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1. Introduction

- This Annual Progress Report for the Vietnam Component prepared by VEA reports on the activities carried out in 2011 with the support of the ASEAN Peatland Forests Project (APFP).
- Although VEA has received funding from the Project, only few activities have been carried out under the efforts of VEA so far. The main reason resulted in the implementation of activities is too slow due to a change in personnel and organizational structure of VEA in recently.
- However, the framework of the project activities in 2011 have been completed with the cooperation between the Environment Agency and other agencies, pilot site (U Minh Thuong National Park); it therefore can be confident that the work plan 2011 of the Vietnam component activities will be going on well.

2. Background

The Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in Vietnam is a two-year project which aims to demonstrate, implement and scale up sustainable management and rehabilitation of peatland forests in Vietnam.

The Project focuses on the following activities:

- strengthening capacity and institutional framework for sustainable peatland management;
- ii. reduction of peatland degradation;
- iii. integrated management and rehabilitation of selected peatlands; and
- iv. local community involvement in sustainable peatland management.

3. Summary of Activities

- In 2011, the activities focused on determining the TOR for each project component activities,
- General agreement between UMTNP Management Board and VEA on the framework of the project activities at demonstration sites in UMTNP.
- Several meetings between national expert and consultants/institutes, who will cooperate with VEA to involve project activities.
- Priority project activities have been carried out in pilot site (UMTNP).

3. Summary of Activities

Some of the activities carried out during the reporting period are as follows:

- Two meetings were organized in Hanoi, between VEA and stakeholders to discuss on the project activities. Through the meetings, some documents on the value and functions of peatlands were disseminated to stakeholders to help them understand the need for peatland conservation and management.
- VEA and other stakeholders also discussed the priority activities and management structure for implementing the country component and site level activities.

3. Summary of Activities

- Organized two workshops The meetings were also discussed and agreed on the appointment of agencies/ experts, who will be involved in each activity in the country component.
- Work plan of 2011 has been carried out in pilot site: Inventory of peatlands, evaluation of socio-economic in buffer zone, capacity building for local staff in pilot site (training workshops).

4. Respected Outputs

- 1. Established a Project Management Board belongs to VEA: Project Director, project accounting....
- Setup and organized workshops on discussing the content of the NAP to get comments from the relevant agencies and submit to the government approved in the end of 2011.
- 3. A framework of cooperation established between VEA and UMTNP Management Board together to implement project activities at demonstration sites in the action plan 2011 and 2012.
- Implementation of project activities. About 50 % of project activities will be achieved in work plan 2011.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Output 1.1 The degradation of peatlands in Vietnam minimised through the implementation of the National Action Plan on Peatlands

Action1.1.1. Develop implementation strategy for the National Action Plan for the conservation and sustainable use of peat lands

• Conducted a meeting and workshop with relevant departments to inform Vietnam NAP to relevant agencies in central and local level..

Action 1.1.2. Promote the peat land NAP to relevant key stakeholders

 Develop plans for implementing management activities and sustainable use of peatlands in Vietnam

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Action 1.1.4 Technical guidance and coordination for component

Some main activities of technical guidance and coordination for Vietnam component have been carried on such as:

- Developed technical guidance of project activities of Vietnam component, that have been carried out by consultants;
- In cooperation with both UMTNP and UMHNP and consultants to carry out project activities in pilot site.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Output 1.2 Awareness of peatland management in Vietnam raised (one activity)

Action 1.2.1 Produce awareness materials to improve understanding of peatland management issues in Vietnam to key stakeholders and local communities living around UMT and UMH National Parks.

- Conducted a surveys for collecting and analyzing data of peatland resources in Vietnam and especially the U Minh peat land areas of the Mekong Delta.
- Developed document and guidelines for conservation and sustainable use of peatland
- Organized workshops to introduce and raise awareness for staff and local communities about the value and function of peat land.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Output 2.1 Management of peatlands in Vietnam Enhanced

Action 2.1.1 Carry out an assessment to fill gaps in inventory of peatlands in Vietnam

- Some activities which carried out an assessment to fill gaps in inventory of peatlands in Vietnam:
- Main activities have been carried out to collect data of peatlands in Vietnam, particularly in the Mekong Delta. A draft of semi-detail peatlands map of Mekong Delta, with scale of 1/250.000, was completed and a final map has been in completed progress.
- Activities of surveys for peatland mapping of U Minh region, included U Minh Ha and U Minh Thuong Nationla Parks, have been carried out.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Action 2.1.2 Promote the incorporation of peatland conservation into land use planning - water resource management, agriculture and forest management

- Conducted surveys for data collecting and the analyzed the secondary data of land use planning in peatland areas of Ca Mau and Kien Giang in Mekong Delta.
- Based on collected secondary data, implementing progress in finding out of the discrepancies between the landuse planning in local authorities and trends of conservation and sustainable use of peatland resources

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Output 3.1 Support the implementation a site management plan for UMTNP

Action 3.1.1 Conduct field assessments of peatlands UMTNP, and contribute to the refinement and implementation of the park management plan and development of plans for the buffer zone.

- Collected and conducted surveys for data collection of ecosystems and biodiversity that will be used for analysis and assessment to find out suitable and/or unsuitable in peatland management in U Minh Thuong National Park.
- In progress of analysis and evaluation of five year master plan of UMTNP.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Action 2.1.3 Promote measures for fire prevention and control in peatlands

- Collected and analyzed data of natural factors and in U Minh peatland region, and collected data of the integrated fire and water management in both of national parks: U Minh Ha and U Minh Thuong.
- Analysis and evaluation of methods of water and fire management in peatlands of U Minh Thuong and U Minh Ha region. A discussion on integrated management of fire and water, and biodiversity conservation in peatlands of UMTNP also carried out in provincial level

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Output 4.1 Communities in buffer Zone of UMTNP obtaining alternative sustainable livelihood

Action 4.1.1 Conduct a socio-economics survey and prepare a proposal for sustainable livelihood projects with local communities at UMTNP.

- Collected second data and conducted surveys for evaluation the present development of social economic and livelihood of the local community in the buffer zone of U Minh Thuong National Park.
- From the current status of local community livelihoods, suitable types of livelihoods that will be applied to support the development of livelihood towards on protection of peat land resources with the participation of the community in the buffer zone of the park.
- Conducted a Workshop on establishment a proposal of sustainable livelihood development with participation of local community in the buffer zone of the U Minh Thuong National Park; on 23 October 2010, held in UMTNP.

5. Project Component Activities in workplan 2011

Action 4.1.2 Develop a sustainable community livelihood project with local communities in and around the pilot site (UMTNP) to decrease pressures on globally significant biodiversity

- UMTNP conducted a quick surveys to collect indispensible data that were used for evaluation of livelihood of local community in buffer zone.
- Being in the progress of finding the types of sustainable livelihoods development of local community in the buffer zone.

| Out puts and activities of project components | % of achievement to date | | to date |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Nov. 2011 | remained 2011 | remained 2012 |
| Output 1.2 Awareness of peatland management in Vietnam raised | | | |
| Action 1.2.1 Produce awareness materials to improve understanding of peatland management issues in Vietnam to key stakeholders and local communities living around UMT and UMH National Parks. | 60 | 15 | 35 |
| Output 2.1 Management of peatlands in Vietnam Enhanced | | | |
| Action 2.1.1 Carry out an assessment to fill gaps in inventory of peatlands in Vietnam | 50 | 10 | 40 |
| Action 2.1.2 Promote the incorporation of peatland conservation into land use planning - water resource management, agriculture and forest management | 30 | 10 | 60 |
| Action 2.1.3 Promote measures for fire prevention and control in peatlands | 40 | 10 | 50 |

| Summary of volume of project activities of Vietnam Component | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| Out puts and activities of project components | % of achievement to date (estimation) | | | | |
| | up to Nov. 2011 | remained 2011 | remained 2012 | | |
| Output 1.1 The degradation of peatlands in Vietnam minimised through the implementation of the National Action Plan on Peatlands | | | | | |
| Action 1.1.1. Develop implementation strategy for the National Action Plan for the conservation and sustainable use of peatlands | 60 | 40 | 0 | | |
| Action 1.1.2. Promote the peatland NAP to relevant key stakeholders | 40 | 10 | 50 | | |
| Action 1.1.3. Strengthening legislation, policies and institutional framework for improved integrated peatland management | 60 | 40 | 0 | | |
| Action 1.1.4 Technical guidance and coordination for component | 40 | 10 | 50 | | |

| Out puts and activities of project components | oject components % of achievement (estimation | | | |
|--|---|------------------|---------------|--|
| | up to Nov. 2011 | remained 2011 | remained 2012 | |
| Output 3.1 Support the implementation a site management plan for UMTNP | | | | |
| Action 3.1.1 Conduct field assessments of peatlands UMTNP, and contribute to the refinement and implementation of the park management plan and development of plans for the buffer zone. | 35 | 15 | 50 | |
| 3.1.2 Provide training and support for staff of relevant agencies on participatory management involving the local community. | 0 | 30 | 70 | |
| , | | | | |

| Out puts and activities of project components | % of achievement to date (estimation) | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| | up to Nov. 2011 | remained 2011 | remained 2012 |
| Output 4.1 Communities in buffer Zone of UMTNP obtaining alternative sustainable livelihood | | | |
| 4.1.1 Conduct a socio-economics survey and prepare a proposal for sustainable livelihood projects with local communities at UMTNP. | 80 | 20 | 0 |
| 4.1.2 Develop a sustainable community livelihood project with local communities in and around the pilot site (UMTNP) to decrease pressures on globally significant biodiversity. | 15 | 10 | 75 |
| Act. 4.1.3. Document lessons learned from the experience of the sustainable livelihoods project and disseminated information to others | 0 | 0 | 100 |

| Project output and activities | Total | Plan 2011 | upto Nov 2011 | Remained 2011 | Plan 2012 |
|--|--------|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Output 1.2 Awareness of peatland management in Vietnam raised | | | | | |
| Action 1.2.1 Produce awareness materials to improve understanding of peatland management issues in Vietnam to key stakeholders and local communities living around UMT and UMH National Parks. | 15,000 | 7,000 | 4,500 | 2,500 | 8,000 |
| Output 2.1 Management of peatlands in Vietnam Enhanced | | | | | |
| Action 2.1.1 Carry out an assessment to fill gaps in inventory of peatlands in Vietnam | 10,000 | 10,000 | 3,000 | 7,000 | 0 |
| Action 2.1.2 Promote the incorporation of peatland conservation into land use planning - water resource management, agriculture and forest management | 20,000 | 8,000 | 6,000 | 2,000 | 12,000 |
| Action 2.1.3 Promote measures for fire prevention and control in peatlands | 14,000 | 10,000 | 4,200 | 5,800 | 4,000 |

| Expenditure of Project Activities (up to now) | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--|--|
| Project output and activities | Total | Plan 2011 | upto Nov 2011 | Remained 2011 | Plan 2012 | | |
| Output 1.1 The degradation of peatlands in Vietnam minimised through the implementation of the National Action Plan on Peatlands | | | | | | | |
| Action 1.1.1. Develop implementation strategy for the National Action Plan for the conservation and sustainable use of peatlands | 5,000 | 5,000 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0 | | |
| Action 1.1.2. Promote the peatland NAP to relevant key stakeholders | 10,000 | 7,000 | 5,000 | 2,000 | 3,000 | | |
| Action 1.1.3. Strengthening legislation, policies and institutional framework for improved integrated peatland management | 5,000 | 5,000 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0 | | |
| Action 1.1.4 Technical guidance and coordination for component | 20,000 | 10,000 | 4,000 | 6,000 | 10,000 | | |

| Project output and activities | Total | Plan 2011 | upto Nov 2011 | Remained 2011 | Plan 2012 |
|--|--------|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Output 3.1 Support the implementation a site management plan for UMTNP | | | | | |
| Action 3.1.1 Conduct field assessments of peatlands UMTNP, and contribute to the refinement and implementation of the park management plan and development of plans for the buffer zone. | 30,000 | 20,000 | 9,000 | 11,000 | 10,000 |
| 3.1.2 Provide training and support for staff of relevant agencies on participatory management involving the local community (chua làm) | 15,000 | 8,000 | 0 | 8000 | 7,000 |

| Project output and activities | Total | Plan 2011 | upto Nov 2011 | Remained 2011 | Plan 2012 |
|--|--------|-----------|------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Output 4.1 Communities in buffer Zone of UMTNP obtaining alternative sustainable livelihood | | | | | |
| 4.1.1 Conduct a socio-economics survey and prepare a proposal for sustainable livelihood projects with local communities at UMTNP. | 10,000 | 10,000 | 3,000 | 7,000 | 0 |
| 4.1.2 Develop a sustainable community livelihood project with local communities in and around the pilot site (UMTNP) to decrease pressures on globally significant biodiversity. | 55,000 | 25,000 | 16,500 | 8,500 | 30,000 |
| Act. 4.1.3. Document lessons learned from the experience of the sustainable livelihoods project and disseminated information to others | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |









| Expenditure of Project Activities (up to now) | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--|--|
| Outputs | Total | Plan 2011 | Up to Nov 2011 | Remained 2011 | Plan 2012 | | |
| Output 1.1 The degradation of peatlands in Vietnam minimised through the implementation of the National Action Plan on Peatlands | 40,000 | 27,000 | 14,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 | | |
| Output 1.2 Awareness of peatland management in Vietnam raised | 15,000 | 7,000 | 4,500 | 2,500 | 8,000 | | |
| Output 2.1 Management of peatlands in Vietnam Enhanced | 44,000 | 28,000 | 13,200 | 14,800 | 16,000 | | |
| Output 3.1 Support the implementation a site management plan for UMTNP | 45,000 | 28,000 | 9,000 | 19,000 | 17,000 | | |
| Output 4.1 Communities in buffer Zone of UMTNP obtaining alternative sustainable livelihood | 86,000 | 42,000 | 25,000 | 17,000 | 44,000 | | |
| | 230,000 | 132,000 | 65,700 | 66,300 | 98,000 | | |

THANKS FOR ATTENTION