



[Redacted]

EFD

[Redacted]

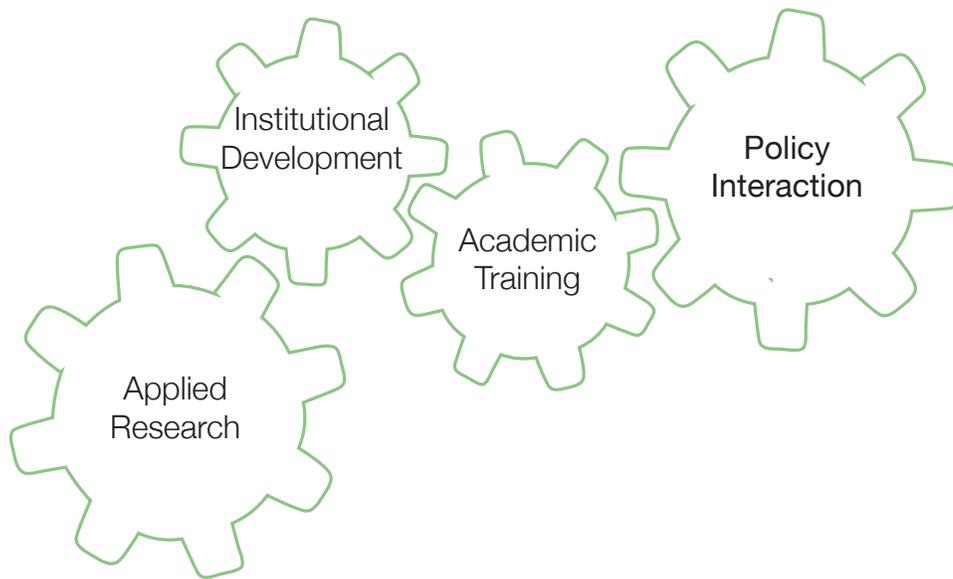
ANNUAL
REPORT

Vietnam
2017

Environment for Development

The EfD Initiative is a global network of environmental economics' research centers.

We contribute to effective management of the environment in the global south through:



CONTENTS

P3. Director message

P4. Research

P5. Collaborative Research Programs

P6. Policy Interaction and Communication

P7. Academic Capacity Building

Director message

EfD Vietnam's opened in 2017, kicking off our first year of operation. Our efforts are best represented by a picture that I presented at the center's inception workshop: a group of fishermen pulling a fully-loaded fishing net from the sea at dawn. The message is simple: that it's time for the best environmental economists in Vietnam to work in a team to produce high quality research that is policy relevant.

EfD Vietnam (EfD-V) brings together a net of researchers that can work together to achieve this.

The achievements of the first year have set the groundwork for the center's future, where we hope to contribute to sustainable development in Vietnam. In 2017, the center implemented two EfD-funded research projects. The first is on the ecosystem services provided by mangroves, and the second looks at the impacts of the decentralization of forest management on mangrove deforestation. Our researchers published three papers on climate and development, environmental and resource economics, and climate change economics. This start has given good momentum for additional publications in the near future. Policy outreach has been initiated via different channels, such as writing policy briefs, attending policy dialogues, training local policy makers, and writing opinion articles in the news media. We anticipate that we will be able to haul in another good catch in 2018.



Dr Pham Khanh Nam, director of EfD Vietnam, presenting at the center's inception workshop in 2017.

Research

EfD Vietnam was established in 2017 and so far has no peer-reviewed articles as a result of EfD however, researchers at EfD-V have jointly developed and implemented several research ideas and projects. The main research focus of our team this year was to look at the benefits of mangrove forests, and the effectiveness of current policies relating to the management of mangrove forests. This research contributes to the themes of greening forestry, as well as coastal ecosystem services which are listed in the centre’s policy research review.

The research results can help farmers and local government better understand the benefits of mangrove forests for aquaculture, fisheries, and livelihoods in general. This is important for changing the attitudes and behavior around mangrove forest conservation, and can contribute towards forest conservation as well as sustainable livelihoods of communities. In addition, our analysis of the impacts of current policies on the conservation of mangrove forests can provide information for the design of more effective policies in future, and contribute significantly to the conservation of mangrove forests in Vietnam.

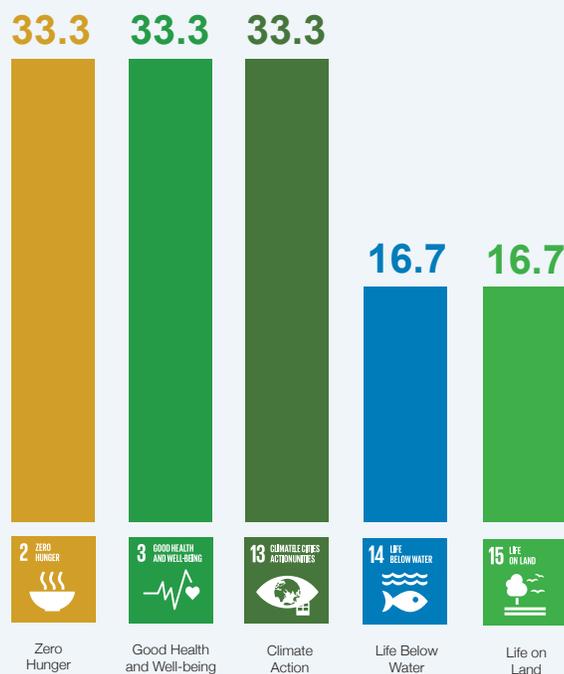


Officer from the People Committee of the Rach Goc town participating in a survey to Shrimp farmers to collect data for the research project “Analysis of the ecosystem services of mangrove to aquaculture and fishery in Vietnam” in Ngoc Hien District of Ca Mau Province.



13 publications in 2017
7 Peer reviewed publications

% of center publications that address SDG's



(total amount of % does not add up to 100 percent due to double counting)

Collaborative Research Programs



Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development researchers at the 2017 workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

EfD has institutionalized south-south-north experience sharing through the research collaborations. The Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative (SETI) network, the Forestry Collaborative, and the Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development (ESAforD) that apply the “Community of Practice” approach have been very active during 2017. SETI organized a big workshop at Duke in May 2017 with more than 70 practitioners. Similarly, the forestry collaborative organized a meeting back-to-back with the EAERE annual conference in Athens in June 2017.

All collaboratives had meetings during the EfD annual meeting in Addis, Ethiopia in October. We now start to see the outcomes of these collaborations. There is increased learning between centers, and increased joint participation in various international meetings etc. We expect to see much more impacts in the years to come while these collaborations continue to mature.

*Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative Program leader
Subhrendu Pattanayak presenting at EfD's 2017
Annual Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*



Policy Interaction and Communication



Dr Pham Khanh Nam, EfD Vietnam director, opens the January 2018 workshop which aimed to show how market-based instruments can improve environmental conditions in Southeast Asia.

In January 2018, EfD Vietnam collaborated with the Economy and Environment Partnership for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA) group to organize an international workshop on the economic approaches to environmental management in Southeast Asia. The event hosted 50 participants from the region, including international researchers, policy makers, practitioners, non-governmental organizations, and graduate students, all of whom joined in active discussion.

The workshop allowed us to distribute studies related to market-based instruments used in several Southeast Asia countries, which aims to use environmental economic tools and techniques to control pollution and improve environmental conditions. The presentations included

topics about the applications and future research of market-based instruments in Malaysia and Vietnam, the distribution effects of the fuel subsidy reform in Indonesia, the economic impact of geothermal operations in the Philippines, and behavioral insights and a new design to enhance new technology adoption among Thai farmers.

The workshop has bridged the connection between environmental economics researchers and policy makers in Vietnam, sharing the results and policy implications as well as orders for new research ideas and questions related to environmental management in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region.



Prof Awang Noor Abd. Ghani from Malaysia discusses market-based instruments, their applications, and future research at the January 2018 workshop.



Dr Gem Castillo from the Philippines discusses the economic impact of geothermal operations in his country.

Academic Capacity Building



Dr Le Thanh Loan, EfD Vietnam's research associate, presents the training course on environmental management accounting for small and medium-sized enterprises in Kien Giang province.

Through its first year of operation, EfD Vietnam's researchers taught a wide range of development-related courses in both undergraduate and graduate programs. Courses covered topics ranging from environmental and resource economics, cost-benefit analysis, economics of climate change, health economics, topics of development economics, applied econometrics, and research methodology.

In 2017, the center also collaborated with the Environmental Economics Unit of the University of Economics Ho Chi Minh to complete the design of the Master's Program in Environmental Economics and Management. The program, tailored for local government officials in the southern part of Vietnam, is to provide a solid understanding of the cornerstones of environmental economics and the tools for environmental management. The first intake of this master's program is in 2018.



Prof Marco Wilkens from the University of Augsburg, Germany, discusses capital market-based carbon risk factors at a seminar that forms part of the School of Economics' weekly academic activities.



5 Masters Theses Completed

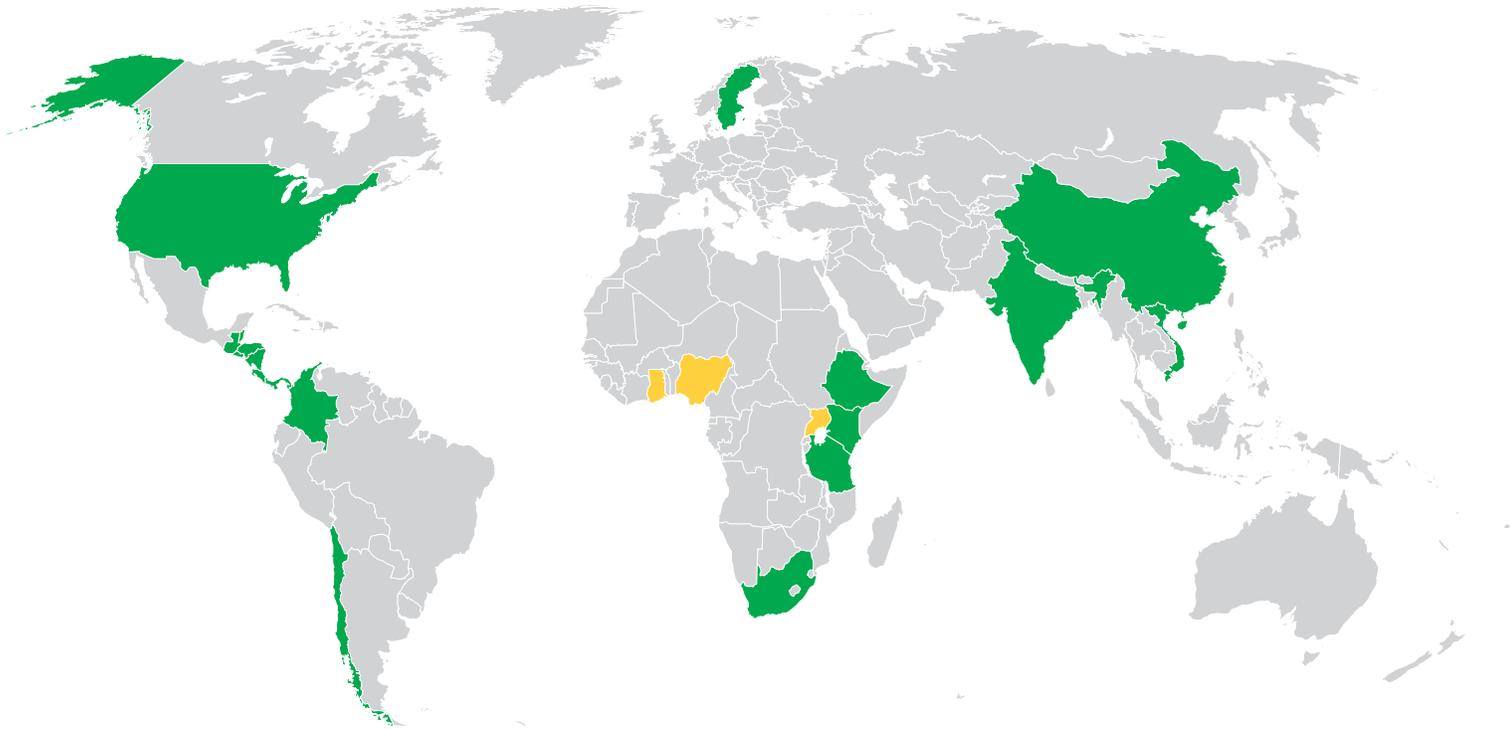


15 Masters Courses in Environmental Economics
61 Masters Students on Environmental Economics Course



EfD in Vietnam

School of Economics, University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City, 1A Hoang Dieu Street, Phu Nhuan District, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Director: Dr. Pham Khanh Nam
khanhnam@ueh.edu.vn



EFD CENTERS
Centers: Central America, Chile, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, USA, Vietnam

ASPIRING CENTERS
Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda

PARTNER
Sida

