

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

# VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW 2023 ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

(Summary report)







# MAIN MESSAGES



## VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW 2023 ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Since the first VNR in 2018, Viet Nam has experienced **a difficult context** in progressing towards the SDGs due to the COVID-19 prolonged impacts, increased food and fuel prices, external financial instability, and worsening impacts of natural disasters and climate changes. Despite the challenging context, Viet Nam continued to make **strong commitments** to the 2030 Agenda that was institutionalized in the National Action Plan. All 17 SDGs have been **mainstreamed in socio-economic development** strategies, plans, and sectoral policies at national and local levels. The whole **political system and society** have strived to accomplish the SDGs to **Leave No One Behind**.

Viet Nam has made **remarkable progress towards SDG 1, SDG 6, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 16 and SDG 17**. Continuing to be on track for **SDG 1**, the multidimensional poverty rate declined from 9.2% to 4.3% between 2016 - 2022. Important achievements were evident for **SDG 6** with 98.3% of households using improved water sources in 2022 (from 93.4% in 2016). Expanded investments in infrastructures, export-oriented industrialization and enabling environment for innovation of enterprises contributed to progress in **SDG 9**. Continued progress was made for **SDG 10** through job creation, expansion of social protection coverage, and enhanced support for vulnerable groups, especially in coping with the COVID-19 negative impacts. Improvements were made for **SDG 16**, with the rate of population and organizations showing their satisfaction with public services increased from 80.9% to 87.2% between 2017 - 2021. After approximately three decades of global and regional integration, being a pro-active and responsible member of the international community, Viet Nam has secured solid improvements under **SDG 17**. Viet Nam needs to maintain the pace of progress and achieved attainments of these SDGs.

For the remaining SDGs, **Viet Nam has made important progress. SDG 3** continues to be improved with reduction of child mortality and 92.04% of the population having health insurance in 2022. For **SDG 4**, the rate of transition from primary to lower secondary schools was 99.9% and the percentage of students graduating from lower secondary schools was 98.1% in 2022. Regarding **SDG 7**, the percentage of households with access to electricity was 99.5% in 2022. Viet Nam stands out for fast recovery from COVID-19 pandemic with the GDP growth rate of 8.02% in 2022 while maintaining a low unemployment rate (**SDG 8**). The country progressed towards **SDG 11** with the percentage of population living in temporary houses declining from 2.6% to 0.9% between 2016 - 2022. Viet Nam continues to advance **SDG 13** through the Net Zero commitment that has been integrated into relevant policies.

However, **Viet Nam still faces multiple challenges** and therefore **needs to accelerate** the SDG implementation further. In particular, Viet Nam will prioritize addressing malnutrition among ethnic minority children (**SDG 2**). Extra efforts will be put into improving health and well-being, the expansion of essential healthcare services for all people, especially for vulnerable populations such as the older people and ethnic minorities (**SDG 3**). Viet Nam will also advance **SDG 4** toward equitable access to quality education, especially for vulnerable groups. Combating harmful social norms on gender and gender-biased sex selection will be the key to accelerate **SDG 5**. Increasing renewable energy and boosting energy efficiency will be the focus for **SDG 7**. Viet Nam will continue to prioritize inclusive growth, decent jobs, and enhance labour productivity to further progress **SDG 8**. In addition, Viet Nam will make extra efforts in addressing environmental issues in both urban and rural areas (**SDG 11**); promoting sustainable consumption and production (**SDG 12**); mobilizing resources for disaster risk management and climate change mitigation and adaptation (**SDG 13**); preserving life below water (**SDG 14**); protecting biodiversity and improving ecosystem services (**SDG 15**).

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OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

To successfully implement the 2030 Agenda **in the remaining halfway**, Viet Nam will: (1) Prioritize investments in **human capital, science and technology, innovation**; upgrade **infrastructures** to improve productivity, develop a green and circular economy, and build up resilience against natural disasters and **climate change**; (2) Enhance socialism-oriented **market institutions**, foster **public administration reform** and promote the participation of vulnerable groups in decision-making process; (3) Further reform the social protection system to strengthen resilience of communities and support for vulnerable groups; (4) **Stabilize macroeconomic fundamentals**, continue the COVID-19 recovery support, **mobilize and enhance efficient use of financial resources** for sustainable development; (5) Improve **data availability** to enhance the monitoring of SDG progress; (6) Engage all stakeholders and **collaborate with all partners to achieve the SDGs for all by 2030**.





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



## **Introduction**

Viet Nam supports the 2030 Agenda and commits to gather all the necessary resources, mobilize all ministries, agencies, localities, organizations, communities, and the people to successfully implement this Agenda and each and every Sustainable Development Goal. Five years after the first report, this second Voluntary National Review (VNR) was developed to present results of assessing 2030 Agenda and the SDGs implementation in Viet Nam; to further analyse the progress, the difficulties and challenges; and to share its experiences with the international community.

## **Methodology and process of developing VNR**

VNR has been scientifically developed based on a combination of different methods: (i) Review national and international reports on sustainable development; (ii) Collect data on the sustainable development indicators from official statistics sources of the General Statistics Office and ministries, sectors, and agencies; data of international organizations and social organizations, non-governmental organizations, etc.; (iii) Widely consult and engage with all the stakeholders who have provided inputs to the VNR. In particular, Viet Nam's VNR 2023 integrates the assessment of SDGs implementation progress based on the methodology of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

The VNR development process has extensively engaged the entire political system, ministries, agencies, socio-political organizations such as women and youth unions, socio-professional organizations, social organizations, domestic and international NGOs, development partners, United Nations (UN) organizations in Viet Nam, business representatives, research institutes, and scientists.

The data for reporting on the VSDG indicators are collected from official statistics sources, international organizations, and surveys of the relevant agencies and organizations. The data was collected for the period 2010-2022, in which data analysis was mainly conducted for the period 2015-2022 and results are compared with the first VNR reporting period.

## **Policies and supporting environment**

In fulfilling the commitments with the international community, in May 2017, Viet Nam promulgated the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (NAP 2030). After 5 years, Viet Nam has made significant institutional and policy improvement for implementation of the SDGs in Viet Nam.

General policies for implementation of the SDGs in Viet Nam have been issued in synergy with the Resolutions and Directives of the Government and the Prime Minister on sustainable development in order to promote and make the implementation of the SDGs a regular task accompanied by periodical reporting. Viet Nam has issued the Roadmap for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, the Set of Statistical Indicators for Sustainable Development of Viet Nam and related guidelines. There have been 17 out of 22 ministries and agencies and 51 out of 63 provinces and centrally affiliated cities who promulgated their Action Plans to implement the 2030 Agenda.

The National Socio-Economic Development Strategy for the period 2021-2030 has fully integrated 17 SDGs into its directions, tasks, and solutions. This could be considered as the most important basis and foundation for the SDGs to be implemented substantively, effectively, and in close relations with the national strategic development goals and targets.



Policies across sectors/ fields have comprehensively integrated the SDGs, better mainstreamed the disadvantaged groups such as the poor, ethnic minorities, children, and women to ensure the “Leave no one behind” principle, and at the same time oriented towards the global goals/ commitments on protection of the environment, natural resources, biodiversity and climate change adaptation in the process of national development.

Viet Nam has engaged its entire political system and the whole society in the implementation of the SDGs and has carried out regular and periodical monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs. Viet Nam has made significant efforts to improve the efficiency in mobilization, use and management of the development finance, in order to successfully implement the SDGs.

## Progress of SDG implementation

**Goal 1:** Viet Nam has effectively implemented the general poverty reduction mechanisms and policies to comprehensively support the poor, gradually reducing and abolishing the subsidy policies, increase repayable supports with binding conditions on beneficiaries, geographical locations and benefiting time, especially increase support policies to collectives (groups, teams, cooperatives). As a result, Viet Nam has achieved impressive poverty reduction impact regardless of the measurement methods. Viet Nam’s multidimensional poverty rate tends to decrease sharply, from 9.2% in 2016 to 4.3% in 2022. The multidimensional poverty rate among children declined from 19.1% in 2016 to 11.7% in 2020. The number of contributors and beneficiaries of social insurance (SI), health insurance (HI) and unemployment insurance (UI) is constantly going up. The indicators reflecting the level of access to basic living conditions show steady improvement and remain at an elevated level. However, the COVID-19’s aftermath continues to negatively impact all aspects of social life; climate change, natural disasters, storms, and floods make poverty reduction encounter many challenges and difficulties. The rate of poor households among ethnic minorities and beneficiaries of social protection is still high; poverty reduction results are not really sustainable; the rich-poor gaps between different regions and population groups have not been narrowed which requires comprehensive and synchronous policies to address this inequality.

**Goal 2:** Since 2018, in addition to continuous implementation of the national target programs on poverty reduction on a large scale, contributing to hunger eradication nationwide, Viet Nam has continued to carry out activities to develop green, safe and responsible agriculture; promote food safety, and ensure nutrition security. On average, at the national level, the proportion of children under 5 years of age suffering from malnutrition in all forms (stunting, underweight, and wasting) tends to go down. Agricultural labour productivity has been improved, and per capita income in rural areas tends to rise gradually over the years. However, the rate of stunting children in ethnic minority areas is still high (approximately 32% of ethnic minority children under 5 years old suffering from stunting). Moreover, the majority of more than 200,000 children with severe acute malnutrition nationwide are ethnic minorities and have not received effective treatment. Food insecurity started to experience the ascending trend since 2018 to present, especially in the period of 2019-2020 with serious food insecurity in the population climbing from 0.5% in 2019 to 0.6% in 2020.

**Goal 3:** Viet Nam has continued to improve its policy system to ensure a healthy life and enhance welfare for people at all ages, from infants to children, women and men, the elderly, and the general public. Some outstanding results include the drop of maternal mortality per 100,000 live births from 54 cases in 2015 to 46 in 2019; the fall of mortality rate of children under 5 years old and under 1 year old; the continuous descent of

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number of deaths and injuries as a result of traffic accidents; the downward tendency of the number of new tuberculosis and malaria cases; the percentage of fully vaccinated infants reached 96.8% by 2020. However, Viet Nam still faces difficulties and challenges in achieving Goal 3 regarding the targets of maternal and child health care in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; high unmet need for contraceptives, especially among young female migrants; rising number of suicide cases among younger population; the high rate of alcohol consumption among men and the increased rate of drinking at dangerous levels over the years;... Especially, in the context of the COVID-19 epidemic in the period of 2020-2021, the social distancing and medical blockade have set back a number of indicators related to people's health care and childhood immunization. In 2021, the percentage of fully vaccinated infants descended to 87.1%.

**Goal 4:** Viet Nam has continued to improve the system of regimes and policies for education and training development, especially the policy of free tuition for primary school children nationwide and preschool children in ethnic minority areas, mountainous areas, islands, areas with extremely difficult socio-economic conditions; to reform general education curricula and textbooks; to develop vocational education policies towards integration in the context of the 4th industrial revolution; opportunities of equal and fair access to education for disadvantaged groups have been increasingly expanded and improved. As a result, Viet Nam has achieved positive results in the implementation of Goal 4, specifically: the net enrolment rate at all levels from preschool to upper secondary school tended to grow during 2016-2020, even though there was a slight derailing due to the impact of the Covid-19; the rate of trained employed workers aged 15 years and older climbed from 20.4% in 2015 to 26.2% in 2022; the gender parity index gradually reaches the ideal level for primary and junior secondary schools; 100% schools had delivered basic education programs on sex, violence and abuse prevention, and HIV knowledge by 2022. However, the proportion of under 5-year-old children who are appropriately developed in terms of health, learning and psychosocial well-being is still modest and there are gaps between different ethnic groups; the percentage of teachers who meet the training standards or higher as required by the Education Law in 2019 is still low; the percentage of schools with basic conditions and services to serve the learning needs of all children, including children with disabilities, is still limited.

**Goal 5:** Viet Nam has made certain efforts to ensure the full and equal participation of women in the political and economic fields, reflected in the growing proportion of female deputies of the People's Councils at all levels; higher percentage of female members of the National Assembly; and increased percentage of female owners of businesses, etc. In addition, the sexual and reproductive health care for women has experienced positive changes. However, there are still certain limitations such as: the imbalance of sex ratio at birth is still remarkably high and tends to go up with 111.5 boys versus 100 girls in 2022; the rate of child marriage and early childbearing is relatively high among ethnic minority women; Violence against women and children still exists. Although improvements have been made, women are the key doers of unpaid family care work, while the infrastructure to care for children, the sick, people with disabilities and the elderly is still limited. This has posed certain impacts on women's ability to participate in the labour market, etc. Furthermore, the data to monitor and evaluate the implementation of Goal 5 is still limited.

**Goal 6:** As a country with a dense river system and focuses on agricultural development, Viet Nam has made efforts to ensure availability and sustainable management of water resources and sanitation for all. In particular, the proportion of urban population supplied with drinking water through centralized water supply systems increased from 86.7% to 94.2%; the percentage of households with improved water sources climbed from 95.7% to 98.3% and the percentage of households using hygienic toilets increased from 90.3%

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to 96.2%; the proportion of active industrial parks and export processing zones with centralized wastewater treatment systems meeting environmental standards rose from 80.1% to 91% in the period 2018-2022. It can be said that the progress of the implementation of Goal 6 is showing positive progress in the period from 2018 to present. However, given the pressure of socio-economic development, access to clean water and sanitary conditions that meet the standards of the Ministry of Health is still limited; given more severe impacts of climate change (CC), Viet Nam needs to continue to drastically implement policies and solutions to control wastewater; strengthen investment in water and sanitation facilities for remote and mountainous areas; promote integrated management of water resources by river basin and strengthen international cooperation and benefit sharing with countries sharing the same water sources.

**Goal 7:** In implementing the Target Program on electricity supply in rural, mountainous and island areas, the percentage of households accessing electricity tended to grow and reached 99.5% by 2022, and the access gap between urban and rural areas has been narrowed significantly, from 1.3% to only 0.1% during 2018-2022. The installed capacity and output of renewable energy (RE) exceeded the set target, the share of RE in the total final energy consumption in Viet Nam tended to increase and reached 21.78% in 2020 thanks to policies incentivizing investment in renewable power projects, especially wind power and solar power. In addition to the positive signals mentioned above, energy consumption per gross domestic product tends to rise to a higher-than-the-average level of the world as well as of the ASEAN countries. Although the share of RE in total final energy consumption has increased, it has not yet met the determined national targets. The slow process of technological innovation in some energy-intensive industries also leads to energy inefficiency.

**Goal 8:** Viet Nam's economy in the period 2016-2022 gained encouraging achievements with a GDP growth rate of over 6%/year. The growth rate of total factor productivity (TFP) has improved considerably in the last 5 years, reaching an average rate of 2.93% in the period 2016-2020. The informal employment rate declined steadily in the period of 2016-2021. The COVID-19 pandemic with unpredictable chaos in the period of 2020-2021 forced Viet Nam and countries around the world to take emergency response measures such as closing border gates, implementing social distancing, which has stalled production, paralyzed domestic and international tourism activities, thus, greatly affected the progress of SDG 8 implementation. In the period of 2020-2021, although GDP still maintained a positive growth rate (2.87% in 2020 and 2.56% in 2021), it is much lower than that in 2018, 2019. In addition, income generation rate was slowed down, and unemployment and underemployment rates went up. In 2022, Viet Nam's economy began to recover with GDP growth rate of 8.02%; there have been more than 3.5 million international visitors to Viet Nam (although still much lower than the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level; production and business activities have returned to normal like the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level).

**Goal 9:** According to the Global Competitiveness Report (2019) of the World Economic Forum (WEF), Viet Nam's infrastructure system ranked 77th out of 141 countries, higher than previous year and among ASEAN top 4. Transport infrastructure was secured, so until before COVID-19 pandemic, the volume of passenger and freight transport and traffic increased over time. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the volume of passengers and freight transport plunged sharply (over 50%). The share of the manufacturing in GDP has continuously increased as the growth rate of this sector has remained stable even in the context of the economy being heavily hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The proportion of workers working in manufacturing sector also tends to increase. Science and technology (S&T) has also been invested profoundly when both

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share of expenditures on the S&T sector and number of S&T staff have been going up over time. Viet Nam's total expenditure on scientific research and technological development nearly doubled from VND 18,496 billion in 2015 to VND 32,102 billion in 2019 in absolute terms, but the as the share of GDP, the increase was insignificant, which was even only 0.01% during 2017-2019. The number of full-time equivalent scientific research and technological development staff (FTE) in Viet Nam in 2019 reached 760.3 people per million people. Social distancing measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic were opportunities to accelerate Viet Nam's digital transformation. As of 2022, more than 99.9% of the population had mobile network coverage and over 85% of the population using mobile phones.

**Goal 10:** The income growth rate of the 40% lowest income cohort compared to the average income growth rate of the whole country is almost the same, even in 2020, thanks to urgent support policies for the vulnerable people during the COVID-19 pandemic, the income growth rate of such group reached 17.6% and remained positive at 0.5% in 2021, much higher than the growth rate of household income per capita. Viet Nam has developed and implemented policies to reduce risks for vulnerable groups, the poor, near poor and other disadvantaged groups. Viet Nam ensures equal opportunities for everyone in accessing resources and benefiting through social security, education, and training policies. Viet Nam committed to boosting measures that promote the political, economic, and social participation of all, regardless of age, sex, disability status, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic conditions, or other conditions. Along with the increasingly higher position and voice of the country in the global arena, Viet Nam is gaining more important role and position in multilateral institutions/forums, which is clearly proved through the fact that Viet Nam has been elected to many agencies of the United Nations (UN) Boards as well as actively participating in regional cooperation such as APEC, ASEAN, the International Mekong River Commission, etc. Despite many achievements in the implementation of SDG 10, Viet Nam has been facing internal and external challenges to secure necessary resources for development, especially in implementing policies to support and guarantee the rights of disadvantaged groups in society. The risk of more severe inequalities in access to services, especially those related to economic, educational, health, cultural and social rights is always present across different geographic regions, communities, and population groups.

**Goal 11:** Many important achievements have been recorded in urban development. The proportion of population living in poorly built housing has decreased rapidly, from 2.6% in 2016 to 1.7% in 2018 and 0.9% in 2022. A strong downward trend has been recognized in all sub-categories of this indicator, from urban to rural areas, among all regions and population groups. In addition to positive results, urban development is facing environmental pollution problem. The proportion of urban domestic solid waste collected and treated in accordance with national standards and technical regulations is 96.23% in 2022 compared to 86% in 2018, but the main treatment method is still landfill. The amount of construction waste, which accounts for about 10-15% of urban solid waste, has increased rapidly in recent years along with the increasing speed of urbanization and number of civil works in large cities of the whole country. In addition, the areas of greeneries and water surfaces are not utilized properly, worsening the living quality of urban residents. In recent years, the socio-economic infrastructure in rural areas has been changing remarkably, contributing to changing the visual landscapes of rural areas, and the essential works have been basically completed to meet the requirements for development and production and people's living. Rural environmental protection has great breakthrough, especially in the treatment of waste from residential areas and improvement of the green-clean-beautiful rural landscapes.

**Goal 12:** Viet Nam continues to promote the implementation of the National Action Program on sustainable production and consumption; has made efforts to effectively manage and use natural resources, to strengthen measures and sanctions to deal with environmental pollution; initially developed and applied regulations to promote sustainable public procurement; improved policies on taxes and prices for fossil fuels and made flexible adjustments to protect the poor, vulnerable groups, especially under the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Propaganda and education to raise awareness about environmental protection continues to be promoted, with special focus on communication and awareness raising activities to change consumption habits, encourage the use of alternative, environmentally friendly products. By the end of 2021, the rate of hazardous waste collected and treated reached 90% (15% higher than that in 2018); 85.5% of establishments causing serious environmental pollution have been handled (19.3% higher than that in 2018). However, Viet Nam needs to strive much harder to implement the SDG 12 in the context of environmental pollution and waste generated from socio-economic development activities, in which the rate of collection and treatment of domestic solid waste in rural areas has only reached 66% and more than 80% of landfills are unsanitary; resources to promote sustainable production and consumption are increasingly limited; mineral resources and land have neither been properly managed nor efficiently exploited; The participation of enterprises in sustainable production and supply chains is still limited.

**Goal 13:** Viet Nam always strives to respond promptly and effectively to climate change and natural disasters through consolidating relevant laws, strategies and policies; to implement international commitments, especially the commitment to reduce emissions to net zero by 2050; and to incentivize ministries and agencies at central and local level to actively participate in the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Up to now, 87.3% of provinces/centrally affiliated cities have released their Action Plans to implement the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The objectives are to proactively and effectively respond to, reduce vulnerability, loss and damage caused by climate change, to lessen negative impacts of climate change on vulnerable groups, to cut greenhouse gas emissions, and to take full advantage of opportunities from climate change adaptation in transforming growth models, and to improve resilience and competitiveness of the economy as emphasized in the National Strategy on Climate Change. Moreover, Viet Nam is also actively implementing the National Strategy and Action Plan on Green Growth and promoting the integration of climate change adaptation into the national and local socio-economic development plans. In 2022, Viet Nam updated the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), closely following Viet Nam's commitments at COP26. Viet Nam has regularly updated the scenarios of climate change and sea level rise in 2009, 2012, 2016 and 2020. Despite numerous efforts, Viet Nam is considered as one of the countries that are most heavily affected by climate change; weather situation and extreme weather are becoming increasingly more complicated and unpredictable, and the impact of natural disasters has been heavily affecting the people, different industries, and sectors. This requires Viet Nam to continue to make more efforts to improve the society's resilience against climate change-related disaster risks.

**Goal 14:** Having a long coastline, Viet Nam has made significant efforts to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development through strategies and policies on protection of marine resources and environment and sustainable management of aquatic resources. Viet Nam is implementing the Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Marine Economy of Viet Nam to 2030, with a vision to 2045. Activities to prevent and control various types of marine pollution have maintained the quality of the coastal water and ocean environment within allowable limits. Marine and coastal protected areas, despite their relative modesty, have contributed to the management and protection of coastal

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ecosystems, especially mangroves. The rapid growth rate in the share of aquaculture has also mitigated the pressure on the exploitation of natural marine resources. In 2020, the percentage of coastal sea water monitoring points meeting the quality requirements of the national technical regulation for organic matter pollution parameters (N-NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>) was 99% and for the parameters of total grease 92%. Viet Nam's seafood production will increase from 6.5 million tons in 2015 to 8.4 million tons in 2020, with an average increase of about 4.6% per year. However, as a developing country with a low average income, coastal, marine and island ecosystems are under excessive pressure from socio-economic development and environmental pollution; fish and seafood reserves are increasingly shrinking due to over exploitation. Attaining the SDG 14 would be a huge challenge for Viet Nam.

**Goal 15:** Forest ecosystems, especially those of national and international importance, and wetland ecosystems, are being conserved, used, and restored in an increasingly sustainable way. Forest area was maintained at a stable level and climbed from 41.65% to 42.02% in the period of 2018-2022. Many national policies, such as payment for forest environmental services, conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and natural ecosystem services, have posed positive impacts in linking biodiversity conservation with sustainable use of ecosystems and genetic resources. These policies have been integrated in the National Socio-Economic Development Plans and Strategies. In the period 2018 to 2021, the total revenue from forest environmental services reached an average of approximately 2,900 billion VND/year, forest land is maintained and increased slightly from 14.92 million hectares in 2015 to 15.4 million hectares in 2020. However, Viet Nam still faces many difficulties and challenges to achieve SDG 15, requiring more synchronous and drastic solutions in the coming time. Issues that need to be addressed in the coming years include: (i) illegal organized forest cutting and timber exploitation are developing in a complex manner; (ii) land degradation; (iii) narrowing down of natural habitats and the risk of extinction of a number of endangered species; (iv) the exploitation, trade and consumption of endangered wild plants and animals have not been well controlled; (v) financial resources to ensure implementation of state management of ecosystems, protected areas in particular and biodiversity in general are still very limited.

**Goal 16:** Promoting the rule of law, ensuring equal access to justice and participation for all is always the most important goal that Viet Nam looks forward to, in order to build a rule-of-law state of the people, by the people, and for the people. The corruption control has made positive changes; the proportion of people and organizations paying unofficial fees to use public services tends to decline; with improvement in satisfaction index of people and organizations on administrative services; the number of criminal cases reduced; the percentage of children with birth registration increases by age and there is no difference between boys and girls, between urban and rural areas or between regions. In addition, to ensure that all people have equitable justice access and accountability, Viet Nam has promulgated the Law on Legal Aid in 2017 which provides of free-of-charge legal services to vulnerable groups such as people from poor households, children, ethnic minorities residing in areas with extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, the elderly, people with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, and people living with HIV,ect. However, abuse, violence and exploitation against women and children still exists; there are still cases where children under 5 years of age have not been registered for birth; corruption in general is still complicated and sophisticated; people show limited roles and responsibilities in engagement in local matters so their problems have not received adequate attention.

**Goal 17:** To date, Viet Nam has developed economic and trade relationship with most countries and territories and is a member of many regional and global organizations and forums. Viet Nam has signed 15 Free Trade Agreements and is implementing commitments to cut tariffs in 14 Free Trade Agreements. In the period of 2015-2022, the export growth rate went up by 12.1% per year on average, meeting the set target. Viet Nam has expanded its network of strategic partnerships and comprehensive partnerships with many countries in the region and around the world; promoted the negotiation and implementation of many new-generation free trade agreements since 2018. Viet Nam has been active in developing and contributing initiatives in regional and global mechanisms such as ASEAN, WTO, WB, IMF, APEC, ASEM, WEF, OECD, P4G, and in forums/mechanisms in the UN system, the Mekong sub-region etc.; integrating and leveraging support from and strengthening cooperation with other countries on issues of interest to Viet Nam, serving the implementation of the SDGs, investment, trade, S&T, and climate change adaptation. Although the ODA is being tightened since Viet Nam became a middle-income country, it is still an important source of capital for Viet Nam's economic development. The reduction in ODA and signed concessional loans over the past period is the result of careful selection of efficient projects, ensuring the fiscal targets approved by the National Assembly. This is also an inevitable trend of countries that are "graduating" from ODA sources like Viet Nam.

## The context, difficulties and challenges in implementing the SDGs in Viet Nam

**Global context:** The world economy in the coming period will experience rapid changes with many complicated developments. Many countries around the world have to deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including lower economic growth, political instability, inflation, and high commodity prices after stimulus efforts in many countries. Regionalization trends, extreme nationalism are creating challenges to the implementation of the SDGs. However, globalization and international integration continue to facilitate the increasingly free and large-scale (global scale) movement of development resources (capital, technology, human resources, etc.). Science and technology develop rapidly with the explosion of Industry 4.0 which is changing production and management methods. The great advances of science and technology will fundamentally change the way of global production, trade, and investment. Sustainable development has become an all-encompassing trend in the world; Digital economy, circular economy, green growth are the development models chosen by many different countries.

**Difficulties and challenges in the implementation of the SDGs in Viet Nam:** Many SDGs are unlikely to be achieved by 2030, in the context of unpredictable world developments and intense geopolitical conflicts; the COVID-19 pandemic has left serious impacts; climate change risk and environmental pollution are still threatening; socio-economic development in the country still reveals many shortcomings and limitations. The pressures of development model transformation, especially the commitment to net zero emissions by 2050 given the shortage of resources and energy, low level of S&T development, etc, is placing many challenges on Viet Nam.

## **Key solutions in the coming time**

The implementation and completion of the SDGs by 2030 in Viet Nam will face many difficulties and challenges. However, the achievements in the previous period combined with Viet Nam's socio-political stability and the increasingly improved institutional and legal framework for socio-economic development continue to create a pedal for the implementation of the SDGs in the coming period. In order to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs in the remaining half of the journey, Viet Nam will focus on the following key groups of solutions:

- Improve and strengthen the quality of socialism-oriented market economy institutions; strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of policy implementation through public administration reform and further promote the participation of the vulnerable in the decision-making process.
- Continue to prioritize investment in human resource development, science and technology, innovation, and to improve the system of synchronous and modern economic and social infrastructure to improve productivity and promote sustainable economic growth.
- Stabilize the macro-economy, support post COVID-19 recovery; mobilize and effectively use financial resources for sustainable development.
- Continue to promote reforms of the social security system to ensure increased resilience to shocks, and support for the vulnerable; facilitate social and cultural development, progress, and social justice.
- Efficiently manage and use resources; strengthen environmental protection and climate change adaptation, prevent, control, and mitigate natural disasters; promote the development of green economy and circular economy.
- Strengthen international cooperation to promote the implementation of the SDGs.
- Continue to improve the availability of data to strengthen the effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SDGs.
- Raise awareness, promote coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders to accelerate and ensure comprehensive SDG implementation.







# GOAL 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

## MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY RATE



2016 | **9.2%**



2022 | **3.6%**

## MULTIDIMENSIONALLY POOR CHILDREN

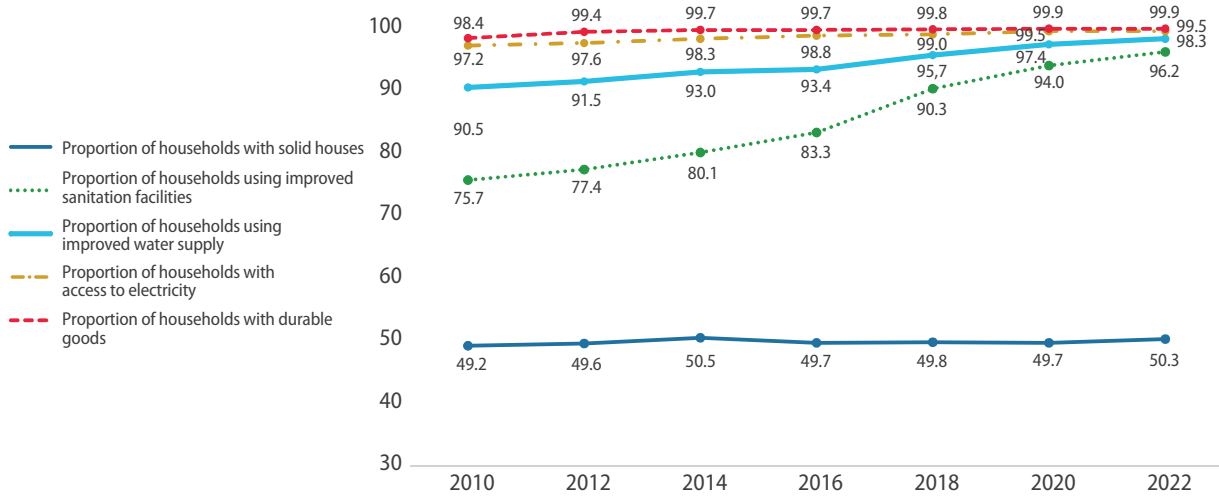


2016 | **19.1%**

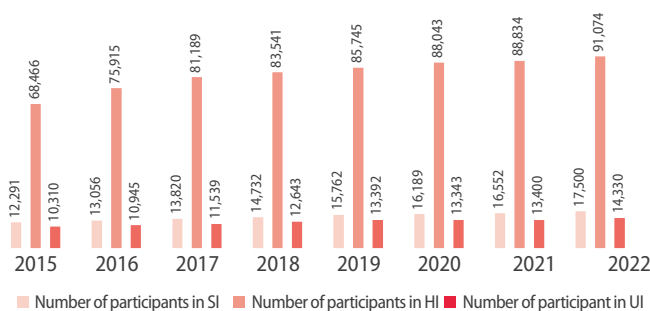


2022 | **11.7%**

## HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES (%)



## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN SOCIAL INSURANCE (SI), HEALTH INSURANCE (HI), UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) (THOUSAND PEOPLE)



## PERCENTAGE OF POOREST HOUSEHOLDS WITH DURABLE GOODS



2016: **98.5%**  
2018: **99.1%**  
2022: **99.8%**

Despite the achievements, the rate of poverty among ethnic minority households is still high; poverty reduction results are unsustainable; poverty gaps among regions and population groups have not been narrowed.



## GOAL 2:

End hunger, ensure food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agricultural development

### MALNUTRITION RATE



2015 → 2018 → 2020  
8.1% → 6.8% → 5.7%

### PREVALENCE OF MODERATE OR SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY IN THE POPULATION

2018 → 2020  
6.2% → 7.6%



### PREVALENCE OF SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY IN THE POPULATION

2019 → 2020  
0.5% → 0.6%



### PREVALENCE OF MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD

#### UNDERWEIGHT (WEIGHT FOR AGE)

2018: 13.2%  
2021: 11.2%



#### STUNTING (HEIGHT FOR AGE)

2018: 24.3%  
2021: 19.2%



#### WASTING (WEIGHT FOR HEIGHT)

2018: 6.1%  
2021: 3.6%



MALNUTRITION RATE AMONG CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OLD IN ETHNIC MINORITY AREAS REMAIN HIGH AT **31.4%** IN 2020

### LABOR PRODUCTIVITY IN AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND AQUACULTURE

32.5  
MILLION VND / WORKER  
2015



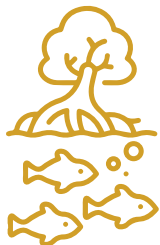
74.7  
MILLION VND / WORKER  
2021

### PER CAPITA INCOME IN RURAL AREAS

29.1  
MILLION VND  
2016



46.4  
MILLION VND  
2022



BY THE END OF 2022, THE WHOLE COUNTRY HAS 463,000 HECTARES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND 85,996 HECTARES OF AQUACULTURE AREA CERTIFIED WITH VIETGAP OR EQUIVALENT (27 TIMES AND 55.7 TIMES THE 2016 FIGURES RESPECTIVELY)

**8,304** BUSINESSES  
CERTIFIED WITH VIETGAP  
6 TIMES THE 2016 FIGURE

It is necessary to focus on improving the indicators on the rate of food insecurity in the population, malnutrition among ethnic minority children and income increment for people in rural areas.



## GOAL 3:

Ensure a healthy life and promote well-being for all at all ages

### UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY RATE



### INFANT MORTALITY RATE



### NUMBER OF NEW TUBERCULOSIS CASES / 100,000 POPULATION



### NUMBER OF MALARIA CASES / 100,000 POPULATION

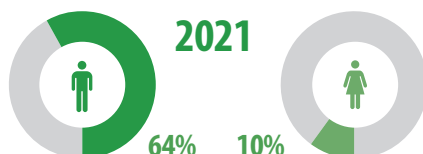


### HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE (%)



2022  
92.04

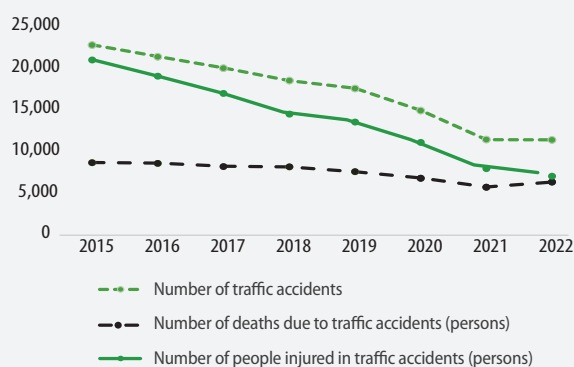
### SUBSTANTIALLY HIGH RATE OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AMONG MEN



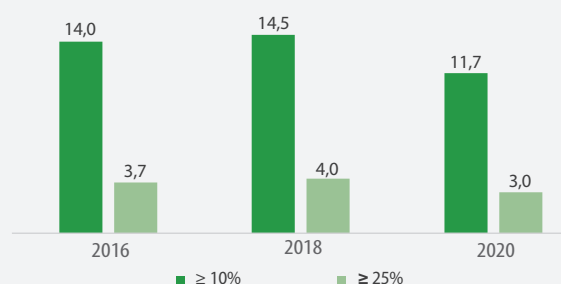
1 OF EVERY 3 MEN DRINKS AT HAZARDOUS LEVEL



### TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS



### PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH MEDICAL EXPENDITURES PER TOTAL EXPENDITURE ≥10% OR ≥25%



### PERCENTAGE OF FULLY VACCINATED INFANTS



The implementation of SDG 3 still faces many difficulties and challenges in terms of maternal and child health care in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; diseases and deaths from non-communicable diseases; and limited medical facilities and human resources.



## GOAL 4:

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

### PRIMARY SCHOOL NET ENROLLMENT RATE



2016	97%
2018	97,3%
2020	98,1%
2022	95,8%

**2022**

achieved **99.9%**

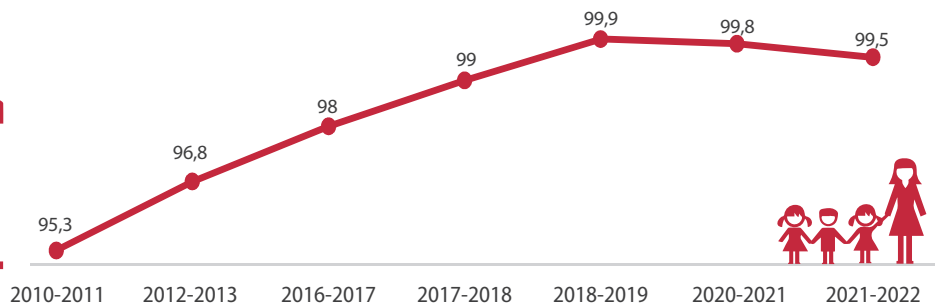
Transitioning from primary school to secondary school

Secondary school graduates

**2022**

achieved **98.1%**

### PROPORTION OF FIVE-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN ATTENDING KINDERGARTEN



### PROPORTION OF TRAINED WORKERS AGED 15 AND OVER BEING EMPLOYED



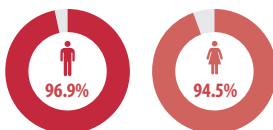
**100% IN 2022**

Percentage of schools which provide basic education programs about sex education, violence prevention, abuse prevention, and HIV-related knowledge

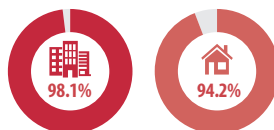
### PROPORTION OF LITERATES AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OLDER

**95.7% IN 2021**

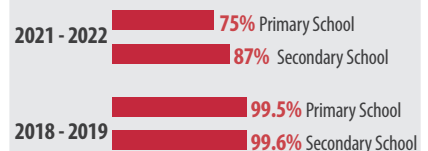
#### MALE & FEMALE



#### URBAN & RURAL AREAS



### PROPORTION OF TEACHERS ACHIEVING TEACHING STANDARDS



### SCHOOLS WITH FACILITIES AND MATERIALS SUITABLE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Viet Nam needs to pay more attention to improving the indicators on school facilities and the proportion of qualified teachers to further progress the SDG 4.



## GOAL 5:

Achieve gender equality; empower and create enabling opportunities for women and girls

### RATE OF FEMALE DEPUTIES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



**30.3%**  
2021-2026

**51** in the world | **04** in Asia

EXCEEDING THE AVERAGE OF ASIA (19%) AND THE WORLD (21%)

### WOMEN-OWNED ENTERPRISES



2015 → 2017 → 2020  
**22.4%**      **27.8%**      **29.9%**

**POSITIONS IN  
MINISTRIES  
AND AGENCIES** ↓ **23.5%**  
2018  
**10.7%**  
2021

### HIGH IMBALANCE IN SEX RATIO AT BIRTH



**2022**      **111.5** boys  
100 girls



In 2019, the proportion of **women and girls** who experienced **physical, emotional and/or sexual violence** by their husbands or partners in the past 12 months was **21.8%**

### PROPORTION OF WOMEN AGED 20-24 YEARS WHO WERE MARRIED OR IN A UNION



**1.1%** before age 15  
**14.6%** before age 18

Highest rate of early marriage before age 15 (3.3%), before age 18 (34.5%) was observed in the **Northern Midlands and Mountainous Areas**

### UNPAID CARE AND DOMESTIC WORK



**2.51** hours  
a day



**1.34** hours  
a day

**Viet Nam needs more interventions in reducing the imbalance in sex ratio at birth, improving the situation of violence against women and girls, and tackling early marriage problems to promote the implementation of the SDG 5.**



## GOAL 6:

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

### URBAN POPULATION SUPPLIED WITH CLEAN WATER THROUGH CENTRALIZED WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS



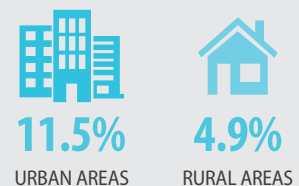
### HOUSEHOLDS WITH IMPROVED WATER SOURCES



### HOUSEHOLDS WITH HYGIENIC TOILETS



THE GAP IS  
NARROWING



**Only 15%**  
urban wastewater is collected  
and treated

### PROPORTION OF ACTIVE INDUSTRIAL PARKS AND EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES WITH CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS SATISFYING ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS



**90%** Large reservoirs are controlled and monitored to ensure that the minimum flow of the river basin is maintained



**100%** Large, important river basins have automatic and online monitoring and surveillance systems

**85%** Large, important reservoirs in river basins are operated under the inter-reservoirs transfer scheme



9 recognized Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat.

**11**

World Biosphere Reserves recognized by the UNESCO



**10**

ASEAN heritage gardens

Although great progress has been made in the implementation of SDG 6, Viet Nam needs to continue with drastic measures to control wastewater; increase investment in water and sanitation works for isolated, remote and mountainous areas and make use of water resources efficiently.



## GOAL 7:

Ensure access to sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy for all

99.5%

Percentage of households with access to electricity in 2022



55.79%

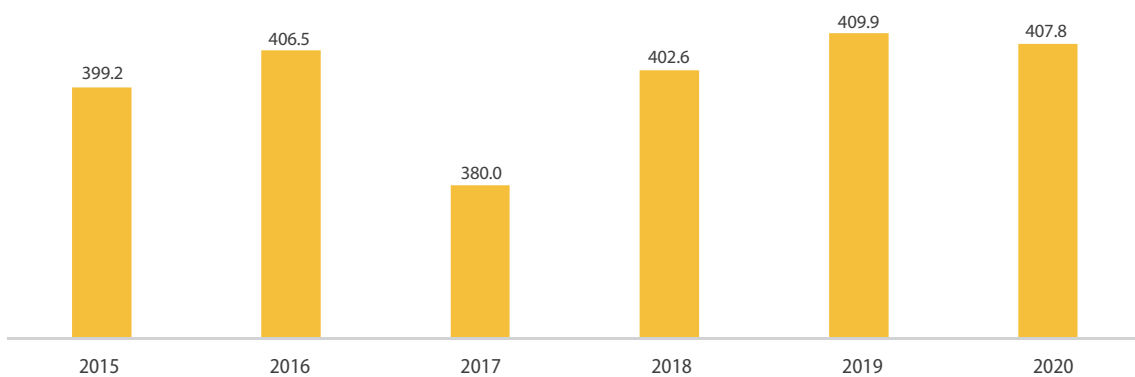
TOTAL INSTALLED CAPACITY GENERATED FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES (HYDRO POWER, WIND POWER, SOLAR POWER, BIOMASS POWER) IN 2022

SHARE OF RENEWAL ENERGY IN TOTAL FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN VIET NAM



2020  
21.78%

### ENERGY CONSUMPTION TO GDP (KOE/1,000 USD GDP)



INCREASE THE SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS A PRIORITY TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 7 IN VIET NAM.





## GOAL 8:

Ensure sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all

### GDP GROWTH RATE IN THE PERIOD 2016 - 2022

 **> 6%/year**



**5%**  
2011 - 2020

Labor productivity growth rate of Viet Nam, higher than the average of ASEAN

### PER CAPITA INCOME

2022 **1.5** TIMES VS 2016



**41.5%** | 2020

Contribution of TFP to the overall growth rate of GDP

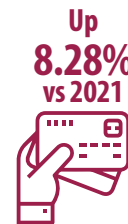
VIETNAM'S CAPITAL BASED GROWTH ACCOUNTED FOR ALMOST 46.5%

### INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT RATE



2021 → 2022

**56.2%** → **54.9%**



Up **8.28%** vs 2021

Credit provided to SMEs by the end of 2022 >2,186 trillion dong, ≈20% total outstanding loans in the whole economy.

### MONTHLY AVERAGE INCOME OF WAGED WORKERS



**7.5 million VND/month** in 2022

### INCOME GAP BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS

**≈ 85%**



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2022 **2.3%**

UNDER-EMPLOYMENT RATE **2.21%**

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AMONG YOUTHS (AGED 15 - 24)

**≈ 7.7%**



**9.7%** urban areas



**6.68%** rural areas

### INTERNATIONAL VISITORS



**3,661** MILLION VISITORS in 2022 **> 23.3** TIMES MORE THAN 2021

A reduction of 79.7% compared to 2019, before the pandemic

A number of indicators lagged behind the 2015 levels such as the contribution of TFP, the proportion of people aged 15-24 who are currently neither in employment nor in education and training. These issues pose significant challenges for Viet Nam in the implementation of SDG 8 in the coming time.



## GOAL 9:

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation

### INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM IN VIET NAM



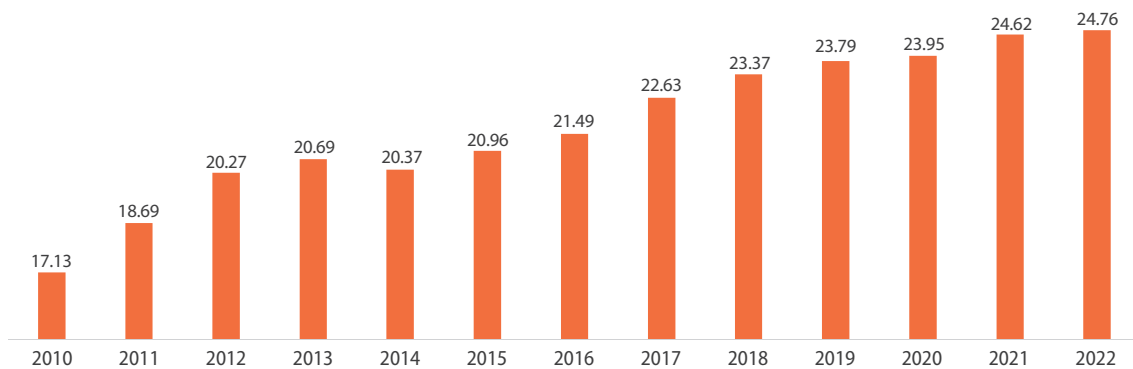
VIET NAM RANKED  
**77/141**  
(WEF 2019)  
**IN ASEAN TOP 4**

### NUMBER OF SMES WITH OUTSTANDING LOANS AT CREDIT INSTITUTIONS



2018  
**209,305**  
enterprises → 2022  
**253,876**  
enterprises

### PROPORTION OF VALUE-ADDED IN THE PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN GDP



### TOTAL NATIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AS SHARE OF GDP



2015 → 2017 → 2019  
**0.44%** → **0.52%** → **0.53%**

### NUMBER OF FULL-TIME RESEARCHERS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS



**760.3** people/ million population  
in 2019

### GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX (GII) OF VIET NAM



Rank-up  
**11 steps** 2016 → 2022  
**59** → **48**

### MOBILE NETWORK COVERAGE NATION-WIDE



**99.85%**  
population

**3G, 4G** NETWORK COVERAGE > **98%** of the population

Viet Nam has made remarkable achievements in implementing SDG 9. However, more attention should be paid to investment and development of R&D human resources and promotion of the manufacturing industry.



## GOAL 10: Reduce social inequalities



### THE INCOME GROWTH RATE AMONG THE BOTTOM 40% POPULATION

**2018** equal to the national income growth rate      **2020** reached **17.6%**, much higher than the national income growth rate



**7.6 times**

INCOME GAP BETWEEN THE RICHEST QUINTILE AND THE POOREST QUINTILE IN 2022



**3.2 times**

the gap in per capita spending per month between the richest quintile and poorest quintile in 2022



Viet Nam has developed and implemented policies to **reduce risks for vulnerable groups, the poor, near-poor and other disadvantaged groups. Viet Nam ensures equal opportunities for everyone** in accessing resources and benefits through social security and education policies

The salary policy system in the production and business sector is being further improved based on the market mechanism; **The minimum wage policy is being revised according to the roadmap match with the socio-economic conditions and harmonize the interests between employees and employers**



**Viet Nam plays further important role and position in multilateral institutions/forums** through being elected to many important UN agencies as well as actively participating in regional cooperation organizations such as APEC, ASEAN, International Mekong River Commission, etc



**Viet Nam has made great efforts to build and improve a system of policies and laws on international migration**, especially in the field of immigration management, residence, and overseas Vietnamese workers in order to ensure safe, legit and organized migration; prevent and combat migration through informal channels, human trafficking; and protect the legitimate rights and interests of migrants

**Viet Nam has gained positive achievements in the implementation of SDG 10 in recent years. However, the risk of arising inequality in access to services still persists, and resources for supporting policies and ensuring rights for disadvantaged groups are still limited.**



## GOAL 11:

Promote sustainable, resilient urban and rural development; ensure safe living and working environments; ensure reasonable distribution of population and work force by region

### PROPORTION OF POPULATION LIVING IN POORLY BUILT HOUSING



2016 → 2022  
2.6% → 0.9%



0.7% → 0.3%  
URBAN



3.5% → 1.3%  
RURAL



Public transport systems in cities have been **significantly improved to reduce urban traffic congestion and air pollution**. Traffic infrastructure basically meets the requirements to enable the access and use of people. **100% of buses and railway stations have priority seats**



The legal provisions on citizen consultation have been fully stipulated in the Law on Urban Planning and the Law on Construction. However, in reality, the civil participation in the **planning, implementation and management is still limited, and formality in many places**



8 CULTURAL AND NATIONAL WORLD HERITAGES  
5 INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGES

Recognized by UNESCO.

However, many World Heritage Sites in **Viet Nam are pacing challenges under the pressure of economic development**

### NATURAL DISASTERS



475 deaths/missing persons/injuries (2.3 times vs 2021)

**19,500 billion VND**  
loss in value (3.4 times vs 2021)

2018 → 2022  
86% → 96.23%



URBAN SOLID WASTE COLLECTED AND TREATED



Construction waste is **increasing rapidly, accounting for 10-15%** of urban solid waste



Air pollution, **especially PM2.5 and TSP** in big cities like Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh Minh is rising, exceeding the allowable thresholds under Vietnamese standards



The areas of greenery and water surfaces are not **rationally used and exploited**, worsening the living quality of urban residents. Public spaces and recreational spaces in residential areas and municipalities are **extremely limited**.



QUALIFIED COMMUNES UNDER NEW RURAL AREA STANDARDS IN 2022

**73.06%** (30% higher than 2018)

To accelerate the progress of SDG 11, attention is required to ensure a safe and convenient urban transport system, deal with environmental problems in both urban and rural areas, expand public greeneries, and mitigate the number of deaths/ loss/ injuries due to natural disasters.



## GOAL 12:

### Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



Viet Nam has promulgated and implemented **the National Action Program on Sustainable Production and Consumption** for every 10-year period and has established a central apparatus and focal points in localities to implement the Program.

#### RATE OF FOOD LOSS BEFORE PROCESSING



**Fruit 10%**



**Vegetables 20 - 50%**



**Seafood 30 - 35%**

**FOOD LOSS IS ABOUT 10 - 15%**

#### HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT



**15% increase (2021 vs 2018)**

117 hazardous waste **treatment facilities** nationwide;

The 90% of hazardous waste collected and **treated in accordance with the regulations reached 90%.**



By the end of **2021, 372/435 facilities (≈85,5%) causing serious environmental pollution have basically completed thorough treatment**, no longer causing serious environmental pollution

**19,3% uprise compared to 2018**



The rate of domestic solid waste collection and treatment in **rural areas: 66%; More than 80% of landfills are unsanitary.**

Sources of environmental pollution increase rapidly in number, scale and extent, adversely affecting the environment



Although a legal corridor has been initially formed, **the practice of sustainable public procurement is still limited and yet to create the driving force for the green/sustainable procurement market**



Viet Nam has applied economic measures to **limit the use of fossil fuels** and **provided incentives to environmental protection activities**

**Viet Nam needs to strive hard to implement the SDG 12 in the context of environmental pollution and increasing waste generation due to socio-economic development activities. In addition, sustainable production and consumption activities are fragmented and have not received great attention from the people and communities.**



## GOAL 13:

### Respond in a timely and effective manner to climate change and natural disasters

Viet Nam has issued and implemented the National Strategy on Climate Change. The scenarios of climate change and sea level rise were first developed in 2019 and updated and revised in 2012, 2016, 2020

Viet Nam commits to net zero emissions by 2050 at COP26

Climate change matters have been institutionalized and integrated into development strategies, policies and plans in different periods of time, including: the Law on Environmental Protection and other laws; socio-economic development strategies and policies; master plans and specific plans across sectors and industries



By the end of 2021, **55/63 provinces and cities** have issued and executed Action Plans to implement the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, **reaching the rate of 87.3%**



Developed and issued **108,874** manuals and documents guiding the implementation of regionally-adapted activities on **disaster preparedness, responses and recovery** at community level



The system of hydrometeorological forecasting and warning from central to local levels is organized according to **3 forecasting levels**; hydrometeorological forecasting and warning technologies are constantly being renovated and developed

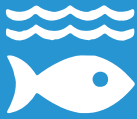


Collect and update information on **1,536 disaster risk maps** for about **592 communes**



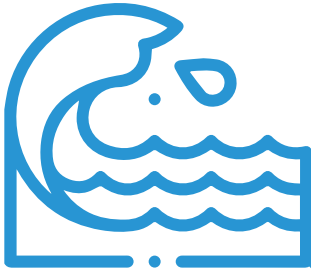
Organize drills on natural disaster prevention, control and mitigation in for communities at the commune level

Despite multiple efforts, Viet Nam is considered one of the countries that are most heavily affected by climate change. Hence, Viet Nam is required to continue with its endeavor to improve the resilience of the people and the society against natural disaster risks and climate change.



## GOAL 14:

### Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, the sea, and marine resources for sustainable development



The quality of inshore and offshore sea water is within the allowable limits of the Vietnamese Standards. The rate of coastal water quality monitoring points meeting the technical requirements under national regulations reached 99% for organic matter pollution parameters (NNH4+) and 92% for parameters of total grease in 2020. However, the risk of marine environmental pollution is substantially high due to socio-economic activities



Seagrass ecosystems in Viet Nam, coral reefs, coastal mangroves are shrinking and degrading. However, the projects of afforestation and mangrove restoration have achieved initial results

140 projects on protection and development of coastal forests implemented in 27/28 coastal provinces;

295,000 hectares of coastal forests have been protected;

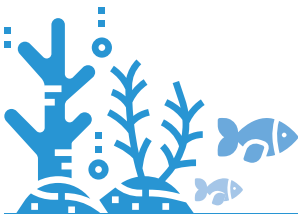
22,390 hectares of new afforestation and reforestation along the coast;

4 million scattered trees planted



#### PREVENTION OF IUU

Viet Nam has taken many drastic actions to prevent and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing (IUU) including international cooperation to both prevent IUU and ensure people's livelihoods



There are 12/16 marine protected areas in operation with a total area of 185,000 hectares, equivalent to 0.185% of the natural marine area of Viet Nam. This result did not meet the planned target



Viet Nam always actively participate in and promote WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies to expedite a satisfactory solution for the parties

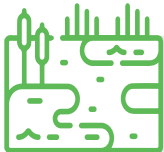
As a lower-middle-income developing country, Viet Nam's, coastal, marine and island ecosystems are under great pressure from socio-economic development and environmental pollution. Fish and seafood reserves are increasingly shrinking due to overfishing. These are huge challenges for Viet Nam in the process of implementing SDG 14.





## GOAL 15:

Protect and sustainably develop forest; conserve biodiversity, develop ecosystem services; combat desertification; prevent the degradation of and rehabilitate land resources



Vietnam's total wetland area **>11.8 million hectares** (excluding seasonally flooded rivers and streams, hot water and mineral water springs)  $\approx$  **37%** of Vietnam's **total natural land area**



**2,900 billion VND/year**

Total revenue from forest environmental services (2018-2021)



LAND FOR FORESTRY PURPOSES SLIGHTLY INCREASED

2018 **14.94** million hectares  $\rightarrow$  2020 **15.4** million hectares

Forest cover  
2018 **41.65%**  $\rightarrow$  2022 **42.02%**

Total forest area  
**>14.7 million hectares**  
(As of the end of 2021)



Forest area  
**>10.1 million hectares** natural forest **>4.5 million hectares** planted forest

### AREA OF DEGRADED LAND



a slight increase

2019 **35.6%**  $\rightarrow$  2021 **35.74%**

### SHARING BENEFITS FROM GENETIC RESOURCES



In 2020, a total of **88,968 genetic resources** were collected, an increase of 3.12 times compared to 2010. Viet Nam has issued legal regulations on mechanisms for accessing genetic resources and sharing benefits obtained from them

### ACTIVE IN IMPLEMENTING THE CITES TREATY

Since 2018, the Vietnamese competent agencies have handled 136 criminal offenders who had illegally exploited, traded and consumed wild animals and plants, and punished them, appropriately



### INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

**19**  
invasive  
alien  
species



**61**  
alien species  
with **risk** of  
invasion

Viet Nam still faces many difficulties and challenges to achieve SDG 15 due to: i) The illegal and organized deforestation and logging bor complicated; (ii) Land degradation; (iii) Narrowing of natural habitats and the risk of extinction of some endangered species; iv) The exploitation, trade and consumption of endangered wild plants and animals and; v) Extremely limited Financial resources.

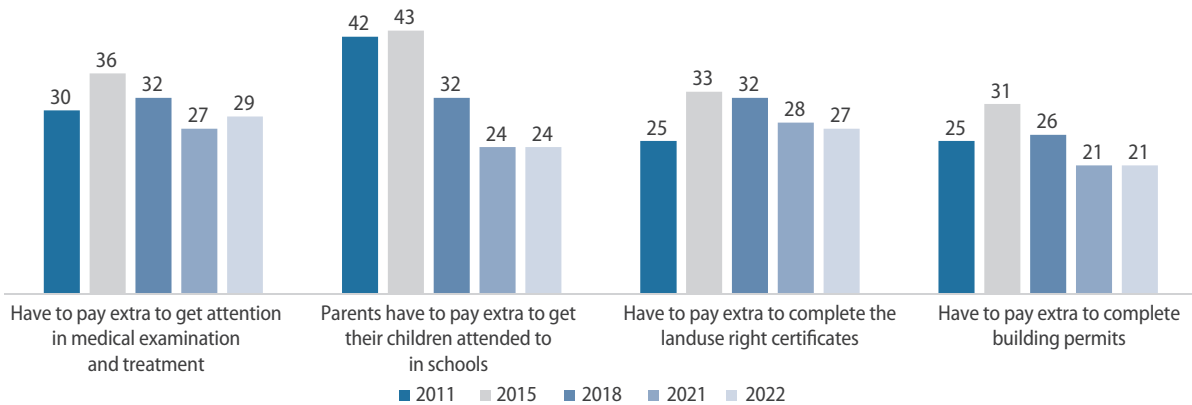




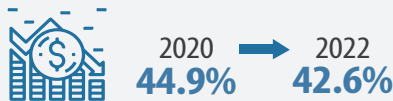
## GOAL 16:

Promote a peaceful, equitable and equal society for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels

### SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE HAVING TO PAY INFORMAL COSTS WHEN USING PUBLIC SERVICES (%)



### SLIGHT REDUCTION IN PAYMENT OF INFORMAL FEE



### THE SITUATION OF CORRUPTION CONTROL IN VIET NAM HAS EXPERIENCED POSITIVE CHANGES



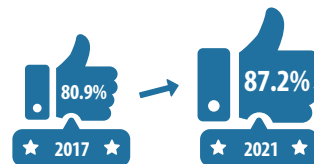
Vietnam's Corruption Perception Index (CPI) reached **42/100 points, ranking 77/180** globally (2022).

However, the score below 50 indicated that corruption in the public sector is still **considered highly serious**

### UNDER - FIVE CHILDREN HAVE BIRTH CERTIFICATES



### SATISFACTION OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WITH PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



**87.58%**  
communal-level units



meet the standard of legal access in 2019

### ABUSE, VIOLENCE, AND EXPLOITATION AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN PERSIST

In 2021, **1,914 cases** of child abuse were detected



According to SDGCW Viet Nam Survey Results 2020-2021, up to **72.4% of children aged 1-14** years have been subjected to at least one **form of psychological or physical punishment** by their family members in a month before the survey, up 4 percentage points from 2014

In the coming time, Viet Nam needs to pay more attention to issues related to prevention of violence especially against children, anti-corruption, and informal fee payment of enterprises when using public services.



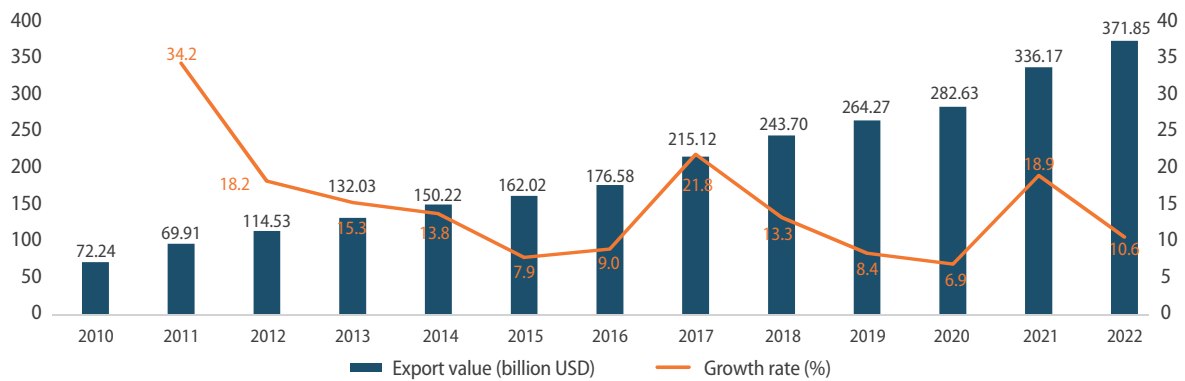
## GOAL 17:

### Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development



Viet Nam has signed 15 free trade agreements and is implementing its commitments to reduce tariffs in 14 free trade agreements

#### EXPORT VALUE OF VIET NAM



Sustainable development goals are integrated into the national development policy system, from laws to socio-economic development strategies and plans, action plans of ministries, sectors and localities



By April 2023, Viet Nam had established diplomatic relationships with 191/193 UN member states



Official development assistance (ODA) and concessional loans from foreign donors have been on a rapid decline since 2016 when Viet Nam became a lower-middle-income country



The mobilization of private capital in the form of public-private partnership (PPP) has achieved certain results, contributing to the significant improvement of national transport, urban and energy infrastructure system, changing the visual landscapes of many localities

In general, the implementation of SDG 17 is on track and achieving positive results. However, the issue of data availability for monitoring and reporting sustainable development goals is still a significant challenge for Viet Nam, requiring substantial international cooperation efforts to improve its efficiency.



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All photos used in this report are entries in the photo contest: The Future I Want, to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 and are copyrighted by the UN in Vietnam.

