



The national Forest and Farm Facility workshop takes centre stage.

Forest and farm lessons take root

Forest plantations, carbon storage and agroforestry policy were under the spotlight at a FAO-supported national Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) workshop on 21st May.

The Ha Noi workshop titled “Experiences from FFF Viet Nam on long rotation smallholder forest plantation, sustainable forest management, agroforestry and biodiversity contributing to forest and farm producers’ climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods” welcomed stakeholders from Viet Nam’s Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam Farmers’ Union, forest and farm producer organizations and co-operatives from more than 20 provinces.

“The objective of the workshop was to put into the national context FFF’s ongoing work through linking it with Viet Nam’s policy on long rotation forest plantations, carbon storage and corresponding measurement tools as well as with its agroforestry policy,” said Sophie Grouwels, FAO FFF officer.

Viet Nam joined FFF in 2014, under supervision of the Viet Nam Farmers’ Union. FFF Viet Nam is operational in five provinces with more than 15 000 direct beneficiaries. It focuses on more localized climate resilient policy and value chain support across many different productions system. Since starting in Viet Nam, the FFF programme has led to direct protection, restoration, and sustainable forest and farm management impacts across 44 619 hectares, including 17 000 hectares of certified forest and farm production.

Bac Kan targets sustainable agricultural and forestry production

FAO is behind northern Bac Kan province to boost agricultural and forestry production.

Through the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) programme, FAO works to support cooperatives, adapt to climate changes through raising environmental awareness and unlocking synthetic biological solutions. FAO Representative in Viet Nam, said project-supported cooperatives have built organic and environmentally-friendly planting solutions, with highly effective models to grow medicinal herbs. He said the province was committed to policies focused on sustainable development of agriculture and forestry, linking the development of agricultural tourism and experiential travel to generate income for people. In the future, FAO will focus on supporting clean agricultural production models associated with development of experiential travel.



The FAO Representative meets with the People’s Committee of Bac Kan province.



FAO champions International Day of Forests 2024

With the theme “Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World”, FAO celebrated the International Day of Forests 2024 on 21st March with the goal of raising awareness of this important renewable resource.

That is why FAO is a committed partner of Viet Nam to embed a range of innovative technologies into the country’s forestry sector. This includes establishing a monitoring and evaluation system for forest resources, with remote sensing technology, geographic information systems, information technology in forestry industry management, mapping and securing customary land. These efforts will empower local rural communities and ethnic minorities. FAO is also helping Viet Nam tune into the digital transformation revolution by diversifying revenue sources from forests.

Stepping up to support drought-hit Mekong Delta communities

Amid an intensifying drought and saltwater intrusion crisis in the Mekong Delta, FAO in April provided cash support to under pressure families.

This response was part of the project “Increasing Capacities and Scale for Anticipatory Action including through Social Protection Systems” led by the Department of Dyke Management and Natural Disaster Prevention and Control in collaboration with FAO. This initiative is also part of the series of events during the “National Clean Water and Environmental Sanitation Week 2024.”



Celebrating the International Day of Forests 2024.

Mr. Rémi Nono Womdim, FAO Representative in Viet Nam said: “This is the first activity in Viet Nam activating early action to respond to drought, demonstrating the landmark commitment of the Government of Viet Nam and FAO to advance the agenda and pioneer the application of this approach in Southeast Asia. Viet Nam’s pioneering application of this approach is truly commendable. Working together to minimize the impact of drought in Ca Mau is an important step forward and an inspiring example for other countries not only in the region, but globally. We hope this will boost commitments to this approach in Viet Nam’s future.”

This regional project covers five countries, including Viet Nam. The project component in Viet Nam has an estimated total budget of USD 1.7 million provided by the European Agency for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Operations (DG ECHO) through FAO.



Supporting drought-hit Ca Mau province.



World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2024 Celebration.

Tackling desertification and drought threats

With United Nations Desertification and Drought Day, “United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future” on 17th June, FAO Viet Nam underscored the critical importance of collective action to preserve the planet’s vital land resources for future generations.

To meet this challenge, FAO is proactively working with our national partners and stakeholders in Viet Nam to ensure the sustainable management of land, soil and water resources. This means taking a holistic and technology-focussed approach to landscape restoration, sustainable water management and regenerative agriculture. Together, this can increase food production, conserve ecosystems as well as improve land, soil and water quality to safeguard Viet Nam’s food security and the prosperity of rural communities.

These efforts are complemented by strengthening the resilience of rural communities to drought and extreme weather events. In partnership with the Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, FAO is elevating Anticipatory Action to tackle drought and its intensifying impacts in Viet Nam. This includes synergizing efforts across the land-water-energy nexus and helping build technical and institutional capacities to better manage land and water in the face of climatic extremes. As a result of the ASEAN Framework on Anticipatory Action in Disaster Management, Viet Nam now has a robust drought early warning system, which provides timely and trusted information to target communities.

Bilateral water management is buoyant

FAO is working to boost integrated water resources management and ecosystems health between Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Viet Nam in the Neun-Ca and Ma river basins.

FAO in collaboration with the Department of Water Resources Management of Viet Nam’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Department of Water Resources in Lao PDR, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), organized a workshop to launch the project “Fostering Water and Environmental Security in the Ma and Neun-Ca Transboundary River Basins and Related Coastal Areas, Viet Nam and Lao PDR” on 21st May.

The workshop introduced the project and captured feedback on its design and implementation plan. It brought together central and provincial government officials from Viet Nam and



The GEF-funded project for Viet Nam and Lao PDR takes shape.



Lao PDR, local and international NGOs, universities, research institutes and other stakeholders.

This five-year project has a budget of USD 8 million from the Global Environment Fund (GEF), of which USD 3 million will be channelled to support pilot project implementation in the Neun-Ca and Ma river basins. IUCN is the lead operational partner responsible for project coordination and technical oversight.

The project's goal is to enable Viet Nam and Lao PDR to address freshwater resource management and ecosystem health in the transboundary Ma and the Neun-Ca river basins and coastal zones by creating an enabling environment for transboundary cooperation and action.

“The project’s efforts to enhance water and environmental security in the Ma and Neun-Ca river basins align closely with FAO’s 2022–2031 Strategic Framework, advancing the ‘four betters’: better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life. By creating the enabling conditions for transboundary cooperation and action on shared water resources, the project contributes to healthier ecosystems, which are foundational to sustainable agrifood systems, improved livelihoods, and a better future for communities in Viet Nam and Lao PDR” said Rémi Nono Womdim, FAO Representative in Viet Nam.

The project will be implemented with a number of key outcomes, including gaining consensus among countries on key transboundary concerns, enhancing water security, environmental sustainability and forecasting capabilities in both basins and their coastal areas, reinforcing joint actions, reversing land degradation trends in the two basins as well as enhancing the capacities of relevant national entities, and sharing project experiences and lessons learnt.

Sustainable marine aquaculture development

Viet Nam’s aquaculture took centre stage during a conference on the sector’s potential. The FAO Representative in Viet Nam attended the Conference on Sustainable Marine Aquaculture Development and participated in a panel with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to discuss the potential and challenges of marine aquaculture as well as solutions on sustainable marine development. The conference was held on 1st April in Quang Ninh province on the occasion of the 65th Anniversary of the Traditional Day of Viet Nam’s Fisheries Industry.



FAO Representative participated in a panel discussion on the potentials in marine aquaculture in Viet Nam with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.



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