

HELPING YOU TO DECIDE ABOUT THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME IN YOUR DISTRICT

This document is to help you to decide whether or not you want a project called “UN-REDD” to undertake some activities in your village or in the area where you live. As well as having the opportunity to read this document, an independent facilitator will come to your village to help to explain what the project aims to do. The job of this facilitator is not to encourage you to agree to the project; his/her job is to help you to make up your mind for yourself.



1 CLIMATE CHANGE

The air that we breathe contains several different gases. For humans and animals, the most important gas is called ‘oxygen’, which we need in order to survive. Plants also need another gas, called ‘carbon dioxide’, to survive.

When you cut down a tree, or burn a forest or your crop stubble, carbon dioxide is released into the air. Driving motorcycles, cars, and lorries also releases carbon dioxide into the air. Many industries also release carbon dioxide into the air.

But this creates a problem. If there is too much carbon dioxide in the air, the whole earth gets warmer, and this may mean that your crops cannot grow properly, or will die. It might also mean that there is more flooding, more soil erosion, and so on.

For the last 50 years, all around the world, because people have been driving too many motorcycles, cars and lorries, and cutting down the forest, the amount of carbon dioxide in the air has increased a lot. So the climate is changing, which will cause problems for everyone.



Phút dừng chân - VÕ VĂN NGHỆ

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REDD

Now all the countries in the world have agreed that they need to do something to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the air. In many countries there are efforts to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide released by vehicles and industries. In Viet Nam, the most important way that the amount of carbon dioxide can be reduced is to save the forest, and plant new forests.

Rich countries have agreed to pay money to help Viet Nam to do this, and the government has agreed that the money should help poor people who live in and near the forest. No-one can say how much money will be paid yet – but the money will only be paid to households or communities that do something to save the forest, or to improve the quality of the forest.

But, before any money is paid, a lot of ideas and plans need to be developed. For example, there needs to be a way to measure how much each household or community has helped to improve the situation, so the money can be paid fairly. Because there are many things that need to be organized, it will probably take another several years before the money will be available.



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UN-REDD

The United Nations are helping Viet Nam to prepare for REDD. The first efforts to prepare for REDD are taking place in Lam Dong province, and especially in Lam Ha and Di Linh districts. Over the next 12-18 months, there will be a project in these two districts to help to prepare for REDD. The project will:

- Help the Commune, District, and Provincial Peoples Committees to learn how to improve their land-use and socio-economic development plans so that the forest can be conserved, and the local people can earn money from REDD.
- Help to develop ways in which local people can measure how successful they have been in reducing the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air.
- Design a system to make sure that the money is paid to the right people, and the amount of money received by households or communities reflects the efforts they have made.

Raise the general awareness of the population about climate change, REDD, and how Viet Nam plans to implement REDD.



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YOUR CONSENT

The project will only do these activities in your area if you want it to do so. You have the right to decide that you do not want the project to involve your community in some or all of these activities. In making up your mind, it is important that:

- No-one tells you, or pressures you to agree. If someone tries to encourage you or force you to agree, you need to inform a team of independent people who will come to your village to check on the process.
- No activities should start before you have agreed. If you think activities have started before you agree to them, you should inform the independent team.

- Your decision should be based on having all the information you need. If you feel that you do not have enough information to make a decision, tell the independent facilitator who will come to your village to help, and he/she will provide you with more information.

The independent facilitator will make arrangements with your village head for a meeting or meetings involving as many villagers as possible, where you can ask questions, discuss the plans amongst yourselves, and reach a decision about whether or not you want some or all of the activities to take place in your village or the area where you live. If you need more time to reach a decision, the facilitator will come back on another day. The facilitator is there to answer your questions, but he/she will not participate in the decision-making process.



UN-REDD
PROGRAMME
VIETNAM

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