3.5, 95% CI = 1.9-6.3] and previous diagnosis of tuberculosis (HR = 10.0, 95% CI = 4.1-24.3) were associated significantly with increased hazard of death. Conclusions The all-cause, age- and sex-standardized mortality among Vietnamese IDUs is 13-fold higher than the general population and substantially higher than IDUs studied in developed countries. Effective prevention and control of HIV infection and tuberculosis are needed urgently. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

borderlands of socialist China, Vietnam, and Laos are home to some 70 million people, representing an astonishing array of ethnic diversity. How are these peoples fashioning livelihoods now that their homeland is open to economic investment and political change? Moving Mountains presents the work of anthropologists, geographers, and political economists with first-hand experience in the Southeast Asian Massif. Together, they show that the parallel experiences of ethnic minorities in these three socialist regimes offer a unique opportunity to explore the intersection of ethnicity, livelihood, and state-society relations. Case studies on groups such as the Drung in Yunnan, the Khmu in Laos, and the Hmong in Vietnam document the experiences of such minorities under socialist regimes and how their lives are changing under more open political and economic conditions. Although scholars have typically represented highland people as marginalized and powerless, Moving Mountains argues that they draw on culture and ethnicity to indigenize modernity and maintain their livelihoods. This unprecedented glimpse into a poorly understood region shows that development initiatives must be built on strong knowledge of local cultures in order to have lasting effect. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Multi-criteria Evaluation of Wastewater Treatment Scenarios for Small Towns in Developing Countries: Case Study of Toan Thang Town in Vietnam. Pham Ngoc BAO1), Toshiya ARAMAKI2) and Keisuke HANAKI1). Journal of Water and Environment Technology Vol. 8 (2010) , No. 4 pp.269-291. Abstract: Selection of sustainable wastewater treatment scenarios under different local contexts is a complex process because of the inherent trade-offs among socio-economic, environmental and technical as well as functional factors. In order to fulfill conflicting yet complementary objectives, an integrated and systematic approach called the "multi-criteria analysis" (MCA) using a multi-dimensional set of criteria and life cycle assessment (LCA) tools as effective decision support mechanisms for integrated evaluation and selection of sustainable small-town wastewater treatment systems has been developed. Application of this approach was illustrated through a case study of the small Vietnamese town Toan Thang, with an estimated total population of 10,000 people. A short-list of 3 selected scenarios and a multi-dimensional set of criteria facilitated a complex decision-making process. The qualitative analysis results presented in the spider-web diagram as well as the quantitative analysis results from various impact assessments have indicated clearly that the use of waste stabilization ponds is ranked as the first priority and seems to be the most promising and sustainable choice for the town under consideration. The results obtained from this study can be used as a scientific basis and could be valuable inputs for stakeholders' consultation and preference assessment in searching for the most suitable solution under their local context. Free full text http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/jwet/8/4/8_269/_article.

Multiple ecosystem services in the uplands of Vietnam: rice or forests VS. rice and forests. Jourdain D., Dinh Q.D.. 2010. In : 2010, Hanoi, Vietnam. 28th International Rice Research Conference, Climate Change and Rice Agriculture, November 08-12. s.l. : s.n., 1 p.. International Rice Research Conference. 28, 2010-11-08/2010-11-12, Hanoi, Vietnam. : [Abstract] Uplands of Vietnam provide important ecosystem services (ES): food production for the mainly poor and marginalized populations, biodiversity reservoir, and watershed-regulating functions. However, as population increases, finding land uses that alleviate poverty, increase food production, and maintain other ES over time poses real challenges. In the early 2000's, agricultural and forest conservation policies were introduced that triggered the development of irrigated rice. But most bottom valleys will not be large enough to sustain food needs, and the competition between food production and other ES will remain problematic. Besides, requiring farmers to limit their agricultural production in favor of other ES is unlikely to occur unless alternative remunerating activities are proposed to sustain their livelihoods. New varieties and natural resource management technologies have the potential to produce high rice yields even in rainfed conditions, allowing the production one additional rice crop per year. Once food production goals are met on a smaller area, farmers may develop other activities on the sloping areas such as forest re-growth or cultivating permanent crops. As such, the new technologies could contribute indirectly to the success of forest protection/rehabilitation projects. We developed a framework that accounted for agriculture-forestry-environment interactions and analyzed the trade-offs faced by typical farmers. Basic simulation runs with realistic expert data allowed us to discuss the effects of new technologies on these trade-offs. We argued that focusing on forestry alone for preserving watershed ES is likely to be less efficient and equitable than a
double-pronged approach of promoting food production intensification and forestry projects. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.


Natural disasters and household welfare: evidence from Vietnam. Thomas, Timothy; Christiaensen, Luc; Do, Quy Toan; Trung, Le Dang. World Bank policy research working paper 5491. December 2010. Abstract: As natural disasters hit with increasing frequency, especially in coastal areas, it is imperative to better understand how much natural disasters affect economies and their people. This requires disaggregated measures of natural disasters that can be reliably linked to households, the first challenge this paper tackles. In particular, a methodology is illustrated to create natural disaster and hazard maps from first hand, geo-referenced meteorological data. In a second step, the repeated cross-sectional national living standard measurement surveys (2002, 2004, and 2006) from Vietnam are augmented with the natural disaster measures derived in the first phase, to estimate the welfare effects associated with natural disasters. The results indicate that short-run losses from natural disasters can be substantial, with riverine floods causing welfare losses of up to 23 percent and hurricanes reducing welfare by up to 52 percent inside cities with a population over 500,000. Households are better able to cope with the short-run effects of droughts, largely due to irrigation. There are also important long-run negative effects, in Vietnam mostly so for droughts, flash floods, and hurricanes. Geographical differentiation in the welfare effects across space and disaster appears partly linked to the functioning of the disaster relief system, which has so far largely eluded households in areas regularly affected by hurricane force winds. Free full text http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/information/FullText/IB/2010/12/03/000158349_20101203104559/Rendere d/PDF/WPS5491.pdf

Net Buyers and Sellers: Switching in Vietnam. M. ATAMAN AKSOY, JAVIER BEVERINOTTI AND AYLIN ISIK-DIKMELIK. In: Food Prices and Rural Poverty, Edited by: M. ATAMAN AKSOY AND BERNARD HOEKMAN. 2010 by World Bank. From summary: Here we extend the results of Isik-Dikmelik (2006) and analyze the pattern of net food sales and purchases by the same set of Vietnamese households over the five-year period 1993–98. We find that in addition to large numbers of households switching from net buying to net selling of rice and vice versa, more than half the households changed their net purchase (sale) levels significantly. We then estimate the determinants of net buying (and selling) and show that net rice buyers are richer, and are typically non-agricultural wage earners or farm households who produce cash crops. Focusing on the characteristics of households who switched, we show that the switchers are predominantly farming households, are poorer, and tend to be marginal buyers or sellers—that is, their net sales or purchases represent only a small share of their incomes or production. Lastly, we find that food price changes at the household level have large and significant effects on net sales, production, and consumption. This suggests that price increases would lead to higher production, and, more important, to lower consumption, thus modifying the first-order effects of price changes on welfare. Free full text http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/Pubs/Food_Prices_Rural_Poverty.pdf.


Organizational culture of privatized firms and state-owned enterprises in Vietnam. Quy Vo Thi. Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to examine the organizational culture of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and privatized firms (PFs) in Vietnam, and to study whether or not the difference in organizational culture between the two company groups exists. Different organizational cultural dimensions were reviewed. Two comparative groups, SOEs and PFs were surveyed. Based on the work of Cunha and Cooper on organizational cultural types, a structured questionnaire was developed and sent to managers, staffs, and workers in both state-owned and privatized companies. Seven hundred and ninety valid questionnaires were
collected from companies located in Hochiminh City. The results show that PFs have people and market orientations significantly different from that of SOEs. There is not the difference in integration orientation and performance orientation between PFs and SOEs. These findings imply that there are many cultural dimensions existing together in an organization and the ownership structure could be the predictor of organizational culture. The limitations of the study are that the sample is limited to companies located in Hochiminh City, and the convenient sampling technique was used. Therefore the replication of this analysis in other research contexts and regions of the country and the use of random sampling technique would enhance the generalization of the findings. This study provides empirical evidence for the importance of ownership change leading to organizational culture change in the Vietnamese context. Free full text http://veam.org/papers2010/18-%20Vo%20Thi%20Quy-Paper%20Submission%20to%20VEAM%202010.doc.

**Overcoming Barriers to Effective Environmental Aid: A Comparison between Japan, Germany, Denmark, and the World Bank.** Akihisa Mori. The Journal of Environment Development. 2011; 20:3-26. Abstract: When developed countries started providing environmental aid to developing countries, they faced three types of barriers that made such aid ineffective: Conflicting concerns, contracting problems, and lack of capacity. Donors have responded over time with changing policy contents and implementing strategies to convince recipient countries to change their own policies. However, they have taken such steps in different ways. This article examines the ways that bilateral and multilateral donors have adjusted their environmental aid and the results of such adjustments, taking Japan as the center of analysis and comparing it with Germany, Denmark, and the World Bank. The main findings are as follows. First, to overcome the barriers, donors changed their strategy for convincing recipients to make policy change and/or shifted their focus to lower income recipients to take advantage of asymmetric power relations, whereas making minor adjustments to initial policy contents and design within the same environmental discourse. Second, responses to the barriers varied among the donors, reflecting their policy orientation in the environmental discourse, their power relationship with the recipients, and their resource mobilization capacity. Third, sustainability and enforcement of the changed policy depends mainly on the policy contents rather than on the policy change strategy. Full text http://jed.sagepub.com/content/early/2010/10/01/1070496510394316.full.pdf+html.

**Paris Declaration/Hanoi Core Statement Phase 2 Evaluation: Vietnam Country Evaluation.** January 2011. Marcus Cox, Tran Thi Hanh, Tran Hung, Dao Dinh. Executive summary: Vietnam is one of 24 partner countries that have agreed to participate in the second phase of the evaluation of the Paris Declaration. The first phase was conducted in 2007/8, and focused on the inputs and early outputs of the implementation process. The second phase is being conducted in preparation for the 4th High Level Forum in Korea in 2011 and emphasises outcomes and results, to establish whether the long-term goals of the Paris Declaration are being achieved. However, the methodology acknowledges that the contribution of the Paris Declaration to development results may not yet be visible, and calls for an exploration of causal chains that are only just beginning to emerge. -- The main evaluation mission was conducted over a 3-week period from 19 July to 7 August 2010, and involved key informant interviews with a wide range of Government of Vietnam stakeholders and Development Partners, as well as independent observers. A range of data was collected on aid flows and national development results, and a qualitative survey was distributed to stakeholders, with responses received from 11 Development Partners, 4 line ministries and 7 provinces. The Evaluation Team would like to express their appreciation to the staff of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, who provided excellent management and logistical support to the evaluation. However, we should stress that the opinions expressed in this evaluation are entirely our own. The evaluation report is structured around the three core questions in the evaluation matrix. 1. What are the important factors that have affected the relevance and implementation of the Paris Declaration and its potential effects on aid effectiveness and development results? 2. To what extent and how has the implementation of the Paris Declaration led to an improvement in the efficiency of aid delivery, the management and use of aid and better partnerships? 3. Has the implementation of HCS strengthened the contribution of aid to sustainable development results? How? The article provided some recommendations for strengthening aid effectiveness in Vietnam. Free full text http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/16/47083805.pdf
Patient Decision-Making Preference and Physician Decision-Making Style for Contraceptive Method Choice in an Asian Culture: Does Concordance Matter? Dana Latham Alden, Miwa Yamazaki Merz, Le Minh Thi. Health Communication. Philadelphia: Dec 2010. Vol. 25, Iss. 8; p. 718. Abstract: This study investigates preferences for patient-physician decision-making in an emerging economy with an Asian culture. A survey of 445 randomly sampled women, aged 20-40 in Hanoi, Vietnam, revealed that pre-consultation attitudes were most positive toward a “shared” decision-making approach with the physician for contraceptive method choice. However, following random assignment to one of three vignettes (passive, shared or autonomous) featuring a young Vietnamese woman reaching a contraceptive method decision with her physician, preference was highest for the “autonomous” approach. Furthermore, discordance between pre-consultation preference for decision-making style and the physician’s decision-making style negatively impacted evaluations under some but not all circumstances. This study demonstrates that, despite living in a hierarchic Asian culture, active participation in contraceptive method choice is desired by many urban Vietnamese women. However, there is variation on this dimension and adjusting the physician’s style to be concordant with patient preference appears important to maximizing patient satisfaction. Full text available upon request.

Perceptions and strategies in the negotiation process: a cross-cultural examination of USA, Vietnam and Malaysia. Author: Kathryn J. Ready, Mussie T. Tessema. Journal: International Journal of Business and Globalisation 2011 - Vol. 6, No.2 pp. 198 – 216. Abstract: As part of a cross-national study (using survey data), this paper analyses the perceptions of college students regarding negotiation skills, styles and strategies across three countries: USA (n = 457), Vietnam (n = 391) and Malaysia (n = 347). This study presents and examines a number of hypotheses related to the negotiation process. The findings indicate that US students (from the West with an individualist culture) were found to have different negotiation perceptions from those of Malaysian and Vietnamese students (from Asian with a collectivist culture). The findings of this study support previous studies on cross-cultural negotiations. Managerial implications of the findings and an agenda for future research are discussed. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Population changes of early successional forest species after shifting cultivation in Northwestern Vietnam. Tran Van Do, Akira Osawa, Nguyen Toan Thang, Nguyen Ba Van, et al. New Forests. Dordrecht: Mar 2011. Vol. 41, Iss. 2; p. 247 Abstract: The population changes of early successional forest species, Wendlandia paniculata, Schima wallichii, Camellia tsaii, and Lithocarpus ducampii, were described and analyzed in a chronosequence of 1–30 year-old secondary forests representing regrowth after shifting cultivation in northwestern Vietnam, utilizing 51 temporary plots for stem census. Another five temporary plots were used for stem census in surrounding old-growth forest for comparison. In the first year after land abandonment, seedling stem density (H \ 2 m) was 65,800/ha, increasing to 161,200/ha by third year, then sharply decreasing to 2,500/ha in 21–30 year-old forests. The sapling stratum (H ≥ 2 m and DBH \ 5 cm) started to be recruited in the fifth year, increasing to reach a peak density of 4,530 stems/ha at year ten, then decreased to 580 stems/ha at year 21–30. The tree stratum (DBH ≥ 5 cm) achieved the maximum density of 600 stems/ha at year ten. Meanwhile, the density of all strata in the old-growth forest was 2,980 stems/ha. Sprouts played an important role, accounting for 34% at the first year then increased gradually to 73% at year 21–30. Total basal area attained a peak at 5.43 m2/ha at year ten; it was 4.9 m2/ha in the old-growth forest. These four species played an important role in providing ecological services for recruitment of other species during the first 10 years of fallow stand development, which increased to 35 species in 21–30 year-old secondary forest. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/67467w13p6178pj2/.

implementation dragged on for many years, and the result was far different from the party's original objectives. This article argues that villagers and local cadres were two key sets of actors who contributed to the poor performance of the reform. Moreover, in order to defend their land, villagers in the Southern Region engaged not only in forms of everyday resistance but also in some open, public, confrontational resistance and other kinds of politics. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Potential impacts of sea level rise on mangroves in Ca Mau cape, South Vietnam: an application of remote sensing techniques for assessment. Van Dam Tamara1, Van Tran Thi1,2 and Nico Koedam1. Paper prepared for the VLIZ Young Scientists’ Day. Brugge, Belgium, 25 February 2011. Abstract: In Vietnam, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment reported that projected sea level is expected to rise about 30cm and 75cm respectively in 2050 and 2100 (MONRE, 2009). In a comparative analysis, the World Bank concluded that Vietnam ranks among the top 5 countries that will experience the adverse impacts of sea level rise (Susmita et al., 2007). Being aware of climate change impacts, especially sea level rise, the Government of Vietnam approved a ‘National target program to respond to climate change’ (NTP) (NTP, 2008). One of the strategic objectives of the NTP is to assess climate change impacts on sectors and regions in specific periods and to develop feasible action plans to efficiently respond to climate change in the short-term and long-term to ensure sustainable development of Vietnam. Within the context of sea level rise due to climate change, Ca Mau cape is considered as the most vulnerable place in Vietnam. In order to assist the province in the development of their action plan to respond to climate change, this study will play an important role in attempts to provide scientific implications and appropriate solutions for integrating climate change issues into the action plan toward sustainable development. Based on aerial and satellite images this study tried to estimate the changes in the sea level and the impacts on mangrove biodiversity and local communities in the mangrove area located in the Ca Mau cape, a natural mangrove ecosystem with high value of biodiversity, socio-economic importance and scenic beauty. Geographic Information Systems were used to make forecasts about the proposed scenarios on sea level rise and to identify critically endangered areas. Major technical constraints had however been foreseen: quality of images, spatial and temporal coverage of images, insufficient topographical data and basic projection opportunities of sea level data in combination with climate models. The sea level of Ca Mau Cape has already risen with more than one meter during the last 60 years. Since the area is under the influence of both the East Sea and the Gulf of Thailand, a combined influence of erosion and accretion events causes a strong dynamic evolution in the mangrove forest. The erosion rate is about 22.2m per year while the accretion occurs with a rate of 47.1m per year. Projections of the difference in sea level between the past and the present, towards the future indicated that sea level in 2090 will increase 57cm, 64cm and 86cm respectively in the low emission scenario B1, medium emission scenario B2 and high scenario A1FI (relative to the period of 1980-1999). The results of the projections for the migration trends of the mangrove area in the future show that Ca Mau Cape will gain 14.2km², 16km² or 21.5km² mangrove forest depending on the emission scenario (B1, B2 or A1FI respectively). The interpretation of this result must however be combined with the further research on the amounts of mangrove area that will inundate when sea level will rise. Full text available upon request. Information about authors http://www.vliz.be/imisdocs/publications/218872.pdf.

Pregnancies and births among adolescents: A population-based prospective study in rural Vietnam. M Klingberg-Allvin, S Graner, HD Phuc, B Hojer, and A Johansson. Sex Reprod Health. 2010; 1: 15. Abstract: OBJECTIVE: To describe birth rates and pregnancy outcomes, specifically stillbirth, preterm delivery and low birth weight (LBW) in relation to socio-demographic characteristics, among adolescent women in a rural district in northern Vietnam. MATERIAL AND METHOD: Within an epidemiological field laboratory, quarterly surveillance of 7767 adolescent women in the ages 15-19 during the period January 1999 to December 2005 was conducted. Birth rates were calculated and pregnancy outcomes were described in relation to background factors. RESULT: A total of 1021 pregnancies were reported by 926 adolescent women during the period of whom 17% were below 18 years. The estimated adolescent birth rate during 1999-2005 was 27/1000 women-years. The incidence of stillbirth among all births was 19/1000 births. These were more likely to be delivered preterm. The incidence of preterm deliveries and LBW infants was 193 and 75 per 1000 live births, respectively. There were no differences in socio-demographic background for
stillbirth, preterm delivery or LBW. CONCLUSION: Adolescent birth rates were similar to those found in the recent Vietnamese DHS and considerably lower than the average for South-East Asia. Higher rates of stillbirth and preterm delivery were found than those previously reported for Vietnam, indicating the need for careful monitoring of adolescent pregnancies and their infants. Further research is needed to explore if and how much socio-demographic variables influence pregnancy outcome, comparing more differentiated groups, as a basis for interventions to assure access to adequate reproductive health care services for all women. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Property rights, societal structure, and state-society relations: The emergence and prospects of comanagement in Vietnam. Edmund Joo Vin Oh. Paper submitted to the International Conference on Revisiting Agrarian Transformations in Southeast Asia: Empirical, Theoretical and Applied Perspectives 13-15 May 2010, Chiang Mai, Thailand. Abstract: Co-management has emerged in recent years in Vietnam as a promising alternative to exclusive formal state control over natural resources. A growing number of pilot projects are being implemented and the central government appears to be increasingly receptive to implementing the policy and legal reform needed to legitimize comanagement. A policy window is opening for co-management to significantly shape the future of environmental policy in Vietnam. However, for co-management to result in meaningful outcomes for all involved, this paper argues that adequate attention must be paid to the specific societal and institutional context in which it has emerged, and to what extent its adoption will influence or be influenced by that context. Drawing from preliminary insights gained from currently on-going fieldwork in the Mekong Delta, this paper explores the evolution of three types of relationship embodied within the concept of co-management: changing notions of property rights; the changing nature and structure of rural society; and changing state-society relations. Not only do these changing relationships help explain why co-management in Vietnam is “an idea whose time has come” (Borrini-Feyerabend, et al., 2004, p. XXXI), they also have important implications for its success and sustainability in the long term. Free full text http://rcsd.soc.cmu.ac.th/InterConf/paper/paperpdf1_346.pdf

Public knowledge, attitude and practice on influenxa pandemic (H1N1) 2009 prevention in Southern Vietnam. Ho Thi Thien Ngan1, Tran Ngoc Huu1, Bui Thu Huong2, Nguyen Trung Nghia3 and Le Van Tuan. BMC Proceedings 2011, 5(Suppl 1):P8doi:10.1186/1753-6561-5-S1-P8. First paragraph (this article has no abstract): After quickly spreading since March 2009 in Mexico, influenza pandemic H1N1 has affected a large part of the world's population. Countries have made great efforts to contain the pandemic. An important key in containing community transmission and reducing the impacts of the pandemic influenza is to have local people educated to have good knowledge, attitude and practice toward influenza pandemic (H1N1). The aim of this study was to assess knowledge, attitude and practice of local people toward influenza pandemic (H1N1) prevention after launching education programs since early pandemic period (June 2009). Free full text http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1753-6561-5-S1-P8.pdf

Real-time optimisation of the Hoa Binh reservoir, Vietnam. Bertrand Richaud, Henrik Madsen, Dan Rosbjerg, Claus B. Pedersen and Long L. Ngo Hydrology Research 2011 Vol 42 No 2–3 pp 217–228. ABSTRACT Multi-purpose reservoirs often have to be managed according to conflicting objectives, which requires efficient tools for trading-off the objectives. This paper proposes a multi-objective simulation-optimisation approach that couples off-line rule curve optimisation with on-line real-time optimisation. First, the simulation-optimisation framework is applied for optimising reservoir operating rules. Secondly, real-time and forecast information is used for on-line optimisation that focuses on short-term goals, such as flood control or hydropower generation, without compromising the deviation of the long-term objectives from the optimised rule curves. The method is illustrated for optimisation of the Hoa Binh reservoir in Vietnam. The approach is proven efficient to trade-off conflicting objectives. Selected by a Pareto optimisation method, the preferred optimum is able to mitigate the floods in the downstream part of the Red River, and at the same time to increase hydropower generation and to save water for the dry season. The real-time optimisation procedure further improves the efficiency of the reservoir operation and enhances the flexibility for the decision-making. Finally, the quality of the forecast is addressed. The results illustrate the importance of a
sufficient forecast lead time to start pre-releasing water in flood situations. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Recurring Measles Epidemic in Vietnam 2005-2009: Implication for Strengthened Control Strategies. Jephtha C Nmor 1, 2, 3, Hoang T Thanh4, Kensuke Goto1. Int J Biol Sci 2011; 7:138-146. Abstract: Background: Measles remains a serious vaccine preventable cause of mortality in developing nations. Vietnam is aiming to achieve the level of immunity required to eliminate measles by maintaining a high coverage of routine first vaccinations in infants, routine second vaccinations at school entry and supplementary local campaigns in high-risk areas. Regular outbreaks of measles are reported, during 2005-2009. -- Methods: National measles case-based surveillance data collected during 2005-June 2009 was analyzed to assess the epidemiological trend and risk factors associated with measles outbreak in Vietnam.-- Results: Of the 36,282 measles suspected cases reported nationwide, only 7,086 cases were confirmed through laboratory examination. Although cyclical outbreaks occurred between 2005 and 2009, there was no definite trend in measles outbreaks during these periods. Overall, 2438 of measles confirmed cases were among children =5 years and 3068 cases were among people =16 years. The distribution with respect to gender skewed towards male (3667 cases) significant difference was not observed (P= 0.1693). Unsurprisingly, 4493 of the confirmed cases had no history of vaccination (X2 <0.01). The northern and highland regions were identified as the main endemic foci and the spatial distribution changed with time. The occurrence of cases, in a considerable proportion of vaccinated population, is not only a reflection of the high vaccination coverage in Vietnam but also portrays a possibility of less than 100% vaccine efficacy. More so, in order to prevent measles in adults, high-risk groups must be identified and catch-up for selected groups selected. -- Conclusions: This study therefore reinforces the need for continued improvement of surveillance system and to probe into the possible role of changes in age-distribution of cases if the effective control of measles is to be achieved. --Free full text http://www.biolsci.org/v07p0138.htm

Regulation of Consumer Transactions in the Consumer Protection Law of Vietnam. Nguyen Van Cuong. January 3, 2011. Abstract: The first Consumer Protection Law (CPL) of Vietnam was just adopted on 17/11/2010 with the official name “Luat bao ve quyen loi nguoi tieu dung” (literally, Law on Protection of Consumer’s Rights and Interests). The adopted version of the CPL is a result of a long process of drafting, debating and revising with 7 drafts from late 2008 to October 2010. This Law is designed with the underlying assumption that consumers are regarded as weaker parties in their relations with other market players (suppliers) and hence they need a higher level of protection or special protection measures. This approach is widely welcomed and supported among legal drafters of this Law as well as the general public and legal scholars or lawyers in Vietnam. However, this key idea is, as admitted by a member of the Editing Group, only incorporated in the Law with a quite limited extent. The adopted CPL is still far from the initial expectation that this Law should be designed in the manner that it would become a highly consumer-friendly statute. -- This paper will present the key novice aspects of the CPL relating to transactions between consumers and businesses or traders in Vietnam in comparison with the existing legal framework of consumer protection prior to the adoption of this new Law. Despite incorporating many important new consumer protection measures, the adopted CPL remains an incomplete statute. This paper examines this problem by a more detailed analysis of key contents of the CPL regarding consumer transactions including legal provisions directly regulating aspects of consumer transactions as well as legal provisions regarding enforcement mechanisms. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Rethinking the Relationships between Livelihoods and Ethnicity in Highland China, Vietnam, and Laos. Tim Forsyth and Jean Michaud. Abstract: In the far south of China and the neighbouring lands of Southeast Asia there is a mountainous zone that stretches some thousand kilometres from the South China Sea to the Himalayas. This land is not snow-capped nor entirely rocky but instead features a mixture of forest, rain-fed agriculture, and rice terraces that sometimes extend to the very top of steep slopes in deep valleys that criss-cross the region. More than 200 million people distributed over eight countries live in this zone, of which about half belong to ethnic minorities living chiefly in scattered hamlets, villages, and market towns in a staggering array of cultural diversity. This vast region, which we call the Southeast Asian Massif (Michaud
is now increasingly opening up to investment, regional planning, and development interventions, often as countries change from socialism to more liberal markets and political systems. Yet, despite its size and importance, there has been little in-depth research about how people make a living or about the interconnections of cultural diversity, political and economic change, and livelihoods in these highlands. This book presents a number of rich analyses of livelihoods and cultural diversity in selected parts of this region. More specifically, the authors of the chapters here investigate the relationships between livelihoods and ethnicity in the high borderlands of socialist China, Vietnam, and Laos, which together represent more than two-thirds of the Massif’s surface and an even greater proportion of its population. The aim of the book is to present locally grounded analyses of how ethnic minorities there fashion livelihoods, and to question how ethnicity affects, and is influenced by, economic and political changes in relation to these livelihoods. We believe this discussion provides much-needed local information about this complex region. It also demonstrates the role of cultural and ethnic networks as an under-acknowledged influence in the livelihood strategies of so-called “poor people.” This approach is crucial for better informing discussions on poverty alleviation and livelihoods in general; perhaps even more so for the countries of China, Vietnam, and Laos, which have now opened up to marketization and political reform after years of centrally planned economies under state socialism. Together, the authors in this book make three key arguments. First, we suggest that the ways local populations on the margins of centralized states in the Southeast Asian Massif make a living and maintain their identities are shaped both by external forces – such as the state and the market – and by their own agency. Indeed, marginal highland groups demonstrate particular, locally rooted, and culturally informed agency that, in our opinion, is often overlooked in generalized approaches to livelihoods within development practice... Free full text http://www.fss.ulaval.ca/cms/upload/ant/fichiers/chapter1_forsyth__michaud.pdf

Routes to Low Mortality in Poor Countries Revisited. Randall Kuhn. Population and Development Review. New York: Dec 2010. Vol. 36, Iss. 4; p. 655 Abstract In June 1986, Population and Development Review published a highly influential article by John Caldwell entitled “Routes to Low Mortality in Poor Countries.” Amid growing anxiety over decelerating world mortality decline, Caldwell explored social and political pathways to mortality success on the basis of two lists of superior mortality achievers and exceptionally poor mortality achievers, countries whose mortality rankings drastically differed from their income rankings. To mark the quarter-century since Caldwell’s study and chart new pathways, this article looks at the subsequent performance of Caldwell’s original exceptional achievers and develops an updated list of achievers. Analysis highlights the presence of many more poor achievers today; the rising importance of adult mortality as a marker of exceptional achievement; the increasing success of countries in Latin America and the Muslim world; the continued success of China, Vietnam, Cuba, and Costa Rica. Dramatic improvements in schooling outcomes, particularly for women, have reduced the importance of education as a determinant of superior achievement. Reinforcing Caldwell’s original assertions, the synthesis highlights how interactions between social consensus, health care systems, and human capital dependence offer a pathway to superior achievement. These forces may be especially powerful at moments of national crisis. Full text http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1728-4457.2010.00353.x/pdf.

Selecting Sanitation Solutions for Peri-urban Areas: A Case Study of Can Tho, Vietnam. Naomi Carrard, Juliet Willetts, Cynthia Mitchell, Mick Paddon and Monique Retamal. Water Practice & Technology. IWA Publishing 2010. ABSTRACT: In peri-urban areas where infrastructure investments have not yet been made, there is a need to determine the most context-appropriate, fit for purpose and sustainable sanitation solutions. Decision makers must identify the optimal system scale (on the spectrum from centralized to community to cluster scale) and assess the long-term costs and socio-economic/environmental impacts associated with different options. Addressing both cost-effectiveness and sustainability are essential to ensure that institutions and communities are able to continue to bear the costs and management burden of infrastructure operation, maintenance and asset replacement. This paper describes an approach to sanitation planning currently being undertaken as a research study in Can Tho City in southern Vietnam, by the Institute for Sustainable Futures and Can Tho University in collaboration with Can Tho Water Supply and Sewerage Company. The aim of the study is to facilitate selection of the most context-appropriate, fit for purpose, cost effective and sustainable sanitation infrastructure solution. As such, the study compares a range of sanitation alternatives including
centralized, decentralized (at household or cluster scale) and resource recovery options. This paper provides an overview of the study and considers aspects of the Can Tho and Vietnamese regulatory, development and institutional context that present drivers and challenges for comparison of options and selection of fit for purpose sanitation systems. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

“She’s Not a Low-Class Dirty Girl!” Sex Work in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Drafted for Journal of Contemporary Ethnography 2010. Editor, Marybeth Stalp. Introduction: Studies on sex work examine the lives of women working in developed (Bernstein 2007; Hoigard and Finstad 1992; Murphy and Venkatesh 2006; Rosen and Venkatesh 2008; Sanders 2005) and developing countries around the world (Agustin 2007; Askew 1999; Bales 2002; Brennan 2004; Cabezas 2004; Jeffrey 2002; Kempadoo 1999; Kempadoo 2004; McIlwaine 2006; Sanchez Taylor 2000). Scholars pay particular attention to the growth of global sex tourism, marked by the production and consumption of sexual services across borders. A recent body of literature uncovers the complexities of stratified sex industries around the world (Bernstein 2007; O’Connell Davidson 1998; Weitzer 2010; Zheng 2009). In this article I extend the literature on the stratification of sex work by comparing three racially and economically diverse sectors of Ho Chi Minh City’s (HCMC) global sex industry: a low-end sector that caters to poor local Vietnamese men, a mid-tier sector that caters to white backpackers, and a high-end sector that caters to overseas Vietnamese (Viet Kieu) men. First, drawing on Pierre Bourdieu’s (1984) theories of capital, I explain how sex workers’ various economic, cultural, and bodily resources position them in different sectors of HCMC’s stratified sex industry. Global processes, namely the movement of people and capital around the world, expand the sex industry creating different markets and opportunities for female sex workers. Contrary to the current literature, I argue that sex workers are not all poor exploited women; rather, they come with an array of economic, cultural, and bodily resources that provide them with access to various types of local and global men. Second, I expand the literature on client-worker relations in sex work by highlighting the multiple ways through which clients and sex workers mingle economic activity and intimacy. The commonsense understanding of sex is dichotomous: participants engage in sex either relationally (in a romantic encounter) or as an economic transaction (in sex work). When there are material rewards to sex, this perspective contends, each party’s calculus is fundamentally individualistic: the buyer wants sex, and the seller wants material gain. In her research on sex tourism in Cuba, Cabezas (2009) highlights the multivalent encounters of emotional affection that occur in sex work blurring the boundaries between client-worker interactions and romantic relationships. Drawing on seven months of field research between 2006 and 2007, I expand Cabezas’ (2009) framework with a systematic classed analysis of both sides of client-worker relationships. Sex work is not a mere economic transaction; it is an intimate relationship best illustrated by the complex intermingling of money and intimacy (Zelizer 2005). I find that interactions between poor local Vietnamese clients and sex workers in the low-end sector involve economic exchanges that are intimate but not personal, while sex workers and clients in the mid-tier and high-end sectors engage in relational and intimate exchanges developed through the continuous interactions that tie customers to sex workers. In this article I break away from the current understanding that high-class sex work occurs in bounded spheres with clear economic transactions (Bernstein 2007). Instead, I argue that there are porous boundaries in the relations between sex workers and their clients that depend on the strata that they occupy, thus complicating our understandings of sex work by showing how women offer a variety of services that go beyond sex, in return for various forms of payment beyond money. Free full text http://academia.edu.documents.s3.amazonaws.com/1876414/Hoang_Kimberly_Kay_JCE_Draft.pdf

Small and medium sized enterprises’ e-commerce adoption model in Vietnam. Long Pham, Lan Pham, Duong Nguyen. Allied Academies International Conference. Academy of Information and Management Sciences. Proceedings, Cullowhee: 2010. Vol. 14, Iss. 2; p. 18 (5 pages). ABSTRACT: There has thus far been little research exploring the adoption and utilization of e-commerce in SMEs (Grandon & Pearson, 2004). This study has, based on an extensive review of literature on relevant theories on adoption of an innovation, proposed a success model for e-commerce adoption in Vietnamese SMEs. Finally, future research is discussed. Full text available upon request. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply. Proquest.
**Smoking Media Literacy in Vietnamese Adolescents.** Randy M Page, Nguyen T Huong, Hoang K Chi, Truong Q Tien. The Journal of School Health. Kent: Jan 2011. Vol. 81, Iss. 1; p. 34 Abstract: BACKGROUND: Smoking media literacy (SML) has been found to be independently associated with reduced current smoking and reduced susceptibility to future smoking in a sample of American adolescents, but not in other populations of adolescents. Thus, the purpose of this study was to assess SML in Vietnamese adolescents and to determine the association with smoking behavior and susceptibility to future smoking. METHODS: A cross-sectional survey of 2000 high school students completed the SML scale, which is based on an integrated theoretical framework of media literacy, and items assessing cigarette use. Ordinal logistic regression was used to determine the association of SML with smoking and susceptibility to future smoking. Ordinal logistic regression was also to determine whether smoking in the past 30 days was associated with the 8 domains/core concepts of media literacy which comprise the SML. RESULTS: Smoking media literacy was lower among the Vietnamese adolescents than what has been previously reported in American adolescents. Ordinal logistic regression analysis results showed that in the total sample SML was associated with reduced smoking, but there was no association with susceptibility to future smoking. Further analysis showed that results differed according to school and grade level. There did not appear to be association of smoking with the specific domains/concepts that comprise the SML. CONCLUSIONS: The association of SML with reduced smoking suggests the need for further research involving SML, including the testing of media literacy training interventions, in Vietnamese adolescents and also other populations of adolescents. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Social capital and savings behavior: evidence from Vietnam.** Carol Newman, Finn Tarp and Katleen Van Den Broeck. IIIS Discussion Paper No.351 / February 2011. Abstract: We explore the extent to which social capital can play a role in imparting information about the returns to saving where potential knowledge gaps and mistrust exists. Using data from Vietnam we find strong evidence to support the hypothesis that information transmitted via reputable social organizations increases the proportion of liquid assets held in the form of deposits that yield a return. Our results imply that targeting information on the benefits of deposit saving through formal networks or groups would be effective in increasing the number of households that save at grassroots level. Free full text http://www.tcd.ie/iiis/documents/discussion/pdfs/iiisdtp351.pdf.

**Social contact patterns in Vietnam and implications for the control of infectious diseases.** P Horby, PQ Thai, N Hens, NT Yen, le Q Mai, DD Thoang, NM Linh, NT Huong, N Alexander, WJ Edmunds, TN Duong, A Fox, and NT Hien. PLoS One. 2011; 6: e16965. Abstract: -- Background: The spread of infectious diseases from person to person is determined by the frequency and nature of contacts between infected and susceptible members of the population. Although there is a long history of using mathematical models to understand these transmission dynamics, there are still remarkably little empirical data on contact behaviors with which to parameterize these models. Even starker is the almost complete absence of data from developing countries. We sought to address this knowledge gap by conducting a household based social contact diary in rural Vietnam. -- Methods and Findings: A diary based survey of social contact patterns was conducted in a household-structured community cohort in North Vietnam in 2007. We used generalized estimating equations to model the number of contacts while taking into account the household sampling design, and used weighting to balance the household size and age distribution towards the Vietnamese population. We recorded 6675 contacts from 865 participants in 264 different households and found that mixing patterns were assortative by age but were more homogenous than observed in a recent European study. We also observed that physical contacts were more concentrated in the home setting in Vietnam than in Europe but the overall level of physical contact was lower. A model of individual versus household vaccination strategies revealed no difference between strategies in the impact on R0. -- Conclusions and Significance: This work is the first to estimate contact patterns relevant to the spread of infections transmitted from person to person by non-sexual routes in a developing country setting. The results show interesting similarities and differences from European data and demonstrate the importance of context specific data. Free full text http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0016965.
Social protection for rural-urban migrants in Vietnam: current situation, challenges and opportunities. Le Bach Duong, Tran Giang Linh, Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao. CSP Research Report 08, January 2011. Abstract: This report discusses how the lack of adequate policies and institutional programmes of social protection for migrants in general, and the residence-based nature of the current social policy framework in particular, create multiple vulnerabilities and social exclusion among rural-urban migrants in Vietnam. The report also introduces some recent limited responses by the State which are intended to address the situation. It proposes that the State should firstly recognise the legal status of migrants in destination areas and secondly increase migrants’ access to key social and economic resources. In most instances, a strategy based on this proposition would call for a significant departure from current approaches, practices and institutional arrangements underlying the government’s social protection policies. Free full text http://www.socialprotectionasia.org/Conf-prgram-pdf/8-SPA-Final-Paper-No-08.pdf


Solid waste management associated with the development of 3R initiatives: case study in major urban areas of Vietnam. Ngo Kim Chi, Pham Quoc Long. The Journal of Material Cycles and Waste Management. Dordrecht: Feb 2011. Vol. 13, Iss. 1; p. 25 Abstract: The purpose of this article is to describe the application and progress of the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (3R) initiative and its gradual implementation and development in solid waste management in Vietnam through the study of the municipal solid waste management (MSWM) systems of eight major urban cities and provinces. The resulting survey and studies showed that there are big challenges for MSWM in the study areas due to the absence of an appropriate master plan for MSWM; there is a clear need to set up indicators for waste reduction and greenhouse gas emission reduction from waste generators and enterprises involved in MSWM, especially in terms of using 3R activities in the management of industrial waste. The strength and organic combination of institutional frameworks, support measures, and technologies for 3R promotion need to be applied as soon as possible in order to implement MSWM practices using more effective measures; in particular, a reduction in the amount of hazardous substances discarded and improvements in the handling of hazardous waste are required. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/e741076s01t3532/.

Spatio–temporal analyses of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 outbreaks in the Mekong River Delta, Vietnam, 2009. Phan Q. Minh, Mark A. Stevenson, Chris Jewell, Nigel French and Birgit Schauer. Spatial and Spatio-temporal Epidemiology, Volume 2, Issue 1, March 2011, Pages 49-57. Abstract: This paper presents the results of spatio–temporal analyses and epidemic modelling of HPAI H5N1 outbreaks that occurred in four provinces of the Mekong River Delta, Vietnam between January and March 2009. Significant spatio–temporal interaction of disease risk was observed within a distance of 10 km and 12 days following the detected onset of clinical signs. We estimate that the household-to-household infection rate within a commune was approximately 50 times greater than the household-to-household infection rate between communes. Our findings show that the predominant mechanism of infection transfer was local spread. A comparison of disease control procedures and veterinary capacity in communes with relatively high and low infection rates should help to identify procedures essential for effective outbreak management in this area of Vietnam. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B9868-51M60MJ-1&_user=10&_coverDate=03%2F31%2F2011&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_origin=search&_sort=d&_docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1593431249&_rerunOrigin=scholar.google&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_userid=10&md5=9596aa771a77b5a1039b3da23fa8b75&searchtype=a

Strategic environmental assessment application for sustainable transport-related air quality policies: a case study in Hanoi City, Vietnam. Duc Luong Nguyen and Nowarat Coowanitwong. Environment,
Development and Sustainability. Abstract: Recognition has grown among policy-makers that early in the decision-making process, there is a need for an environmental assessment of the effects of the policy, plan, and program (PPP) and their alternatives. Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is widely recognized as a supporting tool that systematically integrates environmental aspects into strategic decision-making processes, thereby contributing to sustainable development. In this study, SEA was applied for an integrated assessment of environmental, social, and economic impacts of a wide range of scenarios for transport-related air quality policies to help decision-makers in identifying the most sustainable scenario with the purpose of reducing carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations from transport emissions in Hanoi City, Vietnam. In conducting SEA process, the urban air dispersion model MUAIR was used as a quantitative tool in prediction of CO concentrations. To evaluate the predicted impacts of scenarios, the SEA objectives concerning sustainability and the corresponding sustainable indicators were identified. Based on the likely significant predicted impacts on landscape, biodiversity, and health benefits, mitigation measures were proposed. These included planning in infrastructure development and implementation of public education campaign. The results of predicted and evaluated impacts of scenarios as well as proposed mitigation measures were taken into account for supporting sound decision-making that is consistent with the principles of sustainable development. Considering sustainable impacts of the scenarios, the SEA result clearly indicates that a combination of policy for public transport development and policy for installation of oxidation catalytic converter for motorcycles is the most sustainable scenario for reducing CO concentrations from transport emissions. Full text http://www.springerlink.com/content/3mn1164kkv502717/.

Sustainability of rural sanitation marketing in Vietnam: Findings from a new case study. Authors: Devine, Jacqueline; Sijbesma, Christine. Source: Waterlines, Volume 30, Number 1, January 2011, pp. 52-60(9). Abstract: From 2003 to 2006, International Development Enterprises piloted a rural sanitation marketing approach in two provinces of Vietnam. During this period, coverage of sanitary toilets grew from 16 per cent to 46 per cent. Some three years after the project ended, the Water and Sanitation Program initiated a research study to investigate the sustainability of outcomes achieved. The study was conducted in collaboration with IRC and ADCOM and used a variety of methods including focus group discussion and structured interviews with community members, suppliers and promoters. The study found that coverage had continued to grow in pilot communes and had reached 59 per cent two years later. Promoters had continued their activities, albeit at a lesser intensity level. Many suppliers had expanded their product range and customer base and reported that their revenues from sanitation increased. Lack of tailored information on more affordable toilet construction and financing were the main barriers for those who had not yet built a sanitary toilet, despite having been reached by the pilot project. Free full text http://www.wsp.org/wsp/sites/wsp.org/files/publications/WSP_SustainabilityCaseStudy_TSSM.pdf.

Technology Transfer to Vietnam for Process Innovation through Engineer Exchanges under China plus One Strategy, Firm-level Evidence. Tomohiro Machikita, Chi Binh Truong Thi, Yasushi Ueki. DEPOCEN Working Paper Series No. 2011/17. Abstract: Increasing wages in coastal areas and the risk of Yuan appreciation in China will encourage firms in China to adopt China plus One strategy. More firms establish plants in Vietnam to take advantage of supporting industries in China and hedge China risk. Hanoi and its surrounding region will be one of the main destinations for FDIs into manufacturing sectors. Although Vietnam can provide cheap labor forces, firms in Vietnam do not have sufficient technological and managerial capabilities to participate in international production networks. International technology transfer is needed for Vietnam to achieve international business standards. This paper presents firm-level evidence on process innovation through technology transfer to firms in Hanoi. We emphasize engineer exchanges as a channel of technology transfer. A case study of Japanese firm invested from China to establish a plant in Hanoi is also introduced to complement the empirical result. Free full text http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/Yasushi%20Ueki/Technology%20Transfer%20to%20Vietnam%20for%20Process%20Innovation%20through%20Engineer%20Exchanges%20under%20China%20plus%20One%20Strategy%20Firm%20level%20Evidence_DEPOCENWP.pdf.
The current state on water quality, eutrophication and biodiversity of West Lake. (Hanoi, Vietnam) LUU Lan-Huong1, BUI Thi-Hoa1, DO Van-Thanh2, NGUYEN Thi-Thanh-Nga3. Paper prepared for the 13th World Lake Conference, Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, 1-5 November 2009. Abstract: West lake has been classified as one of 500 valuable lake [1] that need to be protected in the world for its valuable freshwater genetic resource of flora and fauna But nowadays, the water quality has been declining. The eutrophication is occured that is following the decrease of the biodiversity on the species composition in the lake. According to our monitoring result, some of species was disappeared (Angulyagra polyzonata, Megalobrana terminalis, Luciobrama typus...). The heavy metal concentrations in water, aquatic organisms and sediment in West Lake are rather high. Although they not exceed yet the Standard, but they represent a potentially serious health hazard to swimmers and bathers in the lake. Besides, because of the persistence and bioaccumulation in food chains, they are very dangerous to aquatic organisms and humans if they were used as the food. -- In this research, we used the Jorgensen model to determine the distribution of Pb in the West lake ecosystem. There are 4 state variables in this model include: water, sediment, plankton and suspended matters, aquatic plants and animals. The equations were solved by numerical methods and simulated by Stella II software. The results show that: in general, the Pb concentration in components of the West lake ecosystem (water, sediment, animals, plants...) is lower than permitted standard. The Pb concentration in sediment is highest, the following are in mollusca, nekton and in water is lowest. The results from model show that the Pb concentration in water is quite stable, the Pb concentration in aquatic organisms increases, but the increasing level is not so high and from 2 to 5 times after 10 years. However, the Pb concentration in sediment quickly raises and the increasing level can reach 50 times after 10 years (from 105 to 5016 mg/g ). -- In this subject we used also the Vollenweider model, empirical watershed model and Jorgensen model to determine the eutrophication of West lake by Phosphorous concentration in the lake water. The results of the models showed that the ability of Eutrophication of West lake is very high, because of the content of Phosphorous in lake exceed allowable standards (0,03 mg/l) many times. The results of simulation to predict show that: Eutrophication of West lake is able to control if a sufficient amount of fish (<5 g/l) is maintained in the lake. To maintain a sufficient amount of fish, it is necessary to plan time to catch fish and amount of fish need catching. The research recommends that fish should be caught 5% every year and 10-15% every 5 year. Free full text http://wldb.ilec.or.jp/data/ilec/WLC13_Papers/others/48.pdf

The Drafting Process of the Law on Protection of Consumers’ Rights and Interests of Vietnam. Nguyen Van Cuong. December 16, 2010. Abstract: In this paper, I will closely follow and describe the process of drafting the CPL in Vietnam from the time the proposal to adopt a CPL (legislative initiative) was formulated to the time the Law was officially adopted and promulgated to shed more light on the above-mentioned initial comments. In the other words, this chapter would describe the behaviours of legislative drafters and relevant agents in formulating the Draft of the CPL in the context that their behaviours were placed under many constraints including the social and economic experiences, the constitutional constraints, the constraints of the Law on Laws and other implicit constraints from the legal culture in Vietnam. Free full text http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1727002.

The Forgotten Property Rights: Evidence on Land Use Rights in Vietnam. Thomas Markussen, Finn Tarpa, b and Katleen Van Den Broecka. World Development. Article in Press, Corrected Proof - Available online 16 December 2010. Summary: Studies of land property rights usually focus on tenure security and transfer rights. Rights to determine how to use the land are regularly ignored. However, user rights are often limited. Relying on a unique Vietnamese panel data set at both household and plot levels, we show that crop choice restrictions are widespread and prevent crop diversification. Restrictions do not decrease household income, but restricted households work harder, and there are indications that they are supplied with higher quality inputs. Our findings are consistent with the view that it is possible to intervene effectively in agricultural production to promote output and food security. Nevertheless, potential benefits of a more diversified crop pattern must be carefully considered in a period where global food markets are in turmoil. Full text http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VC6-51PXTFV-2&_user=10&_coverDate=12%2F16%2F2010&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_origin=search&_sort=
The grass isn't always greener. By: LAMSTER, MARK. Architect, Jan2011, Vol. 100 Issue 1, p132-133, 2p, 1 Map; Abstract: The article discusses the architectural master plan for the city of Hanoi in Vietnam. The plan was put together by Perkins Eastman architecture firm, commissioned by the Vietnam government through Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung. It also reports that the plan will take Hanoi through to 2050 to be at par with cities like London in Great Britain, Moscow, Russia and Tokyo, Japan. Free full text http://www.architectmagazine.com/planning/the-grass-isnt-always-greener-a-master-plan-for-h.aspx.

The impact of the investment climate on total factor productivity (TFP) in the agricultural sector: the case of Hanoi, Vietnam. Tran Quang Trung and Tran Huu Cuong. J. ISSAAS Vol. 16, No. 2:87-97 (2010). ABSTRACT: This study measures the impact of investment climate factors on the total factor productivity (TFP) of agricultural manufacturing firms in Hanoi, Vietnam. Endogeneity of the production function and of the investment climate variables is addressed by using econometric models, based on individual firm information, and by aggregating investment climate factors by various business lines. Specifically, the analysis is conducted in two steps: first, an econometric production function is estimated to produce a measure of TFP at the firm level; in the second step, variation in TFP across firms is statistically related to indicators of the investment climate as well as firm characteristics. The result yields a number of insights on the factors that underlie productivity. In a variety of business lines, indicators of poor investment climate, especially the administrative clearance time variable which has significant negative effects on total factor productivity. Decreasing by one hour in administrative clearance time could increase TFP by 1.7 - 5.7%. Indicators such as time of land rent, certification of clean production, market competition, age of the firm, and educated labor have positive effects on TFP. However, levels of effects from investment climate factors on TFP are different among business lines. Free full text http://www.issaas.org/journal/v16/02/journal-issaas-v16n2-09-tran%20quang%20trung.pdf

The impact of the stimulus package on the agricultural sector in Vietnam. Paper prepared for the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society 2011 Conference (55th), February 8-11, 2011, Melbourne, Australia. Trang, Truong Thi Thu Vanzetti, David Abstract The global financial crisis in 2008-2009 has affected almost all countries. Vietnam was hit by a large fall in export demand and foreign direct investment. Many governments quickly prescribed stimulus packages and Vietnam was no exception. It reduced taxes and increased government spending, mainly by subsidizing loans to state-owned enterprises. The question is what the stimulated impact is, if any, and whether a better outcome could have been achieved by a different mix of policies. In this paper, we use a simple general equilibrium model to quantify the impact of the various components of the stimulus package on the whole economy as well as agricultural sector. The results suggest that, in the short run at least, the stimulus package marginally stabilised national production and income. The package led to a reduction in total welfare because it favoured the non-agricultural sector. The poor in the agricultural sector could be better off if the investment policy were to boost demand for agricultural products. Furthermore, the risk of inflation and real exchange rate appreciation could undermine national competitiveness. Free full text http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/100722/2/Trang_Vanzetti_AARES_final.pdf

The influence of changes in the market environment on economic production characteristics of pangasius farming in the Mekong delta (Vietnam). Tu van Binh, Marijke D’Haese, Stijn Speelman, Luc D’Haese. Marine Resource Economics 2010. Volume 25, Issue 4. Start Page 373, End Page 390. Abstract The Mekong Delta in Vietnam has become an important production area for pangasius. The importance of the sector in providing an income to many households means that it is relevant to study its economic production characteristics. In this article we use a stochastic cost frontier model to assess the adaptability of the sector. We are particularly interested in the effect of the changing market environment and the exponential growth of the sector on the evolution of production characteristics. We compare data from 2002 with 2006 data. The results show that pangasius farming became more efficient by 2006, with higher returns to scale. We discuss
The possible policy implications of our findings. Free full text

The Perception of the European Union in Southeast Asia: Low Priority Statuses and Selectivity. Portela, Clara.
Asia Europe Journal, October 2010, v. 8, iss. 2, pp. 149-60. Abstract: The article examines the external image
of the EU among elites in five selected Southeast Asian countries: Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore,
and the Philippines. Southeast Asia offers an interesting area for examining perceptions. Firstly, this region
is linked to Europe by a long-standing and prosperous trade relationship. Secondly, the Association of South
East Asian Nations has embarked on a process of deepening integration, adopting certain elements of the EU
in its design. How desirable is the EU experience as an example of how to deepen integration? And how are
EU external policies such as trade, human rights and environment perceived by stakeholders in the region?
The article analyses perceptions on the themes of integration and external polices, contrasting them with the
scholarly understandings of the EU as a 'benign' actor, notably the notions of 'normative', 'civilian', and 'soft'
power. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

The right tree for the right bird: Location choice decision of Taiwanese firms’ FDI in China and Vietnam. Han-
Available online 15 December 2010. Abstract: Firms have to invest in foreign markets to maintain their
competitive advantage, but a popular location for foreign direct investment (FDI) may not be suitable for
everyone. Available literature as to location choice is mainly based on developed countries and large
multinational enterprises (MNEs). However, this study investigates the location choice behaviour of firms
originating in newly industrialized economies (Taiwanese firms) investing in emerging countries (China and
Vietnam). According to the national economic development of China (further divided into South China and
East China) and Vietnam, we divide the location into more developed and less developed regions. Through an
empirical firm-level data collection and conditional logit analysis, this study found that: (1) firms with
stronger ownership advantages prefer to invest in more developed than less developed regions; (2) firms
occupying favourable positions in their network prefer to invest in more developed than less developed
regions; (3) firms with a high degree of networking prefer to invest in less developed than more developed
regions; (4) firms choose to invest in more developed than less developed regions to gain access to a large
market; and (5) firms with strong resource-seeking motives prefer to invest in more developed than less
developed regions to access their resources. Full text
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VGK-51PRHDW-
1&_user=1916569&_coverDate=12%2F15%2F2010&rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=gateway&_origin=gateway&
_sort=d&docanchor=&view=c&_searchStrId=1661634940&_rerunOrigin=google&acct=C000055300
&version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=1916569&md5=9a25d3209930a23e881e51b7529002af&searchtype=a.

The use of the web as a marketing tool by selected arts organisations in Vietnam : a preliminary investigation.
Le, Huong and Sargent, Jason 2010-01, TMC academic journal, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 50-63. Summary This paper
presents exploratory findings into the use of the web as a marketing tool by arts organisations in Vietnam.
The uniform resource locators (URLs) of Vietnamese arts organisations listed in the cultural profiles category
of the directory of Vietnamese Cultural Organisations/Departments created by Visiting Arts (UK) for the
Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism, Vietnam (MCST) (formerly Ministry of Culture and Information –
MOCI) were accessed. 17 of these websites were ‘live’ at the time of the study and were evaluated to
determine current levels of marketing functionality utilised within the sites. The findings of the evaluation
were analysed from the perspective of the four elements of marketing mix (price, place, product and
promotion). The study found that all 17 Vietnamese arts organisations analysed were less sophisticated in the
usage of the web as a marketing tool compared with their Western counterparts, and that such organisations’
websites contained basic information catalogues and contact details but had limited multimedia functionality.
The implications to audience development will be explored further through a survey with stakeholders of the
17 arts organisations in Vietnam as a future research stream. Free full text
The Utilization of Water Resources and the Establishment of Water Right Systems in Vietnam. WU Ming-hai, ZHANG Dai-qing, YANG Na. China rural water and hydropower 2010-10. Abstract: This paper introduces the basic situation of water resources in Vietnam, and points out such features of water resources as uneven distribution of rainfall and 60% of water resources from Vietnam's neighboring countries, and analyzes such issues as lack of integrated water resources management strategies and action plans, overexploitation and serious water pollution and water waste existing in the development and utilization of water resources in Vietnam. And then the ideas of water right systems in Vietnam are proposed by learning from China's water right research, and these ideas are mainly proposed from the water right systems in Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Towards sustainable housing for Vietnam. Phuong LY, Janis BIRKELAND, Nur DEMIRBILEK. Paper prepared for the 4th International Conference on Sustainability Engineering and Science. THEME: Blueprints for Sustainable Infrastructure. DATE: 30 November - 3 December 2010. LOCATION: Faculty of Engineering, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand. Abstract: Economic development in Vietnam has led to the spontaneous development of new housing in many parts of Vietnam without consideration of environmental protection, cultural suitability, or resource reduction. The transition of Vietnamese housing into a sustainable industry is both an opportunity and challenge. Vietnam has to satisfy a growing demand for housing while confronting the issues of climate change, extreme weather events, nature conservation and cultural heritage. To that end, model green building guidelines are being developed to facilitate Vietnam’s adoption of sustainable development principles and practices. This paper presents the results of a survey and interviews carried out in Vietnam to ensure that model green guidelines align with the cultural and consumer preferences of the Vietnamese people. Free full text http://www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz/conference/2010/papers/Ly-Birkeland-Demirbilek.pdf

Trade Reforms and Welfare: An Ex Post Decomposition of Income in Vietnam. Aylin Isik-Dikmelik. In: Food Prices and Rural Poverty, Edited by: M. ATAMAN AKSOY AND BERNARD HOEKMAN. 2010 by World Bank. From introduction section: Using panel data for Vietnamese households for 1993 and 1998—before and after the major reform of the rice market—this chapter investigates the importance of the various links from trade reforms to household welfare over time: the first and second-round price effects, the labor market effect, and the multiplier effect. First we document the characteristics of different groups of households and the switches that took place in their status as net buyers or sellers of rice, in addition to calculating the income growth that took place for the different groups over the five-year period. We then examine the sources of the income growth for each group to understand the importance of various links in household welfare, and use multivariate regression analysis to help explain what factors contributed to the change in welfare. It is difficult to attribute all the changes in household welfare to trade reforms; however, by constructing a counterfactual without the reforms, Litchfield and others (2003) find that liberalization was a crucial component of the decline in poverty in Vietnam. -- Our results show that the trade reforms benefited all groups of households. The extent of this benefit differed, depending on characteristics such as where households lived (urban-rural, regions) and whether they were net rice buyers or sellers. Poorer households experienced the most gain. Thus growth was pro-poor, as also evidenced by Vietnam’s drastic decline in poverty rates during this period. As would be expected, the importance of the various links from trade reform to household welfare varied among groups of households. The direct effect of the reform, channeled through changes in rice prices and production (hence income from rice), was most important for net rice seller households and households who lived in Vietnam’s more prosperous South. The indirect effect—the effect on earnings from outside agriculture, especially non-farm business income and nonagricultural wages—contributed a significant part of the growth for all households. The labor market link was not significant for most rural households, as shown by the small (mostly negative) contributions of agricultural wages to growth. This is consistent with the fact that landless agricultural workers are not common in Vietnam; almost all rural households had rights to some land during both survey years and agricultural wages contributed only small shares of rural income. Rural
households who specialized increasingly in food crop production experienced higher than average growth, as did rural households who got more of their income from non-farm business in 1998, compared to 1993. We also find that households who switched from being net sellers to net buyers had more growth than those who switched the other way. -- The chapter is organized as follows. The first section reviews some theoretical considerations. Section 2 presents an overview of the Vietnamese economy and describes the characteristics of households, and Section 3 explains the methodology used. Section 4 presents the results, describing the growth that took place in income, the sources of the growth, and the household characteristics that determined growth. Section 5 concludes. Free full text

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/Pubs/Food_Prices_Rural_Poverty.pdf

Training and firm performance in economies in transition: a comparison between Vietnam and China. Thang Ngoc Nguyen, Quang Truong, Dirk Buyens. Asia Pacific Business Review. Abingdon: Jan 2011. Vol. 17, Iss. 1; p. 103  Abstract This paper provides a comparative analysis on the role of training and its impact on firm performance in some economies in transition in Asia. The starting point is an examination of country contexts and training, and how these have shaped organizational approaches to human resource (HR) training. The paper also reviews the results of recent studies that have investigated the relationship between training and firm performance in Vietnam and China. The review results show that training is positively related to firm performance and reveals some convergence of HR training in both countries. On the basis of this, some caveats on HR training development in the future in these two countries are given. The paper ends with theoretical and practical implications. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Underpricing and Long-term Performance of Auctioned IPOs: the Case of Vietnam. Gavriel Ayi Ayaiyi. International Research Journal of Finance and Economics. Issue 61 (2011). Abstract: This paper provides the first in-depth analysis of the issues related to the pricing and aftermarket performance of IPOs in Vietnam. First, we show that the Vietnamese IPO market is dominated by mature and strong capitalization firms that try to control the timing of their IPOs. Second, we find that the discriminatory auction mechanism Vietnamese firms use to discover their prices results in greater fluctuations in auction-to-listing returns (-93.63% to 1,182.68%). Third, with a very low average first-day return of 0.58%; the majority of listed firms underperformed the VN-Index market on both 3-year and 5-year horizons. Free full text http://www.eurojournals.com/IRJFE_61_11.pdf

Using online surveys in Vietnam: An exploratory study. Phuong H Vu, Jonas Hoffmann. International Journal of Market Research. Henley-on-Thames: 2011. Vol. 53, Iss. 1; p. 41  Abstract Although online surveys have become an important quantitative research method throughout the world, thanks to their relative low cost and high speed, their application in marketing research in emerging countries is still limited due to infrastructure and sociocultural barriers. This exploratory study assesses the potential for the deployment and use in the South-East Asian emerging country of Vietnam. Results suggest that the potential use of online surveys for marketing research in Vietnam is at the moment limited to companies, and to young and high-income social classes. All things being equal, the conditions necessary for online surveys to be successfully used in a country such as Vietnam are still five to seven years in the future. The paper discusses the difficulties in applying this survey method, and gives recommendations on how to adapt the online surveys method for use in present-day Vietnam. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Vietnam and Infrastructure: Hope for the Emerging Future. John T Finley. Journal of Global Business Issues. Burbank: Summer 2010. Vol. 4, Iss. 2; p. 103 (5 pages). ABSTRACT: The US Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office defines infrastructure as the framework of interdependent networks and systems comprising identifiable industries, institutions, and distribution capabilities that provide a reliable flow of products and services essential to the defense and economic security of the U.S., the smooth functioning of governments at all levels, and society as a whole"(Presidential Decision Directive 63, 1998). Fundamentally, an infrastructure is "the underlying foundation or basic framework (as of a system or organization)". Vietnam is a country that is struggling to rebuild itself after long periods of war and destruction. This emerging nation with its recent history of devastation resulting from decades of conflict is currently experiencing high growth in their GDP at
8% from 2004-2007 (second only to China). Although not one of the Southeast Asian is not one of the 'Tigers' of global growth that have characterized the region, investments and savings have shown solid growth since the last reforms in 2000. Their recent admission into the WTO in 2006 makes them particularly interesting as they begin to explore globalization and capitalist economic advances. This paper treats the methods engaged in by Vietnam that might provide clues about what can be considered successful early stages of development for emerging countries. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Vietnam Outsourcing Risks Management.** Than Lam. Journal of Applied Business Research (JABR) Vol 27, No 1 (2011). Abstract: The exploratory qualitative research study relied on 32 available literatures from 1983 to 2008 to explore the outsourcing risk to the supply chain management infrastructure within the context of an alliance relationship in which the multinational corporation’s manufacturing is outsourced to Vietnam business partners. The paper attempted to define the impact of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) legislation governing the United States’ Multi National Corporations (MNC), roles of culture, ethically, and social responsibility principles in assessing and mitigating global risks. The paper discussed ethical leadership behavior in risk management. In addition, the paper presented strategies to integrate a relational exchange model and Cost-of-Risk Analysis (CORA) two-step process for cost-benefit evaluation for mitigating global supply chain management risks. The paper also highlighted financial risk management strategies using a net present value (NPV) of at least zero to embark on expenditure streams. Recommendations, summary and conclusion were also presented. Free full text http://journals.cluteonline.com/index.php/JABR/article/viewArticle/909

**Vietnam. International Tax Review.** 2011 World Tax, p678-680, 3p, 1 Chart; Abstract: This article provides information on the tax system in Vietnam in 2011. It presents an overview of taxation services offer by a number of firms in the country, including KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Deloitte. The article also gives the country's corporate income, capital gains, branch and withholding tax rates, as well as its dividends, interest and royalties. It cites the imposition of a corporate income tax to petroleum and mining companies. The taxation of gains derived from sates of fixed assets is also noted. Full text http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=56472493&site=ehost-live

**Vietnam: Current Debates on the Transformation of Academic Institutions.** Tran Ngoc Ca and Nguyen Vo Hung. In: Universities in Transition: Insight and Innovation in International Development, 2011, Part II, 119-142. Abstract: Vietnam has been experiencing dramatic changes over the past few decades in almost all its political, social, and economic spheres. This has had a strong influence on the evolution of the academic system. Historically, the academic institutions (research institutes and universities) date back to the French regime. The first modern Vietnamese university (specializing mainly in the medical and pharmaceutical fields) was established in Hanoi. In addition, some research institutes operating in the fields of medicine, pharmacology, or biomedicine, such as the Pasteur Institute, were established by the French. Furthermore, during the war, academic institutions were developed both in the North (under the Soviet academic model, e.g., Hanoi Polytechnic) and the South Vietnam (more like the Western style, e.g., Can Tho University). They had a strong imprint on the war-time activities with missions that focused more on training and provision of problem-solving methods to serve military needs. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

**Vulnerability and Risk Management of Rural Farm Households in Northern Vietnam.** Isabel Fischer. Dissertation submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences to the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Hohenheim 2010. Over the past 20 years, the Vietnamese Government has achieved remarkable results in poverty reduction, which were mainly accomplished by the launching of the ‘doi moi’ reform process in 1986. Although Vietnam has made good progress concerning the implementation of the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and poverty levels are already meeting the standards, 28.9 per cent of the total population (85 million in 2007) are still living below the national poverty line (UNDP, 2007). Regional disparities are apparent and there are still many challenges, including the reduction of child mortality as well as the enhancement of maternal healthcare and the quality of primary education (United Nations Vietnam, 2009). Major improvements are necessary, especially in the
mountainous, rural areas of Northern Vietnam, which are mainly populated by ethnic minorities. According to the General Statistics Office of Vietnam the poverty rate in this particularly underdeveloped region was still 49 per cent in 2006, by far the highest rate in Vietnam. Focusing on the Uplands of Northern Vietnam, it may be summarized that farming remains the most important economic sector and the population in this region is increasing fast. To date, the natural resources have been depleting as well as the environment has been degrading seriously due to unsustainable expansion of agriculture on sloping lands. All in all, poor and near-poor ethnic minority households are vulnerable to a broad range of risks, which can have devastating effects on their livelihoods and well-being. As formal insurance schemes do not yet contribute to reduce risk and its consequences, vulnerable households have developed sophisticated risk management strategies. Hence, this study concentrated its research on the livelihoods of vulnerable rural households, and their adaptive and coping strategies regarding risks. While adaptive strategies are ex-ante strategies and aim at securing income even in times of crises, coping strategies are a reaction to acute risks and are employed ex-post. Informal social networks and semi-formal micro-insurance schemes count to the former strategies and either keep vulnerability levels constant or even reduce them. The latter strategies try to smooth consumption, nevertheless, often at the expense of the future livelihood, thereby increasing vulnerability. Free full text http://opus.ub.uni-hohenheim.de/volltexte/2011/529/pdf/Diss_Fischer_Isabel.pdf

Water for Forest: Potential impact of alternative land setaside programs at village and farm levels in the mountainous areas of Vietnam. Jourdain D., Boere e:, Dan Dinh Quang, Van den Berg M., Cu Phuc Thanh, Do Anh Tai. 2010. In : 07/2010, Hanoi, Vietnam. International Symposium Sustainable Land Use and Rural Development in Mountainous Regions of Southeast Asia, 21-23. s.l. : s.n., 19 p.. International Symposium Sustainable Land Use and Rural Development in Mountainous Regions of Southeast Asia, 2010-07-21/2010-07-23, Hanoi, Vietnam. The uplands of Northern Vietnam, often having low agricultural productivity, are home to the poorest of the rural poor. The ecosystem services such as food production for marginalized populations, biodiversity reservoirs, and watershed regulating functions have been under increasing pressure due to decollectivisation and the following redistribution of the land, liberalization of the markets and a rapid population growth. To partly reverse these major changes we analyzed the impact of alternative schemes on farm revenues that would set aside cultivated land for forest natural re-growth. Instead of farmers receiving individual financial rewards, we explored the impact of improving collective infrastructures so that more water is made available for irrigation. Using mathematical programming a farm model was developed, in which we investigated scenarios where some land in the sloping area of the catchment is set aside for forest natural re-growth (which aims at restoration of watershed functions), while additional land is made irrigable in the lowland compartment of the farms. The impacts on land use, individual farm revenues, per head revenues and village revenues were analyzed. This led us to conclude that a reduction of cropped area in the sloping compartment, associated with a small increase in irrigable land in the lower compartment, had little impact on the aggregate village revenues. Moreover, under most scenarios, revenues were more equally distributed among households of a community. In fact, careful distribution of small quantities of irrigable land could be very beneficial to irrigation-poor farmers, while the revenues of the more well-off ones are almost not affected. However, this would require some coordination at village or commune levels, and a deliberate choice to help the poorly endowed households. Full text available upon request. Fee may apply.

Which accessible and safe road is ensured for the elders and the disabled people? The case in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam. Thi Thanh Huong Nguyen. Paper presented at The 12th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED), held in Hong Kong on 2-4 June, 2010. SUMMARY: Roads in Vietnam are so crowded and unsafe for pedestrians, mostly more dangerous in crossing the roads. There are about 16,000 death cases due to traffic accidents per year in Vietnam, 40% of which happen to the pedestrians and bicycle drivers [according to Vietnam Road Safety Program]. This figure makes people, especially the seniors and the PWD1 - the most vulnerable entities, feel afraid of participating in transport. -- Seniors and PWD are not only belongs to the most vulnerable group who participate in traffic activities, but also an important object in the strategy of sustainable urban transport development. However, they don’t receive the appropriate attention from authorities and other vehicle drivers in Vietnam. Therefore, the objectives of this paper are concentrated to study in: (i) the fact and the reason of seniors and PWD’
difficulties in displacement; (ii) how do local authorities take care to this group; and (iii) how to ensure the accessibility, the safety and the convenience for seniors and PWD. -- This paper will do a deep research about the difficulties and disadvantages of group of seniors and PWD on Vietnam’s roads; review the real situation and the effectiveness of policies, rules and regulations made by city’s committee; compare them with the standard principles on organizing the safe and convenient transport system for seniors and PWD. Keen on this purpose, this paper will collect the global experience and lessons to draw out the standard theory principles on organizing the safe and convenient transport for seniors and PWD. After that, this paper will observe the actual situation in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh’s roads. The analysis will be draw from the observation in order to find the direction of research for assuming the transport of this group. -- It will be honor for this paper, which is specially designed for seniors and PWD, if it is considered the support document for local authorities related to managing traffic and transportation in Vietnam.-- Free full text http://www.sortclearinghouse.info/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1662&context=research

Who can save the unseen? : Studies on neonatal mortality in Quang Ninh province, Vietnam. Målqvist, Mats. Uppsala : Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, 2010. Series: Digital Comprehensive Summaries of Uppsala Dissertations from the Faculty of Medicine, 1651-6206 ; 587. Abstract: Globally, neonatal mortality has remained basically unchanged for the last three to four decades and every year almost four million newborns die before reaching one month of age. This persistent mortality is related to an invisibility of the newborn child in policies and statistics and a neglect of health care decision-makers, planners and practitioners to deliver a perinatal continuum of care. In recent years attention has however been brought to the unchanged neonatal mortality in an effort to improve survival. The present thesis seeks to increase understanding of obstacles for better neonatal survival. The studies performed are undertaken as sub-studies to the NeoKIP project in Quang Ninh province in northern Vietnam, a randomized controlled trial of knowledge implementation for improved neonatal survival (Neonatal Health – Knowledge Into Practice, ISRCTN 44599712). In the first paper we investigated and discussed the scope of invisibility of neonatal mortality through measuring the accuracy of official statistics on neonatal deaths. The second paper reports an inquiry of determinants of neonatal mortality by use of a population-based case-referent design. Paper III and IV analyse delivery care utilization and care seeking patterns prior to and at delivery using narratives and GIS technique. There was a substantial under-reporting of neonatal mortality in the official statistics, with study results showing a four times higher neonatal mortality rate in Quang Ninh province than reported to the Ministry of Health. This neonatal mortality rate of 16/1000 live births (as compared to 4.2/1000 in official reports) was unevenly distributed in the province, showing large geographical discrepancies. In the rural and remote areas of Vietnam education level is lower and the concentrations of ethnic minorities and poor households are higher. Ethnic minority belonging was associated with a more than doubled risk of neonatal death compared to the hegemonic group of Kinh (OR 2.08 CI 95 % 1.39 – 3.10). This increased risk was independent of household economic status or maternal education level. Neonatal mortality was also associated with home deliveries, non-attendance to antenatal care and distance to the health care facilities. However, ethnic minority mothers still had an increased risk of experiencing a neonatal death even if they attended antenatal care, delivered at or lived close to a health facility. The invisibility of the neonatal period in health information systems hides the true width of the neonatal mortality challenge. By not acknowledging the problem, the marginalization of already disadvantaged groups continues, leaving ethnic minority babies with an elevated risk of dying during the first month in life. This example of ethnic inequity highlights the importance to target those most in need. The studies of the present thesis should therefore be looked upon as a contribution to the struggle to illuminate the global burden of neonatal mortality. Free full text http://swepub.kb.se/bib/swepub/oai:DiVA.org:uu-129242?tab2=abs&language=en.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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Beyond the crisis: the impact of the financial crisis on women in Vietnam

Tackling gendered-impacts of financial crisis in Vietnam. Aphitchay, Nguanbanchong; Irish Aid, Oxfam, Feb 2010. Abstract: Vietnamese women are over-represented in the export sector and live in deteriorating conditions due to the current global economic crisis. The objective of this study is to assess and identify the gender-differentiated impacts of the current crisis in both economic and social development aspects. In addition, the paper analyses the gendered nature of the responses of the government and national institutions, and develops a set of recommendations and policy implications. The author notes that Vietnamese female workers have faced loss of employment, reduction in income and consumption, decline in food quality, reduction in leisure time, difficulties in paying fees, and increases in overall debt. Furthermore, these crisis-affected female workers have moved from the formal to the informal sector and rely on informal sources. The paper argues thinks that a central goal at the policy level should focus on pro-poor policies at both the macro and micro levels, as well as to focus more on vulnerable women. The following recommendations to the government are made:

- in order to create jobs for both women and men, there should be investment in physical and social infrastructure and social reproduction
- appropriate government agencies should ensure that companies do not exploit the situation to further exploit female employees
- these agencies should also ensure that existing laws are applied fairly to women workers
- the burden of unpaid care work on women and girls should be reduced
- women’s unions should be strengthened and active in society, and women’s participation in decision making processes should be promoted; this will lead to a positive correlation between economic development and gender equality
- gender should be integrated into budget processes

Stakeholder perceptions of a total market approach to family planning in Viet Nam. Jennifer Kidwell Drakea, Luu Huong Thi Thanh, Chutima Suraratdecha, Ha Phan Thi Thu and Janet G Vail. Abstract: Viet Nam has high modern contraceptive prevalence (68%), with most services received through the public sector. As the country transitions to middle-income status, Viet Nam’s donors have ceased donations of contraceptive supplies, causing a large projected shortfall in the family planning budget. In response, the Ministry of Health has decided to prioritize free or subsidized contraceptives for poor and vulnerable groups, while enhancing social marketing and sales of contraceptives in the free market. To support planning for this “total market approach”, a descriptive exploratory study was conducted with 38 public and private sector family planning stakeholders to gain their perceptions of the proposals. There was a high level of support for government leadership of public-
private coordination and stewardship of the entire family planning system. Key information gaps were identified regarding how the reforms can promote equitable access to family planning and financial sustainability in pricing. The government's experience with this transition may yield valuable guidance for other settings. Full text is available upon request.

The Development of Social Work in Vietnam: The Role of International Collaboration. Hines, Alice M.; Cohen, Edward; Tran, Tuan Dinh; Lee, Peter Allen; Van Phu, Le. Social Work Education (0261-5479). Dec 2010. Vol.29,Iss.8; p.910-922. Abstract: This paper explores the emergence of social work as a profession in Vietnam and the ways in which international collaboration can play a role in its development. The paper reviews the literature pertaining to the social issues that have accompanied recent rapid social and economic change in Vietnam. The authors then describe recent developments in social work and social work education in Vietnam in response to these emerging problems. The role of international collaboration is explored and examples of four recent collaborations are provided that illustrate exchanges of curriculum and related social work knowledge, capacity building, technical assistance, and teaching. Factors that influence successful international collaborations are delineated and conclusions about future opportunities for such collaborations in Vietnam are presented. Some fee may apply

Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia: Setting the Scene, Martinez-Fernandez, C. and M. Powell (2010), OECD Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Working Papers, 2010/1, OECD Publishing. Abstract: The Southeast Asian region has experienced some of the highest growth rates in the world, with investments in skills playing a significant role in helping national economies to adjust to changes in working practices, advances in technology, and challenges associated with globalisation. In some countries this process has been more successfully managed and significant advances have been achieved in growth rates and employment levels, but in others it has resulted in stagnation of economic sectors, underemployment, rising unemployment levels and social exclusion for large sections of society. Full text is available upon request.

Using critical systems thinking to foster an integrated approach to sustainability: a proposal for development practitioners. Author Smith, Tanzi. Environment, development and sustainability, vol. 13, no. 1, pp. 1-17, Feb 2011. Abstract: Throughout the development sector, there is increasing recognition of links between the environment and aspects of development such as poverty alleviation, health, income generation, and agriculture. While furnished with a diverse range of perspectives and approaches, development practice is in need of ways to better conceptualize the interactions between the social, environmental, and economic dimensions of sustainability so that opportunities for simultaneous improvement in human and ecological well-being can be identified more readily. Critical systems thinking is proposed as a way for development practitioners to conceptualize and act toward the integration of these economic, social, and environmental dimensions and, in so doing, support communities to nurture both human and ecosystem well-being. Four desirable attributes of a critical systems thinking approach to development are identified based on development literature, critical systems literature, and the author's research into sustainability in semi-rural communities in Vietnam. The four attributes are 'a systems thinking approach;' 'an ethical base to action and choices;' 'critical reflection permeates processes;' and 'appreciation of diverse views and application of diverse approaches.' These attributes are described and then offered as the basis for further discussion of the ways in which simultaneous improvement of human well-being and ecosystem health can become an integral part of development practice. Full text is available upon request.
Mental health in Vietnam: Burden of disease and availability of services. Duong Anh Vuong, Ewout Van Ginnekena, Jodi Morrisc, Son Thai Hab and Reinhard Busse. Asian Journal of Psychiatry. In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 15 February 2011. Abstract: Purpose: Despite the accomplishments, the economic and social reform program of Vietnam has had negative effects, such as limited access to health care services for those disadvantaged in the new market economy. Among this group are persons with mental disorders. This paper aims to understand the burden of mental disorders and availability of mental health services (MHS) in Vietnam. Methods: We reviewed both national as well as the international literature about the burden of mental disorders and MHS in Vietnam. This included academic literature (Medline, Pubmed), national (government) reports, World Health Organization (WHO) reports, and grey literature. Results: The burden of mental disorders in Vietnam is similar to that of other Asian countries and occurs across all population groups. MHS have been made one of the national health priorities and more efforts are being made to promote equity of access by integrating MHS into other health care programs and by increasing MHS capacity. However, it is not yet sufficient to meet the care demand of persons with mental disorders. Challenges remain in various areas of MHS, including: lack of mental health legislation, human resources, hospital beds, shortage and diversification of MHS. Conclusion: Although MHS in Vietnam have considerably improved over the last decade, mainly in terms of accessibility, the care demand and the illness burden remain high. Therefore, more emphasis should be put on increasing MHS capacity and on human resource development. In that process, more representative epidemiological data and intervention research is needed. This article is available upon request.

Service personal values and customer loyalty; A study of banking services in a transitional economy. Pham Ngoc Thuy, Le Nguyen Hau. The International Journal of Bank Marketing. Bradford: 2010. Vol. 28, Iss. 6; pg. 465. Abstract: This paper aims to employ the concept of service personal values to predict customer satisfaction and loyalty towards banking services. It also aims to validate the three components of service personal values when being conceptualized as a high-order construct. A structural equation model was developed and tested using data surveyed from retail banking customers in Vietnam. Confirmatory factor analysis was used to refine the measurement scales. Path analysis was used to test the model. With customer satisfaction as a partial mediating construct, the results show that service personal values can explain a significant part of customer satisfaction and a substantial part of customer loyalty. Data also validate the three components of service personal values namely, value to a peaceful life, value to social recognition and value to social integration. Involvement level in the purchase process, switching barriers and/or corporate image should be added as moderating variables in further research. Impacts of each component of service personal values on satisfaction and loyalty are another research direction. Service providers should understand personal values of customers that may be different by culture and social demographic characteristics. Providing a service that enhances customer personal values is a key to success because it helps customers to be happy, to be recognized, and to improve their relationship with others. Employing the concept of service personal values, this study departs from the prevailing use of service attributes, service quality or service value to predict satisfaction and loyalty. Moreover, it is among very few studies conducted in a transitional economy. Some fee may apply.

Sustainability along the global supply chain: the case of Vietnam. Antonio Tencati, Angeloantonio Russo, Victoria Quaglia, Social Responsibility Journal, (2010) Vol. 6 Iss: 1, pp.91 – 107. Abstract: Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to investigate the impact that more sustainable sourcing policies by many multinational companies are having on the suppliers located in developing countries such as Vietnam. Questions are raised about the process through which CSR is reaching
the country. Design/methodology/approach – The research was conducted in Vietnam thanks to the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization’s (UNIDO) Regional Office. The survey was carried out on the basis of a questionnaire that was used as a support during the direct interviews and was sent electronically when the preferred method of on-site visits was not possible. A total of 25 Vietnamese enterprises were involved in the research. Findings – The results achieved highlight, on the one hand, how CSR does make business sense even in a developing country such as Vietnam and, on the other, the difficulties related to the way requirements of sustainability are moving from Northern consumers to suppliers in Vietnam. Originality/value – The paper points out the unsustainability of the process through which corporate responsibility is being imposed on Vietnamese suppliers and how CSR, having become a mandatory requirement for access to international markets, might transform itself into a new type of technical barrier to trade. Some fee may apply.

The Standard of Quality for HEIs in Vietnam: A Step in the Right Direction? Mrs. Nga Duc. Mrs. Nga Duc Tran, Mr. Thanh Tien Nguyen, Ms. My Thi Ngoc Nguyen, (2011) Quality Assurance in Education, Vol. 19 Iss: 2. Abstract: Purpose - The purpose of this paper is to provide a critical analysis of the Standard of Quality for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Vietnam which was developed in response to an urgent call for a fundamental reform to enhance the quality of educational provision, particularly of teaching and learning. Design/methodology/approach - The Standard and some related legislative documents such as the Education Act 2005 and the National Curriculum Frameworks are critically reviewed against a student-centred approach in education, the theory of constructive alignment, and definitions of quality. In addition, the experiences of the second author, who was involved in the first phase of the Accreditation Program, proved to be invaluable in shedding light onto the evaluative criteria proposed in the Standard. Findings - While the establishment and development of the Standard have been welcomed as the right step in addressing quality-related concerns across the sector, its evaluative criteria do not appear to point in the right direction. Throughout the Standard, criteria on outcomes of student learning are not given due priority. Due to the lack of emphasis on the presence of students and their learning - core components in any educational activities - it seems less likely that implementation of this Standard will lead to radical changes towards a student-centred approach in teaching and learning. Originality/value - Analysis presented in the paper lends itself to examination of the decision making process concerned with quality assurance and its implementation. Lessons learned from Vietnam in this quality assurance exercise may be useful for countries seeking to adopt a similar approach. Some fee may apply.

Adaptation to flood risks in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Tran Thanh Tu, Vilas Nitivattananon. International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management. Bingley: 2011. Vol. 3, Iss. 1; pg. 61. Abstract: Purpose - This paper aims to present part of the research results in developing an adaptation process to cope with flood risk in coastal cities under the impact of climate change variability and rapid urbanization in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Design/methodology/approach - Two main assessment tools applied in this research are rapid vulnerability assessment and tool for environmental assessment and management. Findings - Under the same natural conditions, people living in more urbanized districts suffer with more inundation and risks from polluted floodwater than those who live in less urbanized districts. Notwithstanding, people in lower urbanized districts are more vulnerable since they have a low capacity to cope with flood and pollution due to flood-prone living conditions, poverty and lack of awareness on the changing variability and water pollution. Gender analysis in this research has found that men and women play different roles in coping with hazards, and women suffer with more risks than men especially in term of health, sexual
harassment, and increasing responsibility. Practical implications - The adaptation process should focus on integrating vulnerability assessment findings appropriately with the assessment tools and gender analysis in order to develop as well as implement adaptation measures effectively and efficiently. This adaptation process should also be applied for other countries having different contexts of development under different levels of projected climate change-related risks.

Originality/value - This research contributes in developing the process on adaptation to possible hazards related to climate change, especially for coastal communities of Vietnam and developing countries where the urbanization process is increasing rapidly.

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Associations of Psychosocial Factors with Maternal Confidence Among Japanese and Vietnamese Mothers. Aya Goto, Quang Vinh Nguyen, Thi Tu Van Nguyen, Nghiem Minh Pham, et al. Journal of Child and Family Studies. New York: Feb 2010. Vol. 19, Iss. 1; pg. 118. Abstract: We conducted this cross-sectional study among 392 Japanese and 294 Vietnamese mothers who attended routine child health visits in a Japanese city and at a tertiary hospital in Vietnam, in order to investigate the prevalence and associated sociodemographic, parenting, and psychological characteristics of low maternal confidence in child rearing among them. All data were collected from medical files in Japan, and from medical files and self-administered questionnaires in Vietnam. The proportion of mothers without secure feeling of confidence in the present study was 22% in Japan and 66% in Vietnam. Significant factors associated with a lack of confidence were first-time motherhood and unintended pregnancy in the Japanese dataset and younger age in the Vietnamese dataset. In both groups, a higher proportion of mothers who lacked confidence reported negative parenting outcomes than did confident mothers. Among the three psychological measurements (mood, self-efficacy and depression), higher self-efficacy was associated independently with a significantly reduced risk of not having confidence in child rearing. These results suggest the importance of developing parenting support programs to help Japanese and Vietnamese mothers, particularly those who are young, first-time mothers or who became pregnant unexpectedly, improve their self-efficacy. Full text is available upon request.

Talking Back: The Role of Narrative in Vietnam’s Recent Land Compensation Changes. Annette M. Kim. Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts, MA 02139-4307, USA, annette@mit.edu. Urban Studies, vol. 48, no. 3, pp. 493-508, Mar 2011. Abstract: As in other rapidly growing economies, Vietnam’s urban land development has been a source of social conflict as those who are relocated contest the distribution of economic gains. More recently, the relocated have increased their bargaining power and receive better compensation packages. The paper analyses this situation to discuss further developing our understanding of how property rights institutions change. The case study shows the efficacy of social narratives to renegotiate the terms of the social contract supporting property rights even in a society with limited means for public participation in governmental reform. Secondly, it illuminates that modern property rights are entwined with public finance and so property rights reforms are tied to the organisational structure of government and fiscal relations. Some fee may apply.

Abstract: Improved understanding of how to advance national nutrition policy is critical to ensure greater policy investments in nutrition. We used a participant-observer, change-agent model to prospectively study why and how national nutrition policy advanced in Vietnam between 2006 and 2008. Our goal was to understand strategies used, factors that shaped policy advancement, and the interaction of strategies with factors in this context. Data were collected using questionnaires, informant interviews, programme visits, document reviews and documentation of key events. For analysis, we created a chronology of events, examined strategies and actions used and their results by event, coded interviews and summarized findings using a well-known framework for policy analysis. Our analysis shows that the following elements were critical to bring greater attention to nutrition policy in this context: (1) building a cohesive nutrition policy community through creation and support of an alliance; (2) clearly defining internal and external frames for the nutrition problem; (3) using and creating high-profile internal and external policy windows; and (4) capitalizing on cultural motivations and values. Findings indicate that that rapid nutrition policy advancement is possible if purposeful, contextually sensitive strategies are used where favourable conditions exist, or can be created. The participant-observer, change-agent model was successful in both contributing to policy advancement and documenting it. Some fee may apply

Characteristics of High-Risk HIV-Positive IDUs in Vietnam: Implications for Future Interventions. Go, Vivian F.; Frangakis, Constantine; Nam, Le Van; Sripaipan, Teerada; Bergenstrom, Anna; Li, Fan; Latkin, Carl; Celentano, David D.; Quan, Vu Minh. Substance Use & Misuse, Volume 46, Number 4, February 2011, pp. 381-389(9). Abstract: The HIV epidemic in Vietnam is concentrated primarily among injecting drug users (IDUs). To prevent HIV-1 superinfection and to develop effective HIV prevention programs, data are needed to understand the characteristics of high-risk HIV-positive IDUs. In 2003, we conducted a community-based cross-sectional study among predominately male, out-of-treatment IDUs, aged 18--45, in the Bac Ninh Province, Vietnam. Among 299 male participants, 42.8%% were HIV-positive, and among those, 96.9%% did not know their status prior to the study. Furthermore, 32%% were HIV-positive and had high HIV behavioral risk (having unprotected sex or having shared injecting equipment in the past 6 months). Injecting for >= 3 years, younger age, and pooling money to buy drugs were independently associated with being at high risk for transmitting HIV. IDUs who purchased more than one syringe at a time were less likely to have high HIV behavioral risk. Structural interventions that increase syringe accessibility may be effective in reducing HIV risk behavior among HIV-positive IDUs. Study limitations are noted in the article. This study, hence, shows that the response of corals to elevated seawater temperature varies with species and environmental background history. Some fee may apply

The Cultural Dimensions of the Vietnamese Private Entrepreneurship. Quan-Hoang Vuong, Tri Dung Tran. ICFAI Journal of Entrepreneurship Development, Vol. VI, Nos. 3 & 4, pp. 54-78, September & December, 2009. Abstract: In this essay, we explore cultural impacts on the private entrepreneurship in the post-Doi Moi Vietnam. Some important aspects of the traditional cultural values of the Vietnamese society are explored in conjunction with the socio-economic changes over the past two decades. Traditional cultural values continue to have strong impacts on the Vietnamese society, and to a large extent to adversely affect the entrepreneurial spirit of the community. Typical constraints private entrepreneurs face may have roots in the cultural facet as legacy of the Confucian society, such as relationship-based bank credit. Low quality business education is both victim and culprit of the long-standing tradition that looks down on the role of private entrepreneurship in the country. Full text is available upon request.
Vietnam’s Corporate Bond Market, 1990-2010: Some Reflections. Quan-Hoang Vuong, Tri Dung Tran. The Journal of Economic Policy and Research, Vol. 6, No. 1, January 2011. Abstract: Corporate bond appeared in 1992-1994 in Vietnamese capital markets. However, it is still not popular to both business sectors and academic circles. This paper explores different dimensions of Vietnamese corporate bond market using a unique and perhaps, most complete data set. State not only intervenes in the bond markets with its powerful budget and policies but also competes directly with enterprises. The dominance of state-owned enterprises and large corporations also prevents small and medium enterprises from this debt financing vehicle. Whenever a convertible term is available, bondholders are more willing to accept lower fixed income payoff. But they would not likely stick to it. On the one hand, prospective bondholders could value the holdings of equity when realized favourably ex ante. On the other hand, the applicable coupon rate for such bond could turn out negative inflation-adjusted payoff when tight monetary policy is exercised and the corresponding equity holding turns out valueless, ex post. Given the weak primary market and virtually non-existent secondary market, the corporate bond market in Vietnam reflects our perception of the relationship-based and rent-seeking behaviour in the financial markets. For the corporate bonds to really work, they critically need a higher level of liquidity to become truly tradeable financial assets. Updated entries in 2010 affirm the findings and conclusions. Full text is available upon request.

Change in Social Capital – A Case Study of Collective Rice Farming Practice in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. Tuan Anh Le (James Cook University), Alison Cottrell (James Cook University), Florencia Palis (International Rice Research Institute). Abstract: This paper describes how the social capital of rice farmers of the Mekong delta of Vietnam - manifested in the tradition of collective farming practice, changed from the 1940s to 1990s. The reason this collective rice farming had existed for decades, irrespective of critical events that challenged its continuation, was the co-existence of two key factors – high need for collective farming to ensure subsistence, and the availability of a closely knit social network that facilitated the exchange of labor. Despite its longevity, the practice of a cohesive and spontaneous collective farming, particularly in terms of labor exchange and labor participation in farming activities, was not maintained under the influence of agrarian reforms which aimed to improve rural livelihood. Land reform resulted in individual rice farming, making mobilization for spontaneous collective action, at the community level quite challenging. The assessment arose in the context of the need to mobilize collective action for implementation of a Community Trap Barrier System (CTBS), an ecologically-based rodent pest management system. It is concluded that successful restoration of social capital in the form of collective farming practices at the field level may depend on government intervention strategies at both local and national policy levels. Full text is available upon request.

Vietnam’s Corporate Bond Market, 1990-2010: Some Reflections. Quan-Hoang Vuong and Tri Dung Tran. (Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management, Centre Emile Bernheim (University of Brussels) and DHVP Research & Consultancy). The Journal of Economic Policy and Research, Vol. 6, No. 1, January 2011. Abstract: Corporate bond appeared in 1992-1994 in Vietnamese capital markets. However, it is still not popular to both business sectors and academic circles. This paper explores different dimensions of Vietnamese corporate bond market using a unique and perhaps, most complete data set. State not only intervenes in the bond markets with its powerful budget and policies but also competes directly with enterprises. The dominance of state-owned enterprises and large corporations also prevents small and medium enterprises from this debt financing vehicle. Whenever a convertible term is available, bondholders are more willing to accept lower fixed income payoff. But they would not likely stick to it. On the one hand, prospective bondholders could value the holdings of equity when realized favourably ex ante. On the other hand, the applicable...
coupon rate for such bond could turn out negative inflation-adjusted payoff when tight monetary policy is exercised and the corresponding equity holding turns out valueless, ex post. Given the weak primary market and virtually non-existent secondary market, the corporate bond market in Vietnam reflects our perception of the relationship-based and rent-seeking behaviour in the financial markets. For the corporate bonds to really work, they critically need a higher level of liquidity to become truly tradeable financial assets. Updated entries in 2010 affirm the findings and conclusions. Full text is available upon request.

**Corporate Governance in Transition and Developing Economies: A Case Study of Vietnam.** Robert W. McGee (Florida International University (FIU) - School of Accounting). August 25, 2010. Abstract: The World Bank has published a series of reports on corporate governance as part of its project on the Reports on the Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSC). The corporate governance principles in its ROSC Reports are benchmarked against the OECD’s Principles of Corporate Governance (OECD 2004). The main categories of principles are discussed below. This study focuses on the main corporate governance attributes of Vietnam. The paper concludes with an extensive bibliography. Full text is available upon request.

**On the Governance of State-Owned Economic Groups in Vietnam.** Woochan Kim (KDI School of Public Policy and Management), Il-Chong Nam (KDI School of Public Policy and Management), Tran Tien Cuong (Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM). Abstract: In this paper, we diagnose the current status of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in Vietnam, identify their key governance challenges, and recommend policy directions in light of Korea’s and other countries’ experiences. Among various types of SOEs in Vietnam, we limit our focus to economic groups introduced since 2006. We recommend (i) to re-clarify the objective of economics groups, (ii) to reconcile the conflicting objectives, (iii) to expand and strengthen the role of SCIC, (iv) to strengthen the internal governance mechanism, (v) to develop a well-functioning capital market, (vi) to limit the diversification into non-core business areas, (vii) to enhance the transparency of ownership structure, and (viii) to strengthen the protection of minority shareholders. Full text is available upon request.
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Destination branding: the comparative case study of Guam and Vietnam. Thi Lan Huong Bui, Gerald A Perez. Journal of International Business Research. Cullowhee: 2010. Vol. 9, Iss. 2; pg. 95, 17 pgs. Abstract: In the context of a global recession, the tourism industry has struggled hard to battle declines in sales turnover, particularly in countries where inbound tourism is a major economic contributor to national output. To improve their competitiveness, many countries not only promote their natural attractions but differentiate their destinations with branding strategies that establish their unique positions to attract more international visitors and boost sales. This paper is a comparative study of Japanese visitors and their behavior in Guam and Vietnam, both destinations possessing many similarities in climate, culture, and beautiful beaches. Implications for the tourism industry and branding are examined and justified by the high spending potential of the Japanese market segment. Findings from this research can suggest successful paths to a country's branding strategy and tourism development. Full text is available upon request.

The Vietnamese consumer perception on corporate social responsibility. Thi Lan Huong Bui. Journal of International Business Research. Cullowhee: 2010. Vol. 9, Iss. 1; pg. 75, 13 pgs. Abstract: International economic integration has helped Vietnamese businesses expand their activities and go global. Their rapid development causes at the same time side effects, issues of sustainable growth that affect business stakeholders' welfare, in particular consumers. Faced to recent CSR issues, Vietnamese consumers seem to respond passively and weakly to protect themselves. Yet, from the existing literature, little is known about the personal perception of CSR from the Vietnamese consumer perspective. This paper investigates the self-conceptualization of CSR of Vietnamese consumers and their ethical consumption behavior. This understanding of consumers' response to CSR will help companies and manufacturers to design effectively CSR programs customized for the Vietnamese market. Full text is available upon request.

Vietnam: Falling Trade Balance Will Knock Real GDP Growth. Emerging Markets Monitor; 1/10/2011, Vol. 16 Issue 38, p7-7, 1p. Abstract: The article presents an economic outlook for Vietnam for 2011. Domestic demand is expected to remain robust amid rising wages and improving consumer sentiment. Vietnamese real gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to grow from 5.5% to 6.3%. It expects continued strong performance in the construction sector, as well as a slow recovery in the manufacturing sector due to economic uncertainties in the U.S. and European Union. Also expected is a 7.0% rise in private investments during the forecast period. Full text is available upon request.
Education influence in traffic safety: A case study in Vietnam. Khuat Viet Hung, and Le Thu Huyen. University of Transport and Communication, Hanoi, Vietnam. 17 December 2010. Available online 7 January 2011. Abstract: It is well known that traffic accidents are of high importance to the public health spectrum around the world. Moreover, in developing countries such as Vietnam, the mortality rate from road traffic accidents is rather high in comparison with other Southeast Asian countries. Not only do the majority of the people killed and seriously injured significantly affect the quality of life of the citizens, but traffic accidents also negatively impact a nation's economic and social development. Statistics show that far more people are injured or die in traffic accidents than are afflicted by any of the most serious diseases. The very high occurrence of traffic accidents in Vietnam has become one of the country's major social issues. The importance of human factors in transport policy discussion is growing. There is a realization that policy options that appear beneficial in principle have to be checked for their feasibility of implementation. Understanding and describing driver behavior become a challenge when one tries to identify driver errors in determining accident/conflict causal factors and countermeasures. In recent years, having understood the serious effects of traffic accidents on society at large, scientific researchers, traffic engineers and policy makers in Vietnam have developed many projects and conducted research in the field of traffic safety. The human factor is also considered to be the central element in the whole system. The final goal is to organize a traffic environment that is convenient and safe for road users. This article explains the application of the risk analysis approach in evaluating influences of education and enforcement in traffic safety. Full text is available upon request.

Vocational Training and Agricultural Productivity: Evidence from Rice Production in Vietnam. John Ulimwengu; Ousmane Badiane. The Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension, 1750-8622, Volume 16, Issue 4, 2010, Pages 399 – 411. Abstract: The paper examines the impact of farmers' educational attainment on agricultural productivity. More specifically, it evaluates how farmers with vocational training perform compared to those with traditional educational training. A stochastic production frontier and inefficiency effects model is estimated using nationally representative household survey data to analyze the relationship between farmers' educational attainment and agricultural productivity in Vietnam, while controlling for factors such as gender and farmers' health status. The results indicate higher returns to vocational training in terms of its impact on raising agricultural productivity, as compared to primary and secondary education. Our findings confirm that significant productivity and welfare gains can be achieved through the promotion of education schemes tailored to the specific technical needs of smallholder or poor farmers. The lack of impact from primary and secondary education signals the need to adjust the curricula of nontraditional educational programmes in rural areas to respond to the technical and other skill needs of farmers. In other words, one general curriculum for everyone may not reap the highest returns to primary and secondary education investment in the context of countries with large farming populations. The originality of the paper resides also in the use of disaggregated education data in terms of formal and non-formal education. In addition, unlike previous studies, the production frontier function and the inefficiency segment are jointly estimated using a one step maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) procedure which guarantees both consistency and efficiency for estimated. Some fee may apply.

Does Foreign Direct Investment Promote Economic Growth in Vietnam?. Thu Thi Hoang, Paitoon Wiboonchutikula, Bangorn Tubtimtong. ASEAN Economic Bulletin. Singapore: Dec 2010. Vol. 27, Iss. 3; pg. 295,(17 pgs)Abstract: This study examines the effects of the foreign direct investment (FDI) on economic growth in Vietnam by using the panel data model across Vietnam's sixty-one provinces in 1995-2006. The study shows that there is a strong and positive effect of FDI on
economic growth in Vietnam as a channel of increasing the stock of capital. Human capital and trade in Vietnam are not yet the channels that give access to advance technology and knowledge transfers from FDI inflows to increase Vietnam's economic growth. Full text is available upon request.

Rapprochement Between Vietnam and the United States: A Response. Frederick Z Brown, Hoang Anh Tuan. Contemporary Southeast Asia. Singapore: Dec 2010. Vol. 32, Iss. 3; pg. 317, 33 pgs. Abstract: The improvement of bilateral relations between Vietnam and the United States has added a fresh dynamic to the geopolitics of Southeast Asia. This article discusses the laborious process of normalization of political relations between 1976 and 1995. It describes the course of economic normalization from the signing of the Bilateral Trade Agreement in 2001 and granting of Permanent Normal Trading Relations in 2006 to Vietnam's accession to the World Trade Trade Organization in 2007. It reviews current bilateral economic and trade issues and analyses domestic political norms and historical experiences which have acted as powerful forces shaping the foreign policies of both countries. The United States criticizes Vietnam's human rights record, and Vietnam has lingering qualms about alleged US designs for "regime change". The Vietnamese-American community, now 1.8 million strong, and the US Congress are major players in the expansion of bilateral relations. The article discusses the heightened visibility of ASEAN in US policy and implications for regional security. The article notes other positive factors at work in US-Vietnam relations: 13,000 Vietnamese now study in the United States; the sensitive Agent Orange issue is being addressed seriously; and there is bilateral cooperation on global warming, the environment, human trafficking and the Mekong River basin. The article concludes that US-Vietnam rapprochement is on a positive, mutually beneficial track but that its dimensions and durability have yet to be established. Full text is available upon request.

The impact of migration on food consumption patterns: The case of Vietnam. Minh Cong Nguyen, Paul Winters. Original Research. Food Policy, Volume 36, Issue 1, February 2011, Pages 71-87. Abstract: This paper explores the relationship between migration and consumption patterns using panel data from the 2004 and 2006 Vietnam Household Living Standards Surveys. Employing an instrumental variable approach to control for the endogeneity of migration, our results indicate that short-term migration has a positive effect on overall per capita food expenditures, per capita calorie consumption and food diversity. Long-term migration also appears to be positively related to consumption, but impacts are often insignificant and of a lesser magnitude than short-term migration. The results provide no evidence of negative effects of migration, and support the view that short-term migration is a mechanism by which households maintain food security. The results suggest that to improve food security the Vietnamese government should enact policies that facilitate short-term migration flows as well as the transferring of remittances. Full text is available upon request.

Health policy processes in maternal health: A comparison of Vietnam, India and China. Andrew Green, Nancy Gerein, Tolib Mirzoev, Philippa Bird, Stephen Pearson, Le Vu Anh, Tim Martineau, Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay, Xu Qian, K.V. Ramani, Werner Soors. Original Health Policy, In Press, Corrected Proof, Available online 30 December 2010. Abstract: This article reports on a comparative analysis to assess and explain the strengths and weaknesses of policy processes based on 9 case-studies of maternal health in Vietnam, India and China. Policy processes are often slow, inadequately coordinated and opaque to outsiders. Use of evidence is variable and, in particular, could be more actively used to assess different policy options. Whilst an increasing range of actors are involved, there is scope for further opening up of the policy processes. This is likely, if appropriately managed with due regard to issues such as accountability of advocacy organisations, to
lead to stronger policy development and greater subsequent ownership; it may however be a more messy process to co-ordinate. Coordination is critical where policy issues span conventional sectoral boundaries, but is also essential to ensure development of policy considers critical health system and resource issues. This, and other features related to the nature of a specific policy issue, suggests the need both to adapt processes for each particular policy issue and to monitor the progress of the policy processes themselves. The article concludes with specific questions to be considered by actors keen to enhance policy processes. Full text is available upon request.

The potential for mitigation of CO2 emissions in Vietnam's power sector. Nhan Thanh Nguyen (nhan@centre-cired.fr) and Minh Ha-Duong (haduong@centre-cired.fr). Abstract: This manuscript examines CO2 emissions from Vietnam's power sector using an expanded Integrated Resource Planning model. The potential effects of the following alternative policy options are examined: energy efficiency, favorably imported generation fuels, nuclear energy, renewable energy, and an internalized positive carbon value. The baseline in terms of cumulative CO2 emissions over 2010-2030 is 3.6 Gt. Lighting energy efficiency improvements offer 14% of no-regret abatement of CO2 emissions. Developing nuclear and renewable energy could help meet the challenges of the increases in electricity demand, the dependence on imported fuels for electricity generation in the context of carbon constraints applied in a developing country. When CO2 costs increase from 1 $/t to 30 $/t, building 10 GW of nuclear generation capacity implies an increase in abatement levels from 24% to 46%. Using renewable energy abates CO2 levels by between 14% and 46%. At 2 $/tCO2, the model predicts an abatement of 0.77 Gt from using wind power at prime locations as well as energy from small hydro, wood residue and wood plantations, suggesting Clean Development Mechanism opportunities. At 10 $/tCO2, the model predicts an abatement of 1.4 Gt when efficient gas plants are substituted for coal generation and when the potential for wind energy is economically developed further than in the former model. Free full text: http://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/docs/00/44/10/85/PDF/CO2_mitigation_potential_Vietnam_power-20091214.pdf

Ethnic Minority Poverty in Vietnam. Bob Baulch (bobbaulch@gmail.com), Hoa Nguyen (hoa.nguyen@anu.edu.au) and Hung Thai Pham. Working Papers from esocialsciences.com [Working Paper No. 169]. Abstract: series of monetary and non-monetary indicators, which show that the living standards of the ethnic minorities are improving but still lag seriously behind those of the majority Kinh-Hoa are reviewed. An analysis of the drivers of the ethnic gap, in terms of both differences in characteristics and differences in returns to those characteristics, is undertaken. Free full text: http://www.esocialsciences.com/data/articles/Document1712011220.1480066.pdf
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The impact of transnational migration on gender and marriage in sending communities of Vietnam. Bélanger, Danièle; Tran Giang Linh. Current Sociology, 01/01/2011, Vol. 59 Issue 1, p59-77, 19p; DOI: 10.1177/0011392110385970. Abstract: the recent, rapid increase in cross-border marriages between women from Southeast Asia and men from East Asia is creating a new international migration flow of ‘marriage migrants’ in the region. This article documents how marriage migration reconfigures gender power relations in three migrant-sending communities in Southern Vietnam. Analyses of data collected in 2007 indicate changes in the status of daughters and sons and a significant transformation of the marriage market. Emigrant daughters experienced enhanced status and power at home, mostly through remittances, to the extent that villagers expressed an increased preference for having girls rather than boys. Young women’s emigration has created a skewed marriage market, which gives village women and their families more bargaining power in marriage transactions. Getting married is difficult for many single men in the village due to the perceived greater value of foreign men, higher bride-prices and a shortage of potential brides. Overall, villagers view marriage migration as contributing to significant social transformations with respect to gender and power relations in households and in the marriage market. Some fee may apply.

Labour Market Returns to Higher Education in Vietnam. Tinh Doan; MPRA Paper from University Library of Munich, Germany. Abstract: This paper employs the Ordinary Least Squares, Instrumental Variables and Treatment Effect models to a new dataset from the Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey (VHLSS) to estimate return to the four-year university education in 2008. Our estimates reveal that the return to university education is about 17% (annualized) and robust to the various estimators. The return to higher education has significantly increased since the economic reform in late 1980s. Full text is available upon request.

The Returning Diaspora: Analyzing overseas Vietnamese (Viet Kieu) Contributions toward Vietnam’s Economic Growth. Andrew T. Pham (andrew.tc.pham@gmail.com). No 20, Working Papers from Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Vietnam. Abstract: This paper focuses on the contributions of the Vietnamese Diaspora to Vietnam’s economic growth by examining its unique formation and subsequent actual and potential impact on the emerging economy. A review of recent government policy toward the Vietnamese Diaspora and their official contributions reveal that the Diaspora has used informal networks as their primary route to make investments. This paper seeks to establish that there is the emergence of an integrated Vietnamese Diaspora network—a combination of formal organizations and the existing informal networks—facilitating the greater investment, flow and knowledge exchange between the Vietnamese Diaspora
Fiscal decentralisation and economic growth in Vietnam. By: Nguyen, Lan Phi; Anwar, Sajid. Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy, Feb 2011, Vol. 16 Issue 1, p3-14, 12p; Abstract: By making use of a recently released panel dataset that covers 61 provinces of Vietnam, this paper examines the link between fiscal decentralisation and economic growth. Significant fiscal decentralisation has taken place in Vietnam from the mid-1990s. This paper explicitly considers the effect of fiscal decentralisation on economic growth (1) under the 1996 State Budget Law, which covered the period 1996 to 2001, and (2) under the 2002 State Budget Law, which covered the period 2002 to 2007. Our empirical analysis reveals that economic growth in Vietnam is positively associated with revenue decentralisation but negatively associated with expenditure decentralisation. Some fee may apply.

Organisational hierarchies and decision making process of Chinese multinational enterprises in Vietnam. Yi Ren. Chinese Geographical Science. Dordrecht: Feb 2010. Vol. 20, Iss. 1; pg. 43. Abstract: This paper examines the organisational hierarchies and decision making processes of two Chinese multinational enterprises operating in Vietnam--China Luoyang Floating Glass Corp. (CLFG) and China TCL Holdings Co. Ltd. (TCL). For this study, research data were obtained from in-depth interviews of more than 20 government officials in P. R. China and Vietnam, and managers and staff of those two enterprises. Results indicate that the organisational structures of the two enterprises are still vertical but complex, although moderate changes made to them post the nationwide economic reform of China. Consequently, decision making process follows a "top-down" model, sometimes, with insufficient grassroots information. Findings are discussed in the light of political, social and cultural milieu, and implications are drawn for the management of Chinese multinational enterprises operating in overseas markets. Both CLFG and China TCL are structured on task specialisations. However, departmentalisation in TCL's overseas division in head office is not only based on products, but also on geographical regions of markets. The organisational structure of TCL in Vietnam is less complex than the international division, but it is more centralised. Decision making at TCL combines more traditional Chinese business philosophy with modern western organisational characteristics. TCL has a strong western influence in its management style. However, some traditional characteristics such as "hero" leadership influence and political influence are involved with decision making at TCL. Amongst others, the transitional economy, social culture, poor management system and political sensitivity have been major elements influencing decision making. In the case of CLFG, some decisions have been made before proper information has been gathered and analysed. Full text is available upon request.

Creating 'learning laboratories' for sustainable development in biospheres: A systems thinking approach. By: Nguyen, Nam C.; Bosch, Ockie J.H.; Maani, Kambiz E.. Systems Research & Behavioral Science, Jan/Feb 2011, Vol. 28 Issue 1, p51-62, 12p; Abstract: This paper discusses the application of systems thinking concepts and tools in establishing 'Learning Laboratories' for Sustainable Development. It first presents a brief description of the potential value of utilising biosphere reserves for implementing the learning laboratories concept, followed by how systemic processes have been developed to establish a Learning Laboratory through a comprehensive pilot project in the Cat Ba Biosphere Reserve (CBBR) in Vietnam. In this project Causal Loop Modelling were used to determine the components and interactions between the policy, social, environmental...
and economic dimensions of the CBBR. The resultant model has been used to identify key leverage points and where systemic interventions will be most effective (potential research projects). The model also serves as a platform for learning and research collaboration through alliances and cross-sectoral teams to address the various domains, leverage points, and interventions identified. The role and importance of systems thinking methodology and applications to deal with ever-increasing complexities of sustainable development are discussed. The modelling approach and various processes that were used in this pilot project could be extended to other biosphere reserves in Vietnam and globally, in that way creating a worldwide network of 'Learning Laboratories for Sustainable Development'. Full text is available upon request.

A consideration for developing a dry port system in Indochina area. By: Do, Ngoc-Hien; Nam, Ki-Chan; Le, Quynh-Lam Ngoc. Maritime Policy & Management, Jan 2011, Vol. 38 Issue 1, p1-9, 9p; Abstract: Dry ports are intermodal transport hubs in the inland, which operate as centres for the transshipment of sea cargo to inland destinations. They could make the import and export easier and increase trade. This paper considers conditions to construct them in the Indochina area including three countries Vietnam, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos) and Cambodia. Accordingly, the general characteristics of dry ports and the conditions to develop them are reviewed. Transportation systems in the Indochina area are then analysed. Consequently, a suggested dry port system is presented, which promises to bring many benefits for the Indochina region. Finally, some conclusions and suggestions are presented. Free full text: http://www.informaworld.com.libproxy-wb.imf.org/smpp/section?content=a932215664&fulltext=713240928

Do recruitment ties affect wages? An analysis using matched employer-employee data from Vietnam. Anna Folke Larsen (anna.folke.larsen@econ.ku.dk), John Rand (jra@foi.dk) and Nina Torm (nina.torm@econ.ku.dk). No 2011/4, FOI Working Papers from Institute of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen. Abstract: This paper examines the extent to which recruitment ties affect individual wage outcomes in small and medium scale manufacturing firms. Based on a unique matched employer-employee dataset from Vietnam we find that there is a significant positive wage premium associated with obtaining a job through an informal contact, when controlling for standard determinants of wage compensation. Moreover, we show that the mechanism through which informal contacts affect wages depends on the type of recruitment tie used. The findings are robust across location, firm size categories and different worker types. Free full text: http://okonomi.foi.dk/workingpapers/WPpdf/WP2011/WP_2011_4_recruitment_ties_wages.pdf

An evaluation of the environmental impact assessment system in Vietnam: The gap between theory and practice. Alison Clausena, Hoang Hoa Vub, Miguel Pedronoc, available online 21 May 2010. Environmental Impact Assessment Review, Volume 31, Issue 2, March 2011, Pages 136-143. Abstract: Vietnam has one of the fastest growing economies in the world and has achieved significant socio-economic development in recent years. However this growth is placing increased pressure on an already depleted natural environment. Environmental impact assessment (EIA) is recognised by the Government and international organizations as an important tool in the management of the impacts of future development on the country’s natural resource base. The Government’s commitment to EIA has been demonstrated through the development and adoption of the Law on Environment Protection (Revised) in 2005 which sets out the requirements for EIA and which represents a major step in the development of a robust legislative framework for EIA in Vietnam. The Law on Environment Protection (Revised) 2005 has now been operational for several years and we have undertaken an evaluation of the resulting EIA system in Vietnam. We argue that
while significant improvements have been achieved in the EIA policy framework, an important gap remains between EIA theory and practice. We contend that the basis of the current EIA legislation is strong and that future developments of the EIA system in Vietnam should focus on improving capacity of EIA practitioners rather than further substantial legislative change. Such improvements would allow the Vietnamese EIA system to emerge as an effective and efficient tool for environmental management in Vietnam and as a model EIA framework for other developing countries. Full text is available upon request.

Understanding Vulnerability and Resilience in the Context of Poverty and Ethnicity in Vietnam. Truong Huyen. Children & Society; v24 n4, Jul 2010, p315-325. Abstract  Based on ethnographic research among Kinh, Hmong and Cham H'Roi children in the highlands of Vietnam in 2008, this paper presents a narrative analysis of how poverty and ethnicity affect children's experience of adversity. It explores the meanings children give to their experience and their use of discursive strategies such as criticising displays of wealth to create a repertoire of meanings from which personal and collective resilience is drawn. Acknowledging the ambiguities and contradictions in children's accounts, the author reflects on how their understanding of social differences is underpinned by local power structures. Full text is available upon request.
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Vietnam's Export Performance in the Face of China's Competitive Challenge. Anh-Dao, Tran Thi; Comparative Economic Studies, September 2010, v. 52, iss. 3, pp. 405-27. Abstract: This paper examines Vietnam's export performance in the face of China's emergence as a major competitor in global markets. We first use Constant Market Share analysis to investigate the influence of the factors determining ex-post export performance of Vietnam and China for the years 1997–2004. External trade indicators are then calculated in order to examine their specialization profiles. The paper suggests that, although China has become a huge competitor for the developing economies, this phenomenon has not crowded out Vietnam's exports. Rather, should the country incur losses of market share, it would mainly result from its own export pattern. Full text is available upon request.

Global-Local Interactions: Socioeconomic and Spatial Dynamics in Vietnam's Coffee Frontier. Jytte Agergaard, Niels Fold and Katherine V. Gough; The Geographical Journal, Vol. 175, No. 2, Re-thinking Frontiers in Southeast Asia, June, 2009, pp. 133-145. Abstract: Due to their dependence on a single crop, agricultural frontiers are often considered to be formed through phases of 'boom and bust'. These phases are closely related to fluctuations in world market prices of the commodity that constitutes the frontier's economic basis. This paper demonstrates how although migration patterns and economic growth are conditioned by world market dynamics, local socioeconomic outcomes within frontier regions are diverse. Frontier formation is far from a homogenous process that slowly incorporates all localities and communities in the same way. Dak Lak Province, in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, produces more than 50% of Vietnam's coffee. As Vietnam is the world's largest exporter of Robusta coffee, Dak Lak is highly embedded in the dynamics of the world coffee market. Planned settlement in Dak Lak started in the 1950s and has continued in phases orchestrated by the state's changing economic, social and political motives. Spontaneous immigration has dominated since the early 1990s when the coffee sector took off and regulations on population mobility were relaxed. This paper shows how household livelihoods differ substantially between four communes in Dak Lak Province due to different combinations of migrant and indigenous groups, the ease of transport to the main urban centres, and the timing of coffee planting in the settlements. These temporal and spatial variations in livelihoods both condition and are conditioned by the organisational set-up of the local coffee marketing chain. Full text is available upon request.

Fertilization Capacity of Aquatic Plants Used as Soil Amendments in the Coastal Sandy Area of Central Vietnam. Neve, Catherine; Ancion, Pierre-Yves; Hoa, Hoang Thi Thai; Tu, Pham Khanh; Chiang, Claude N.; Dufey, Joseph E. Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis, 1532-2416, Volume 40, Issue 17, 2009, Pages 2658 – 2672. Abstract: In Central Vietnam, and more especially in Thua Thien Hue Province, aquatic plants are used empirically by some farmers as an external source of organic matter to improve fertility of sandy soils. The fertilization capacities of aquatic plant species were assessed from a pot trial including soils amended with aquatic plants (5 g dry matter kg-21 soil) and soils supplied with increasing rates of urea nitrogen (N) fertilizers. Rice at a vegetative stage was used as a convenient bio-extractor. The fertilization capacity of aquatic plant amendments was calculated from aboveground biomass and from N accumulated in shoots as compared to treatments receiving only inorganic N fertilizers. The authors showed
the greatest fertilization capacity, equivalent to 170–180mg urea-N kg\textsuperscript{-1} soil as estimated from biomass yield, whereas a lesser fertilization capacity, equivalent to less than 100mg urea-N kg\textsuperscript{-1} soil, was observed for Myriophyllum spicatum. This study provides quantitative data on the fertilization capacity of aquatic plants found in the coastal area of central Vietnam, which can improve this empirical practice and alleviate local agroenvironmental constraints related to the lack of organic matter in farming systems. Fee may apply.

**The impact of domestic water on household enterprises: evidence from Vietnam.** Noel, Stacey; Hoang Thi, Phuong; Soussan, John; Lovett, Jon C. *WATER POLICY*, Vol.: 12, Issue: 2, 2010. Pages: 237-247. Abstract: A number of rural household-based productive activities, such as kitchen gardens, livestock rearing and micro enterprises, are dependent on adequate supplies of domestic water to operate. This paper examines whether improved access to piped water can facilitate these types of activities, particularly for poor households. Using data from rural Vietnam, we find that most household enterprises use non-metered water and have very small profit margins. Thus, the evidence suggests that these enterprises may be better supported by a household-level water supply infrastructure, such as well pumps and rainwater catchment tanks, rather than by piped systems in rural areas. We also found an unanticipated link between operating small-scale food production businesses and raising livestock: for many households, waste products from food-based micro enterprises were used for rearing pigs, and this enabled business owners to expand their pork production, a significant source of income and prosperity in rural Vietnam. Full text is available upon request.

**Flu-virus prevalence comes under scrutiny.** Declan Butler. *Nature*. London: Nov 26, 2009. Vol. 462, Iss.7272; p. 398. Abstract: Flu-virus information is crucial for improving estimates of pandemic spread, severity and mortality, and informing policies such as how to distribute vaccines and antiviral drugs. Researchers are turning their attention to one of the great unknowns about the ongoing H1N1 influenza pandemic: how many people have been, and are being, infected. The first surveys to monitor for antibodies to the virus are now getting under way, belatedly in some countries such as the United States. The findings could substantially change much of what epidemiologists know about the current pandemic. Full text is available upon request.

**The effect of simulated rat damage on irrigated rice yield and compensation.** Nguyen Thi My Phung, Peter R. Brown, K.-P. Leung Luke, Luu Minh Tuan. *Crop Protection*, Volume 29, Issue 12, December 2010, Pages 1466-1471, ISSN 0261-2194, 10.1016/j. Abstract: A field experiment was conducted to investigate the impact of simulated rat damage on grain yield in irrigated lowland rice in An Giang province, in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. Rat damage was simulated by making a 45° cut at the base of the rice tillers about 3–5 cm above the soil surface. 0% (control), 5%, 10%, 25% and 50% of the tillers were removed at the tillering (25 days after sowing, DAS), panicle initiation (43 DAS), flowering (72 DAS) and ripening (87 DAS) stages. The total number of mature tillers, immature tillers and percent filled grains, the weight of 1000 grains and grain yields were recorded. The rice crop completely compensated by increased tillering and yield for tillers damaged up to 50% at the tillering stage. However, the damage and yield loss were highly variable. The ability of the rice crop to compensate at later stages progressively reduced. The implications for managing rat damage to rice crops are (1) rodent control activities should be applied before 10% of tillers are damaged at the tillering stage, and (2) a well balanced nitrogen supply during the tillering stage could potentially assist the rice plants to better compensate for rat damage. Full text is available upon request.

**Social and environmental determinants of malaria in space and time in Viet Nam.** Bui H. Manh, Archie C.A. Clements, Nguyen Q. Thieu, Nguyen M. Hung, Le X. Hung, Simon I. Hay, Tran T. Hien, Heiman F.L. Wertheim, Robert W. Snow, Peter Horby. *International Journal for Parasitology*, In Press, Corrected Proof; ISSN 0020-7519. Abstract: The malaria burden in Viet Nam has been in decline in recent decades, but localised areas of high transmission remain. We used spatiotemporal analytical tools to determine the social and environmental drivers of malaria risk and to identify residual high-risk areas where control and surveillance resources can be targeted. Counts of reported *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax* malaria cases by month (January 2007–December 2008) and by district were assembled. Zero-inflated Poisson regression models were developed in a Bayesian framework. Models had the percentage of the district’s population living below the poverty line, percent of the district covered by forest, median elevation,
median long-term average precipitation, and minimum temperature included as fixed effects, and terms for
temporal trend and residual district-level spatial autocorrelation. Strong temporal and spatial heterogeneity in
counts of malaria cases was apparent. Poverty and forest cover were significantly associated with an increased
count of malaria cases but the magnitude and direction of associations between climate and malaria varied by
socio-ecological zone. There was a declining trend in counts of malaria cases during the study period. After
accounting for the social and environmental fixed effects, substantial spatial heterogeneity was still evident.
Unmeasured factors which may contribute to this residual variation include malaria control activities,
population migration and accessibility to health care. Forest-related activities and factors encompassed by
poverty indicators are major drivers of malaria incidence in Viet Nam. Full text: 
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6T7F-511C03S-2/2/586f9cb88fb79d19e6fd0b617c58e6d9

The social contexts of depression during motherhood: A study of explanatory models in Vietnam. Maria E.
Affective Disorders, Volume 124, Issues 1-2, July 2010, Pages 29-37, ISSN 0165-0327. Abstract: Major
depression is increasing world-wide, and is the fourth leading cause of the global disease burden. Depression
is rarely diagnosed in primary care settings in Vietnam, and those afflicted usually only seek professional care
when the illness has become very severe. Depressive disorders affecting mothers are an important cause of
low birth-weight, childhood stunting, under nutrition and adverse mental development, and a study has shown
a 33% prevalence of postnatal depression symptoms in Ho Chi Minh City. The aim of this study was to elicit
Illness Explanatory Models (EMs) of depression and postnatal depression from nine mothers and nine health
workers. The study was conducted in a semi-rural area in Vietnam, and the EMs were elicited through semi-
structured interviews where a case vignette of depression was used as the basis of questioning. The EMs
elicited were predominantly somatosocial in nature and the mothers assigned a strong personal responsibility
for care. Psychiatric treatment and care was seldom recommended. Lack of communication was described as
an important factor concealing depression, and together with the lack of care-seeking can be expected to
impede effective treatment. The results of this study cannot be generalised beyond the group studied, or the
context of Ba Vi, though we believe that analytical generalisation to other contexts can be made.
The results of this study highlight the importance of depression and postnatal depression being diagnosed in
primary care, and of a cross-sectoral approach for the prevention of depression in Vietnam, which takes into
account the social causation of depression in women. Full text: 
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6T2X-4XHT47F-1/2/b78b224976c2fcdb7914ab6a0ae0f054

Householder perspectives and preferences on water storage and use, with reference to dengue, in the Mekong
C. Kutcher, Brian H. Kay, Peter A. Ryan, International Health, Volume 2, Issue 2, June 2010, Pg. 136-142,
ISSN 1876-3413. Abstract: Community-based perceptions and behaviour around water source preference,
household water storage patterns and water use, and householders’ knowledge and behaviour with respect to
dengue etiology and transmission, were examined in three communes located in the Mekong Delta area in
southern Vietnam. Through focus group discussions, most participants identified poorly screened or
uncovered water containers (including household water storage containers and other types of artificial
containers) as habitats for mosquitoes that transmit dengue viruses, and thereby demonstrated a clear
understanding of the links between household water storage practices and the threat of dengue. Our
qualitative analyses also revealed broader community-based concerns about the limited availability of water
and strong preferences for storage of rainwater based upon perceptions of cost, quality and security of supply.
These perceptions are central to shaping householders’ responses to water infrastructure projects. The limited
availability of water during the dry season and insufficient numbers of water storage containers are over-
riding community concerns which provide an important context to understanding community behaviours and
responses to public health interventions against dengue. Such concerns are important precursors to selecting
the type of intervention. Full text: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B985R-4Y64DP0-3/2/4a0e358f8f9699a86d76752a45ea0562
Soil fertility affected by land use history, relief position, and parent material under a tropical climate in NW-Vietnam. Gerhard Clemens, Sabine Fiedler, Nguyen Dinh Cong, Nyuyen Van Dung, Ulrich Schuler, Karl Stahr. CATENA, Volume 81, Issue 2, 15 May 2010, Pages 87-96, ISSN 0341-8162. Abstract: In Vietnam as much as half of the total land area is already degraded by soil erosion and nutrient depletion. In particular, degradation due to deforestation is increasingly affecting mountainous areas in north-western Vietnam. The necessity to safeguard the farmers' livelihoods requires sustainable resource management, which firstly requires a qualitative and quantitative evaluation of resources. The objectives of the present study were to (1) identify the dominant soil types and their vulnerability using elicitation of local soil knowledge, (2) characterise the physical and chemical properties of the soils and (3) link them to the relief position and land use in order to (4) initiate sustainable soil use based on recommendations deduced from objectives (1) to (3). These objectives were achieved also by the elicitation of local knowledge. The final aim of the study was to initiate sustainable soil use based on recommendations for sustainable land use scenarios. The Chieng Khoi commune in Son La province of northern Vietnam was chosen as representative for other erosion-prone Southeast Asian sloping areas. In a participatory approach, combining local and scientific knowledge, sixteen sites were selected, representative for distinct relief positions, parent material (sand stone and silt stone), land use history, and erosion hazard. Chemical (e.g. content of organic matter, nitrogen, cation exchange capacity, base saturation, and plant available phosphorous) and physical properties (e.g. air capacity, plant available water) were used to estimate soil fertility. The predominant reference soil groups in the study area are Alisols and Luvisols, with a high diversity in respect to soil fertility. These soils are locally named ‘red soil’ and ‘black soil’, respectively. Although the main physical processes are erosion and selective sedimentation, farmers tend to underestimate their impact and causes, whereas soil quality was well-evaluated. Soils with high fertility were found on less eroded upper parts of hills and at sites, where agricultural use started only recently. Once degraded by cultivation practices, soils derived from sandstone did not recover even after more than 50 years of fallow. As a result of unsustainable land use, soils on middle and lower slopes are often affected by severe soil erosion, whereas foot slope soils suffer from accumulation of eroded infertile subsoil material as well as stagnant conditions. This study showed that unsustainable land use at upslope landscape positions has a severe impact on downslope areas. The elicitation of local knowledge facilitated the identification of such hot spots, allowing the implementation of spatially targeted conservation measures. Full text is available upon request.

Land titling policy and soil conservation in the northern uplands of Vietnam, Land Use Policy. Camille Saint-Macary, Alwin Keil, Manfred Zeller, Franz Heidhues, Pham Thi My Dung. Volume 27, Issue 2, Forest transitions; Wind power planning, landscapes and publics, April 2010, Pages 617-627, ISSN 0264-8377. Abstract: In Vietnam, a quasi-private property regime has been established in 1993 with the issuance of exchangeable and mortgageable long-term land use right certificates. Using primary qualitative and quantitative data collected in a mountainous district of Northern Vietnam, this paper investigates the role of the land policy in the adoption of soil conservation technologies by farmers. This issue is of crucial importance in the region where population growth and growing market demands have induced farmers to intensify agricultural production. While poverty has been reduced, environmental problems such as soil erosion, landslides, and declining soil fertility have become more severe over the past years. Our findings suggest that despite farmers’ awareness of erosion, soil conservation technologies are perceived as being economically unattractive; therefore, most upland farmers continue to practice the prevailing erosion-prone cultivation system. Focusing on agroforestry as one major soil conservation option, we estimate household and plot-level econometric models to empirically assess the determinants of adoption. We find that the possession of a formal land title positively influences adoption, but that the threat of land reallocations in villages discourages adoption by creating uncertainty and tenure insecurity. The analyses reveal that these two effects interact with each other but are of small magnitude. We conclude that the issuance of land titles is a necessary but not sufficient prerequisite to encouraging the adoption of soil conservation practices. However, current practices remain economically unattractive to farmers. This deficiency needs to be addressed by interdisciplinary research and complemented by strong efforts by local authorities to promote sustainable land use. Full text: [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VB0-4X8BPCV-1/2/160e1240e66d23418be569f4fc7dd1aa](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VB0-4X8BPCV-1/2/160e1240e66d23418be569f4fc7dd1aa)
Breeding and supply chain systems incorporating local pig breeds for small-scale pig producers in Northwest Vietnam. P. Herold, R. Roessler, A. Willam, H. Momm, A. Valle Zarate. Livestock Science, Volume 129, Issues 1-3, April 2010, Pages 63-72, ISSN 1871-1413. Abstract: In Vietnam, pig production and pork demand are developing rapidly. Still, 80% of the national pig herd is kept on smallholder farms while policy mainly focuses on intensification of pig production. The aim of this study is to evaluate possibilities to organize pig breeding and marketing channels in remote areas in the uplands of Northern Vietnam. The study compiles three parts: (1) Evaluation of farmers breeding management and breed and trait preferences for pigs; (2) Evaluation of different crossbreeding schemes for leaner meat production; and (3) Design of appropriate organizational settings for pig breeding and marketing. Ban pigs are the second most predominant breed next to the Mong Cai. Ban pigs are valued by farmers for their feed intake spectrum, feed intake capacity, disease tolerance, health/strength, growth rate and carcass quality. For all modelled crossbreeding schemes, genetic gain is low; the Yorkshire × Ban crossbreeding scheme shows the highest overall genetic gain. The traditional production and fattening of Exotic boar × Local dam F1 crosses does not require particular organizational setups. This system already exists in an improvised way. The advantage of an organized scheme would be the controlled maintenance of the local breed. For the latter, a stratified pig breeding system seems promising, requiring innovative organizational setups. A short food supply chain is proposed. This system builds links between remote and close-to-market villages and populations. Critical organizational aspects like poorly developed infrastructure, poor access to input and output markets and information can be overcome. Full text is available upon request.

Inter-provincial migration and inequality during Vietnam's transition. Diep Phan, Ian Coxhead. Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 91, Issue 1, January 2010, Pg. 100-112, ISSN 0304-3878. Abstract: Vietnam's economic boom during the transition to a market economy has centered on very rapid growth in some sectors and provinces, yet poverty has diminished across the entire country. With capital investments highly concentrated by province and sector, geographic labor mobility may be critical in spreading the gains from growth. Conversely, rising income inequality may be attributable in part to impediments to migration. We first use census data to investigate migration patterns and determinants. We then examine the role of migration as an influence on income ratios between pairs of provinces. The former analysis robustly confirms economic motives for migration but also suggests the existence of poverty-related labor immobility at the provincial level. Examination of income ratios between pairs of provinces reveals that the impact of migration on inequality can be either negative or positive. A robust inequality-reducing impact of migration is found for migration flows into provinces where most of Vietnam's trade-oriented industrial investments are located. Full text: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VBV-4WP47RM-1/2/07e21451c3dde5ae7faa9289fbaaфф12

Inequality in mortality in Vietnam during a period of rapid transition. Granlund, David; Chuc, Nguyen T.; Phuc, Ho D.; Lindholm, Lars. Social Science & Medicine, Vol. 70, Issue 2, January 2010, Pages 232-239, ISSN 0277-9536. Abstract: Vietnam has experienced rapid economic growth following the transition, which began in the mid 1980s, from a planned agriculture based economy to a more market orientated one. In this paper, the associations between socioeconomic variables and mortality for 41,000 adults in Northern Vietnam followed from January 1999 to March 2008 are estimated using Cox's proportionally hazard models. Also, we use decomposition techniques to investigate the relative importance of socioeconomic factors for explaining inequality in age-standardized mortality risk. The results confirm previously found negative associations between mortality and income and education, for both men and women. We also found that marital status, at least for men, explain a large and growing part of the inequality. Finally, estimation results for relative education variables suggest that there exist positive spillover effects of education, meaning that higher education of one's neighbors or spouse might reduce ones mortality risk. Full text: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VBF-4XK2SW9-1/2/05a57daf3893c200c6ca844ff8f78

Householder perspectives and preferences on water storage and use, with reference to dengue, in the Mekong Delta, southern Vietnam. Hau P. Trana, b, c, Jon Adamsb, Jason A.L. Jefferyc, Yen T. Nguyen, Nam S.
Abstract: Community-based perceptions and behaviour around water source preference, household water storage patterns and water use, and householders’ knowledge and behaviour with respect to dengue etiology and transmission, were examined in three communes located in the Mekong Delta area in southern Vietnam. Through focus group discussions, most participants identified poorly screened or uncovered water containers (including household water storage containers and other types of artificial containers) as habitats for mosquitoes that transmit dengue viruses, and thereby demonstrated a clear understanding of the links between household water storage practices and the threat of dengue. Our qualitative analyses also revealed broader community-based concerns about the limited availability of water and strong preferences for storage of rainwater based upon perceptions of cost, quality and security of supply. These perceptions are central to shaping householders’ responses to water infrastructure projects. The limited availability of water during the dry season and insufficient numbers of water storage containers are overriding community concerns which provide an important context to understanding community behaviours and responses to public health interventions against dengue. Such concerns are important precursors to selecting the type of intervention. Full text: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B985R-4Y64DP0-3/2/4a0e358f8f9699a86d76752a45ea0562

An inquiry into the determinants of Vietnamese product export. Trang, Nguyen Thi Ha, Tam, Nguyen Thi Thanh and Nam; No 8, Working Papers from Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Vietnam. Abstract: Export led growth is the model of economic development that Vietnam has been following. While there are a great number of studies on the determinants of aggregate export of Vietnam, there are few that analyze the impacts of different factors on the export of different product groups. This paper aims at filling this gap in research on international trade of Vietnam. The results show that the fast GDP growth of Vietnam, the large population of importing countries, the wide economic gap between Vietnam and the importing countries, the depreciation of domestic currency, the free trade agreements that Vietnam signed and the shared border with the importing countries contribute to the increase of Vietnam’s export of all product groups. In contrast, the GDP of importing countries and population of Vietnam have no clear impacts on the export of any product groups. Fulltext: http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/VuHoangNam/An%20inquiry%20into%20the%20determinants%20of%20Vietnamese%20product%20export_DEPOCENWP.pdf

Notes on Applying 'Real Options' to Climate Change Adaptation Measures, with Examples from Vietnam. Leo Dobes, from Centre for Climate Economics & Policy, Crawford School, Australian National University. CCEP Working Papers 7.10, November 2010. Abstract: A factor common to all adaptation measures is the uncertainty that is the hallmark of climate change. The timing, intensity and location of climate change impacts is not known to any degree of precision. Because most deterministic analyses and policy prescriptions ignore this uncertainty, their recommendations are likely to waste community resources. Except by chance, adaptation measures will either be over-engineered, or they will be inadequate and result in harm. Applying real options thinking allows an incremental and flexible approach. Adaptation measures are implemented only as better knowledge becomes available over time. Several examples are given of real options in the Mekong Delta, with a comparison of net present values of two housing alternatives. It is essential to undertake net present value calculations when comparing different projects to ensure that the value of any options is weighed against other costs and benefits. Full text: http://ccep.anu.edu.au/data/2010/pdf/wpaper/CCEP-7-10.pdf

Control and Performance of Strategic Alliances in Emerging Countries: The Case of International Joint Ventures in Vietnam. Hieu Pham Duc (hieuphamduc@gmail.com). No 14, Working Papers from Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Vietnam. Abstract: The research aims at understanding the nature of control and its impact on performance of international joint ventures (IJV) in Vietnam. The case studies permit to identify principal determinants of control in IJV, namely capital contribution, technological and managerial contribution, strategic importance of the IJV and partners’ relative bargaining power. Besides, the results show that the control of IJV in Vietnam corresponds to a system
combining two subsystems of control, one specific to foreign partner and the other specific to local partner. The control of local partner is operational and decentralized whereas the control of foreign partner is essentially strategic and financial. Beyond the clear distinction between foreign control and local control of international joint venture, the results show that the perception of performance of international joint venture could vary depending on whether it is analysed from the viewpoint of foreign partner or Vietnamese partner. The research ends with conclusions, limitations and our proposal for further research. Full text is available upon request.
Some new academic papers on development issues in Vietnam

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Street Vendors and the Dynamics of the Informal Economy: Evidence from Vung Tau, Vietnam. John Walsh. Asian Social Science. Toronto: Nov 2010. Vol. 6, Iss. 11; pg. 159, 7 pgs. Abstract: The role of the informal economy in promoting genuine economic development remains a contested one: optimists believe potential entrepreneurs are capable of supporting themselves and their families, perhaps with the assistance of interventions; pessimists, meanwhile, see such individuals as being subject to the forces of global capitalism with which they cannot contend and who must survive increasingly difficult housing, living and environmental conditions which threaten their security. Previous research of street vendors in Bangkok indicated some support for both points of view and this paper extends the research to Vung Tau in Vietnam, which is an oil industry centre and emerging tourist resort. To what extent are vendors able to upgrade their products and business models to take advantage of the new demands available and what difficulties do they face in their work? To date, they have not been able to take advantage of such opportunities. Full text is available upon request.

Health policy processes in maternal health: A comparison of Vietnam, India and China. Green A, Gerein N, Mirzoev T, Bird P, Pearson S, Anh LV, Martineau T, Mukhopadhyay M, Qian X, Ramani KV, Soors W. Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development, University of Leeds, 101 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9LJ, UK. Abstract: This article reports on a comparative analysis to assess and explain the strengths and weaknesses of policy processes based on 9 case-studies of maternal health in Vietnam, India and China. Policy processes are often slow, inadequately coordinated and opaque to outsiders. Use of evidence is variable and, in particular, could be more actively used to assess different policy options. Whilst an increasing range of actors are involved, there is scope for further opening up of the policy processes. This is likely, if appropriately managed with due regard to issues such as accountability of advocacy organisations, to lead to stronger policy development and greater subsequent ownership; it may however be a more messy process to co-ordinate. Coordination is critical where policy issues span conventional sectoral boundaries, but is also essential to ensure development of policy considers critical health system and resource issues. This, and other features related to the nature of a specific policy issue, suggests the need both to adapt processes for each particular policy issue and to monitor the progress of the policy processes themselves. The article concludes with specific questions to be considered by actors keen to enhance policy processes. Full text is available upon request.

A hidden HIV epidemic among women in Vietnam. Thu, Anh Nguyen; Pauline, Oosterhoff; Anita Hardon; Hien Nguyen Tran; Roel A Coutinho; Pamela Wright. BMC Public Health. 2010-12-20. Vol.8, Iss.1; Abstract: The HIV epidemic in Vietnam is still concentrated among high risk populations, including IDU and FSW. The response of the government has focused on the recognized high risk populations, mainly young male drug users. This concentration on one high risk population may leave other populations under-protected or unprepared for the risk and the consequences of HIV infection. In particular, attention to women's risks of exposure and needs for care may not receive sufficient attention as long as the perception persists that the epidemic is predominantly among young males. Without more knowledge of the epidemic among women, policy makers and planners cannot ensure that programs will also serve women's needs. It appears that the risk of HIV transmission among women in Vietnam has been underestimated; the reported data may represent as little as 16% of the real number. Although modeling predicted that there would be 98,500 cases of HIV-infected women in 2005, only 15,633 were accounted for in reports from the health system. That could mean that in 2005, up to 83,000 women infected with HIV have not been detected by the health care system, for a
number of possible reasons. For both detection and prevention, these women can be divided into sub-groups with different risk characteristics. They can be infected by sharing needles and syringes with IDU partners, or by having unsafe sex with clients, husbands or lovers. However, most new infections among women can be traced to sexual relations with young male injecting drug users engaged in extramarital sex. Each of these groups may need different interventions to increase the detection rate and thus ensure that the women receive the care they need. Women in Vietnam are increasingly at risk of HIV transmission but that risk is under-reported and under-recognized. The reasons are that women are not getting tested, are not aware of risks, do not protect themselves and are not being protected by men. Based on this information, policy-makers and planners can develop better prevention and care programs that not only address women's needs but also reduce further spread of the infection among the general population. Full text is available upon request.

Innovation Education: Problems and Prospects in Governance and Management of the Vietnamese Higher Education System. Brooks, Taylor. Berkeley Electronic Press Journals; 2010-04-01. Abstract: Vietnam is currently in the process of creating and implementing an important series of reforms to their higher education system. Their commitment to the process is encouraging, but the level of institutional autonomy at the college and university level is still low. Higher education institutions are unable to fully make academic and financial decisions without government oversight, an issue that appears to be hindering innovation and development within the sector. Based on the high importance of human resource development, and higher education’s distinct role in that process, these reforms are becoming increasingly important and necessary. Reforms are being created but not implemented and thus the entire process is slowed to a dangerously slow level—without resolute action, the large economic growth Vietnam has experienced will become unsustainable. The aim of the research is to come to a better understanding of what kind of system of government management and governance is currently in place in the higher education sector. Additionally it will focus on the reform process, including who is involved and what steps are being taken. Great emphasis is placed on increased institutional autonomy. By interviewing former government officials, university administrators, professors, and educational policy experts involved in the reform process and conducting extensive secondary research, this study hopes to gain perspective into the realities of educational reform in Vietnam, specifically related to the governance structure of higher education. Free full text: http://digitalcollections.sit.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1876&context=isp_collection

Economic potential of renewable energy in Vietnam's power sector. Nhan T. Nguyen, Minh Ha-Duong. Energy Policy, Volume 37, Issue 5, May 2009, Pages 1601-1613. Abstract: A bottom-up Integrated Resource Planning model is used to examine the economic potential of renewable energy in Vietnam's power sector. In a baseline scenario without renewables, coal provides 44% of electricity generated from 2010 to 2030. The use of renewables could reduce that figure to 39%, as well as decrease the sector's cumulative emission of CO2 by 8%, SO2 by 3%, and NOx by 4%. In addition, renewables could avoid installing 4.4GW in fossil fuel generating capacity, conserve domestic coal, decrease coal and gases imports, improving energy independence and security. Wind could become cost-competitive assuming high but plausible on fossil fuel prices, if the cost of the technology falls to 900 US$/kW. Free full text: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=MImg&_imagekey=B6V2W-4VKDGXC-1-C&_cdi=5713&_user=3970592&_pii=S0301421508007635&_origin=na&_coverDate=05%2F31%2F2009&_sk=999629994&view=c&wchp=dGLzVlb-zSkzS&md5=f0a31233247f915dfbb210c40d2fa3e8&ie=/sdarticle.pdf

What determines credit participation and credit constraints of the poor in peri-urban areas, Vietnam? Tinh, Thanh Doan; John, Gibson and Mark, Holmes. MPRA Paper from University Library of Munich, Germany. Abstract: This paper uses a novel dataset collected by the first author from peri-urban areas of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in 2008 to examine how the poor use their loans, and factors affecting their credit participation and credit constraints. The paper finds the presence of many commercial banks in the areas does not help the poor, but the poor rely heavily on informal credit. Loans in the peri-urban areas are mainly used for non-productive purposes, which stresses the importance of consumption smoothing motives. Further, households in more rural wards have a higher probability of borrowing than more urban households, thanks to
better community relationships and higher interpersonal trust. Competition by borrowing neighbours adversely affects the opportunity for borrowing in urban wards where the poor households’ borrowings rely much more on subsidized credit funds. A closer look at specified microcredit sources reveals that household behaviours differ in each market segment. Furthermore, the poor are highly credit-constrained. Wealthier households, in terms of asset holdings and phone possession, among the poor group appear less credit-constrained. However, except in the most rural part of the study area, the likelihood of credit constraints increases with distance to the nearest banks, which suggests that supply-side intervention could help in overcoming credit constraints. Overall, the poor in urban wards are more credit-constrained because of exclusion by commercial banks and weak interpersonal trust. Free full text: http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/27509/1/MPRA_paper_27509.pdf

Organizational culture of privatized firms and state-owned enterprises in Vietnam. Quy, Vo Thi; No 16, Working Papers from Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Vietnam. Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to examine the organizational culture of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and privatized firms (PFs) in Vietnam, and to study whether or not the difference in organizational culture between the two company groups exists. Different organizational cultural dimensions were reviewed. Two comparative groups, SOEs and PFs were surveyed. Based on the work of Cunha and Cooper on organizational cultural types, a structured questionnaire was developed and sent to managers, staffs, and workers in both state-owned and privatized companies. Seven hundred and ninety valid questionnaires were collected from companies located in Hochiminh City. The results show that PFs have people and market orientations significantly different from that of SOEs. There is not the difference in integration orientation and performance orientation between PFs and SOEs. These findings imply that there are many cultural dimensions existing together in an organization and the ownership structure could be the predictor of organizational culture. The limitations of the study are that the sample is limited to companies located in Hochiminh City, and the convenient sampling technique was used. Therefore the replication of this analysis in other research contexts and regions of the country and the use of random sampling technique would enhance the generalization of the findings. This study provides empirical evidence for the importance of ownership change leading to organizational culture change in the Vietnamese context. Free full text: http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/NguyenThuThuy/Is%20Vietnam%20economic%20paradigm%20sustainable%20for%20catch%20up_DEPOCENWP.pdf

Is Vietnam economic paradigm sustainable for catch up. Tu, Anh Nguyen and Thuy, Nguyen Thu. No 9, Working Papers from Development and Policies Research Center (DEPOCEN), Vietnam. Abstract: In the course of catching-up, Vietnam faces risks in two sectors: in real sector and in financial sector. In this paper we focus mostly on risk in real sector: the risk of getting stuck in middle-income trap. Vietnam is still far lagged behind her neighbors and much more further to developed economies. Does the economic paradigm that Vietnam follows in the last two decades allow her to catch up with those economies? We show that Vietnam’s economic growth in the last two decades based essentially on cheap but low skill labor and physical capital. Participation in international and regional production network probably lock Vietnam in low-tech position, hence low value added. If Vietnam keeps on growing in present paradigm, hardly can it catch up the neighboring economies. Free full text: http://depocenwp.org/upload/pubs/NguyenThuThuy/Is%20Vietnam%20economic%20paradigm%20sustainable%20for%20catch%20up_DEPOCENWP.pdf

Casualties of Climate Change. Scientific American, Jan2011, Vol. 304. Issue 1, p64-66, 3p; Abstract: The article discusses the impact that climate change caused by global warming, such as rising sea levels and shifts in rainfall patterns, will have on human civilization and the humanitarian challenges it presents to the international community. According to the authors, the migration of humans as a result of climate change has reshaped civilization since the beginning of recorded time. Topics include humanity’s entrance into an era of man-made climate change as a consequence of greenhouse gas emissions, the increasing frequency of natural disasters as a result of climate change, and three regions in the world where floods and drought have prompted forced migration and displacement, including Mozambique, the Mekong Delta, and Mexico. Full
The rising sea. Scientific American, Jan 2011, Vol. 304 Issue 1, p68-69, 2p. Abstract: The article discusses how climate changes have affected the Vietnamese portion of the Mekong River Delta, including floods and sea level rise that have threatened the livelihood of thousands of individuals who depend on agriculture to survive. Topics include an overview of the role of flooding in the economy and culture, such as rice farmers' dependence on flood cycles for rice cultivation, and a government program that encourages rice farmers to switch to aquaculture. Full text is available at: http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=56515385&site=ehost-live

Doing Under Renewed Pressure. Asia Monitor: South East Asia Monitor Volume 1, Jan 2011, Vol. 22 Issue 1, p1-2, 2p; Abstract: The article presents the journal's forecast concerning the Vietnamese dong. It states that the dong is under renewed inflationary pressure following an acceleration of consumer price inflation in September 2010 which undermines confidence in the currency. It adds that evidences such as trade deficit indicated that Vietnam's foreign reserves would force another currency devaluation. It notes that central bank is losing credibility after failing to anchor market expectations on the exchange rate. Full text is available at: http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bch&AN=55730776&site=ehost-live

The role of farmer organizations in supplying supermarkets with quality food in Vietnam. Paule Moustier; Phan, Thi Giac Tam; Dao, The Anh; Vu, Trong Binh and Nguyen Thi Tan Loc. Food Policy Volume 35, Issue 1, February 2010, Pages 69-78. Abstract: The development of supermarkets in Vietnam, as in other emerging countries, is accompanied by increasing consumer concern for food quality. This paper investigates whether farmer organizations are able to help small-scale farmers obtain access to supermarkets as well as examines the role that supermarkets and public support play in the emergence and development of these organizations. The paper is based on case studies of a number of stakeholders marketing vegetables, flavored rice and litchi fruit in Vietnam. Eight farmer groups operating in the form of private commercial organizations act as regular supermarket suppliers for the selected products. Their ability to supply supermarkets is related to the combination of functions they make available to their members, especially with regard to promoting and controlling quality for which they receive public support. Their participation in flexible contracts with supermarkets, shops and schools is also a key issue. Supplying supermarkets via farmer associations increases farmers’ profits per kilo compared to traditional chains, but the quantities supplied to supermarkets remain limited. The paper argues that changes in farmer organizations are not primarily due to supplying supermarkets, but rather to public and international support for food quality improvement which has been of benefit to supermarkets. Full text is available upon request.

Economic potential of renewable energy in Vietnam's power sector. Nguyen, Nhan T and Duong, Minh Ha. Energy Policy, Volume 37, Issue 5, May 2009, Pages 1601-1613. Abstract: A bottom-up Integrated Resource Planning model is used to examine the economic potential of renewable energy in Vietnam's power sector. In a baseline scenario without renewables, coal provides 44% of electricity generated from 2010 to 2030. The use of renewables could reduce that figure to 39%, as well as decrease the sector's cumulative emission of CO2 by 8%, SO2 by 3%, and NOx by 4%. In addition, renewables could avoid installing 4.4 GW in fossil fuel generating capacity, conserve domestic coal, decreased coal and gases imports, improving energy independence and security. Wind could become cost-competitive assuming high but plausible on fossil fuel prices, if the cost of the technology falls to 900 US$/kW. Full text is available upon request.

Determinants of malaria in space and time in Viet Nam. Bui H. Manh, Archie C.A. Clements, Nguyen Q. Thieu, Nguyen M. Hung, Le X. Hung, Simon I. Hay, Tran T. Hien, Heiman F.L. Wertheim, Robert W. Snow, Peter Horby; Social and environmental, International Journal for Parasitology, Volume 41, Issue 1, January 2011, Pages 109-116, ISSN 0020-7519. Abstract: The malaria burden in Viet Nam has been in decline in recent decades, but localised areas of high transmission remain. We used spatiotemporal analytical tools to determine the social and environmental drivers of malaria risk and to identify residual high-risk areas where
control and surveillance resources can be targeted. Counts of reported Plasmodium falciparum and Plasmodium vivax malaria cases by month (January 2007–December 2008) and by district were assembled. Zero-inflated Poisson regression models were developed in a Bayesian framework. Models had the percentage of the district’s population living below the poverty line, percent of the district covered by forest, median elevation, median long-term average precipitation, and minimum temperature included as fixed effects, and terms for temporal trend and residual district-level spatial autocorrelation. Strong temporal and spatial heterogeneity in counts of malaria cases was apparent. Poverty and forest cover were significantly associated with an increased count of malaria cases but the magnitude and direction of associations between climate and malaria varied by socio-ecological zone. There was a declining trend in counts of malaria cases during the study period. After accounting for the social and environmental fixed effects, substantial spatial heterogeneity was still evident. Unmeasured factors which may contribute to this residual variation include malaria control activities, population migration and accessibility to health care. Forest-related activities and factors encompassed by poverty indicators are major drivers of malaria incidence in Viet Nam. Full text is available upon request.

Temporal causality and the dynamics of foreign direct investment and trade in Vietnam. Thi Hong Hanh, Phama. The Journal of International Trade & Economic Development: An International and Comparative Review, 1469-9559, First published on 25 November 2010. Abstract: Our article investigates the temporal causation between foreign direct investment (FDI) and trade in Vietnam for the period 1990-2007. We first employ Granger causality tests in a co-integration framework, where the order of lags for each variable is selected by the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and the Schwarz Bayesian Information Criterion (SBIC). Granger causality tests are then performed in both bi- and multi-variate models. In the short-run, we find evidence of bi-directional Granger causality between FDI and exports and between FDI and imports. Our analysis also establishes the existence of long-run unidirectional Granger causality running from FDI to exports and to imports. Fee may apply.