



UNITED NATIONS
VIET NAM



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ONE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF VIET NAM PERIOD 2022-2026

Session 2: Cooperation Framework Outcomes and
the Theory of Change

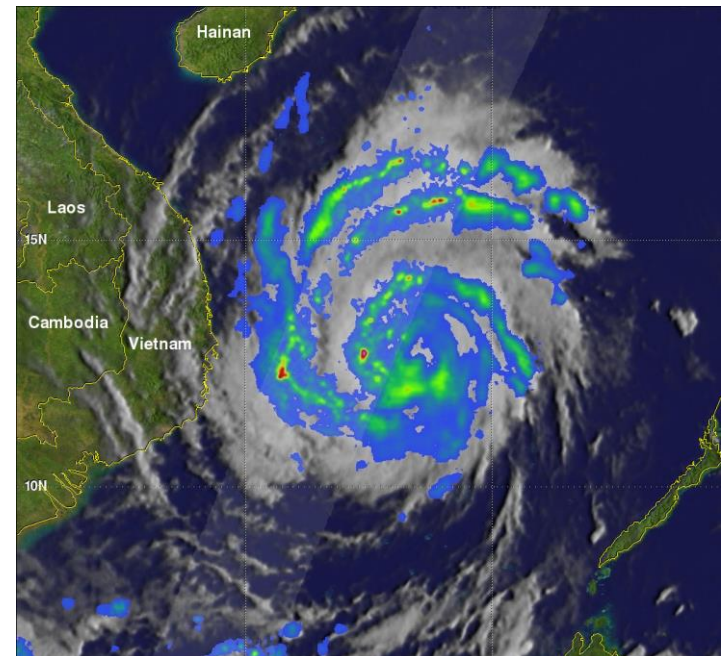
Outcome 2: Climate Change Response, Disaster Resilience and Environmental Sustainability



Overview

- **This presentation will cover:**

1. Summary problem analysis
2. Theory of Change: Proposed UN Offering and Leave No One Behind (LNOB targets)
3. Cross-cutting issues
4. Assumptions, risks and partnerships (*WORK IN PROGRESS*)
5. Guiding questions for discussion



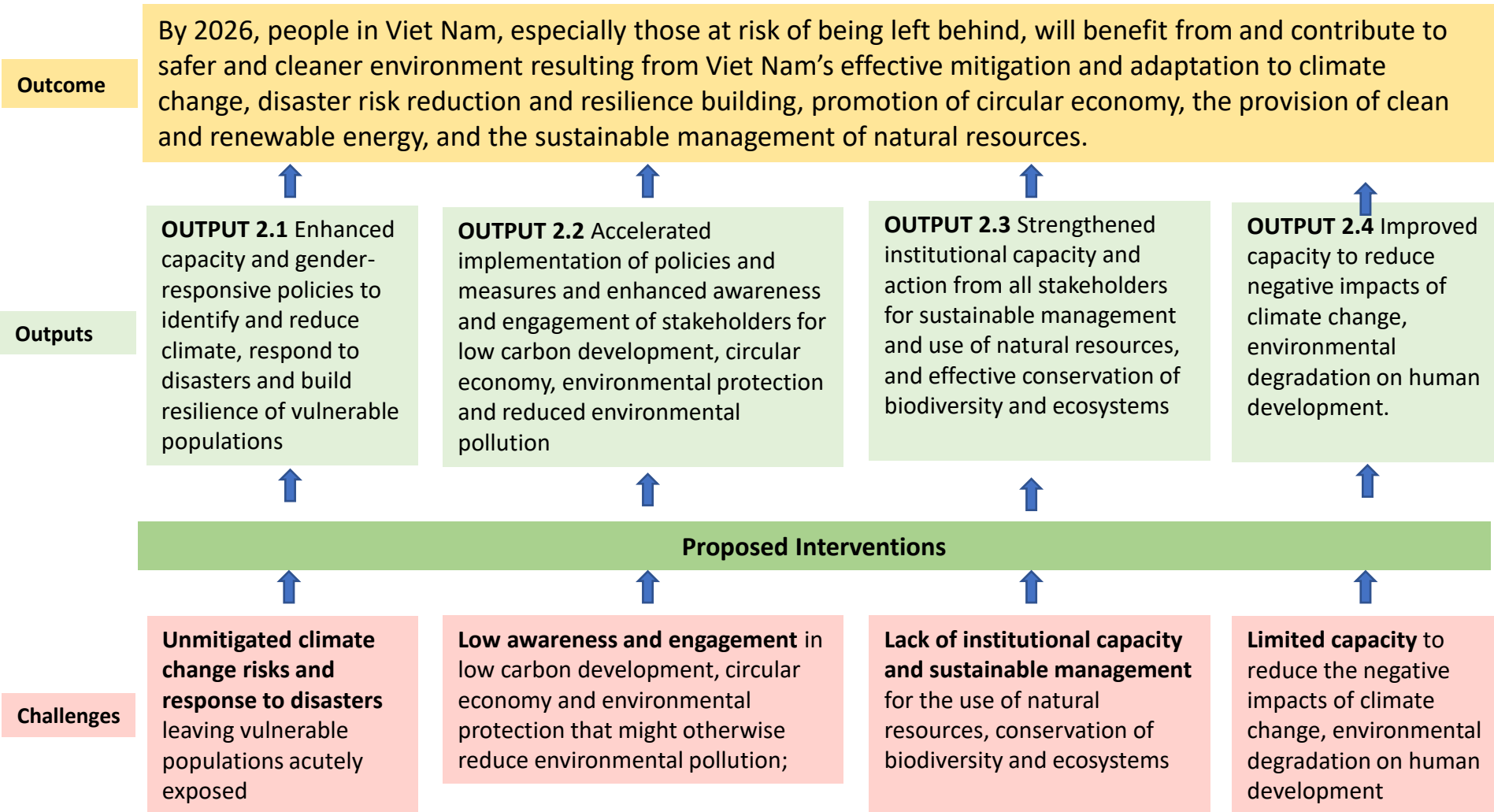
Summary Problem Analysis

- One of the world's richest biodiversity centres
- One of the most vulnerable countries to the effects of climate change
- Over the last three decades climate-related disasters have caused an average estimated annual loss of 1-1.5% of GDP and 430 deaths
- Viet Nam's current energy intensity, measured as energy use per unit of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), has not helped matters and without changes to its carbon-intensive growth trajectory,
- Viet Nam will continue to be a major regional Green House Gas (GHG) emitter with serious implications for climate change and environmental pollution both of which contribute to devastating health impacts.



- The analysis points to four major challenges impacting climate change, disaster resilience, environmental sustainability and the achievement of the SDGs: **(i) Unmitigated climate change risks and response to disasters** leaving vulnerable populations acutely exposed; **(ii) Low awareness and engagement** in low carbon development, circular economy and environmental protection that might otherwise reduce environmental pollution; **(iii) a lack of institutional capacity and sustainable management** for the use of natural resources, conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems; and **(iv) Limited capacity** to reduce the negative impacts of climate change, environmental degradation on human development

Theory of Change



Challenge

i) Unmitigated climate change risks and response to disasters leaving vulnerable populations acutely exposed

Proposed Interventions

- Enhancing capacity, policy and mandates for coherent and sustainable management of biodiversity and habitats, the prevention of wildlife trafficking and consumption.
- Enhance early warning systems through improved risk assessments, the application of remote sensing and inclusive digital data and tools.
- Provide capacity to identify of risks from disaster and climate change through enhanced risk transfer and insurance system.
- Build resilient and sustainable agri-food systems.
- Improve coordination of UN-Government-partner responses to humanitarian emergencies and promote resilient, green recovery.
- Strengthen legal gender responsive frameworks, and facilitate engagement of women, children and youth in climate action.
- Prioritization of nature-based solutions.

Challenge

ii) Low awareness and engagement in low carbon development, circular economy and environmental protection that might otherwise reduce environmental pollution

Proposed Interventions

- Support of circular economy policies, the strengthening of environmental regulatory systems, and supporting government and MSMEs to adopt low emission and clean technologies.
- Phase-down of coal and reduced dependence on fossil fuels leading the way for increasing renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean technology, resource efficiency and sustainable production and consumption.
- Promotion of E-mobility, green transport and infrastructure, green and smart cities.
- Education and public awareness to reduce plastic production and consumption.
- Support the effective management of hazardous chemicals, persistent organic pollutants and general medical waste.
- Establish nationwide industrial pollution monitoring system and strengthen pollution (air, soil, water) regulation and enforcement.

Challenge

iii) A lack of institutional capacity and sustainable management for the use of natural resources, conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems

Proposed Interventions

- Improve capacities, policies and mandates for coherent and sustainable management of biodiversity and habitats, the prevention of wildlife trafficking and consumption.
- Promote sustainable financing mechanisms for conservation and biodiversity ecosystems.
- Prevent wildlife trafficking and consumption.
- Introduce innovative mechanisms to sustainably engage private sector in natural resource sectors.
- Promote strategies to ensure local communities benefit from and contribute to biodiversity conservation and natural resource management.
- Adopt nature-based solutions for increase biodiversity conservation, resilient development and sustainable tourism.

Challenge

iv) Limited capacity to reduce the negative impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on human development

Proposed Interventions

- Increase public awareness and supporting mechanisms for families, women and children experiencing multiple impacts from climate change and disasters.
- Strengthen the normative framework to the environmental rights of all Vietnamese including children.
- Improve climate and disaster resilient health services and telehealth systems.
- Strengthen capacities and improving climate and disaster resilient systems in human development sectors (health, education and WASH).
- Prioritization of prevention and preparedness for a next pandemic through strengthening the human-animal-environment interface.

Theory of Change: Proposed UN Offering and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) targets

LNOB groups were highlighted as:

- a) Ethnic Minorities
- b) People living with Disabilities
- c) Migrants
- d) People living in disaster prone areas
- e) LBGTQI People;
- f) People affected by HIV/AIDS, and
- g) Demographic foci of Children, Youth, Women and the Elderly.



WHY?

- Disasters and climate change of those living in disaster-prone **disproportionately affects the health, well-being and livelihoods** areas especially women, the elderly, PWDs and ethnic minorities.
- Low carbon development, climate change mitigation, environmental pollution and reducing associated health risks are also areas of focus **due to the multi-layered and disproportionate impacts of pollution and environmental migration** on the poor, PWD, women, children, ethnic minorities and environment migrants.
- Focusing on these issues will have an **accelerant effect on reinforcing access to basic services for these vulnerable groups**, promoting the green economy, and advocating for human rights compliant climate action

Cross cutting priorities to guide and focus the monitoring of the CF were confirmed as:

- (a) Human Rights;
- (b) Equity and inclusivity;
- (c) Gender equality;
- (d) Climate Change;
- (e) Humanitarian & Pandemic Response.



Assumptions, risks and partnerships (*WORK IN PROGRESS*)

The TOC relies on the overall **assumption** that the Vietnamese people will continue to pay attention to and raise concerns about environmental issues.

Risks identified

- low level of government commitment or political support for new and unconventional solutions.
- limited support for the UN's convening power in this area and the UN's support for technology innovation and transfer.
- bottlenecks of limited private sector engagement
- overlapping mandates of government ministries were also cited as barriers for advancement

Partnerships will need to include a variety of stakeholders following the whole-of-society approach

- Partnerships with International Financial Institutions and development partners to mobilize necessary resources to finance the SDGs and foster innovation.
- Open new dialogues to mobilize and engage the Vietnamese private sector in contributing to the SDGs implementation.
- Leveraging the UN's partnerships on climate change, clean energy, STEM policy, innovation, health systems, and innovative finance by fostering cooperation between government, business, academia and communities for business innovation and social impacts.
- Linking the public and private sector, employers-employees associations in nurturing a labour force and healthy industrial relations.
- Collaboration with public agencies, NGOs, civic and community-based networks to promote good governance, legal and justice reforms, and tackle social challenges.
- Collaboration with other global institutions and regional partners networks to support cross-boundary issues, particularly on climate change action, pollution, IFFs and cross-border trafficking.

Guiding Questions

- (i) Does the overall theory of change (ToC) and proposed UN offering reflect Viet Nam's reality, the UN's comparative advantage, and accelerant measures to support progress towards the achievement of the SDGs?
- (ii) Does the target LNOB groups correspond to those most at risk and does the UN offering sufficiently respond to the primary LNOB needs?
- (iii) Are the cross-cutting issues correctly identified and captured in the UN's approach?
- (iv) Are the assumptions for the TOC sufficiently realistic and comprehensive? Can any of these assumptions be sufficiently mitigated against through the UN's proposed interventions?
- (v) Are the risks adequately captured and reflect the potential impact of major events and crises e.g. COVID-19, natural disasters, worsening pollution etc?
- (vi) Which strategic partnerships would strengthen the proposed UN offering? Are there additional partnerships/collaborations that could have a transformative impact on achieving the ToC?



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