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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Draft Report of the Chairperson on the Evaluation Committee's 2013 Annual Country Visit

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Evaluation Committee — Seventy-seventh Session
Rome, 26-27 June 2013

For: Review

Draft Report of the Chairperson on the Evaluation Committee's 2013 Annual Country Visit

1. **Background.** In line with the decision taken by the Evaluation Committee at its sixty-sixth session held in March 2011, the Evaluation Committee's 2013 annual country visit was to Vietnam. Seven Committee members participated in the annual visits including the representatives of Brazil, Egypt, Germany, Finland, India, Indonesia (Chair), Nigeria¹. The Board members from Canada and China also took part in the Vietnam country visit, which was held from 20-24 May 2013.
2. IFAD was represented by the Associate Vice President, Programme Management Department (PMD), Director of the Asia and Pacific Division (APR), Acting Director of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE), the Vietnam Country Programme Management, staff from the IFAD country office in Hanoi and the Office of the Secretary. The full list of the visiting delegation may be seen in Appendix 1.
3. The Committee believes the decision to conduct this year's visit to Vietnam was timely for a variety of reasons, including the fact that IOE recently completed a country programme evaluation in Vietnam (in 2011/12), which was followed by the adoption of a new country strategic opportunities programme for 2012-2017. This gave the Committee the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the important role of independent evaluations at IFAD in learning and shaping future country strategies and programmes.
4. **Country context.** Vietnam has witnessed rapid economic growth and poverty reduction. According to government figures, incidence of poverty fell to under 10% in 2010. Poverty rates nevertheless remain high, however, amongst ethnic minorities (at 45% in 2010), and poverty is overwhelmingly concentrated amongst rural populations (91% of the poor live in rural areas).
5. IFAD's partnership with Vietnam began in 1993, and the programme has the longest-serving out-posted country programme manager (CPM) in Asia. In Vietnam, IFAD loans are managed by the national government (Ministry of Planning and Investment is the primary interlocutor). Funds are then allocated to provincial and local authorities as grants. IFAD provides a critical supervision and implementation support function in the execution of projects.
6. Several other key donors are active in Vietnam, including the World Bank (with a 4 billion/3-year strategy focused on modernizing the economy and avoiding the 'middle income country trap'); bilateral donors, many of whom are decreasing their presence and/or focusing more on private sector development; UN Agencies, including FAO, UNDP, and others.
7. Vietnam recently reached lower middle-Income country status (LMIC) in 2010, and is experiencing associated challenges, including decreases in official development assistance (ODA) and increasingly harder loan terms. This offered members a window into how these challenges – shared by an increasing number of countries – are impacting development efforts and partnerships on the ground.
8. **Objectives of country visit.** The main objectives of this annual country visit by the Evaluation Committee was to are: (i) visit projects financed by IFAD to increase the Committee's awareness of activities on the ground and allow members to meet different stakeholders; (ii) promote dialogue with Government officials and other partners regarding, among other issues, IFAD's role in Vietnam; and (iii) gain deeper insight into key issues raised by the recent Vietnam Country Programme Evaluation by IOE, *inter-alia*, such as the

¹ Committee members from Japan and Norway were unable to join the 2013 annual country visit.

opportunities and challenges in strengthening partnerships, the market-oriented approach and addressing credit environment for smallholders.

9. More generally, the aim of the visit was also to enhance the Committee's knowledge and experience of IFAD's work at the country level, to enable members to provide informed guidance on strategic, operational and evaluation matters to the Executive Board, IFAD Management and IOE. The specific terms of reference for the Vietnam country visit may be seen in Appendix 2 to this report.
10. **Overview of the country visit programme.** The programme for the 2013 country visit was divided into two parts. Part one included field visits to two IFAD-funded projects in the south of the country, namely the Developing Business with the Rural Poor Project and the Improving Markets Participation of the Poor Project. During the field visits, the Committee had an opportunity to hold discussions with project beneficiaries (e.g., Khmer ethnic minorities, individuals involved in fisheries processing and flower production and exports, common interests groups, cooperatives engaged in basket production, women's union, and others), Provincial Peoples' Committees (PPC)², project staff, representatives of the private sector and the Can Ton university, and others.
11. Part two of the country visit entailed discussions with high-level Government authorities at the national level in Hanoi, development partners and the Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Development. In particular, among others, meetings were held with the Ministers/Vice-Ministers and staff in the Ministries of Finance, Agriculture, and Planning and Investment, which are the three main Government partners of IFAD at the national level. The detailed programme of the country visit including the meetings held may be seen in Appendix 3.
12. **Field visits.** As mentioned above, projects visited by Committee members were in two southern provinces in the Mekong delta, namely Ben Tre and Tra Vinh for 3 days, covering a range of issues, primarily helping to link farmers to markets and assisting the rural poor with employment. Rural areas here are confronted with high incidence of poverty and increasing vulnerability due to natural resources management issues and climate change (e.g., increasing salinization, flooding patterns). In Can Tho, the Committee interacted intensively with think tank to get first hand knowledge of the impact of climate change and other environmental challenges on rural livelihoods in the Mekong Delta region.
13. PPC representatives in Ben Tre province gave an overview of local challenges, including extreme weather, agricultural disease, need for research and analysis to inform planning, and water sanitation for drinking and irrigation. The province's IFAD-funded project (Developing Businesses with the Rural Poor) focused on rural farmers (skills development, productivity, and linkages to markets), and on the landless poor (vocational training), with particular attention on labour-intensive value-chains and public-private partnerships.
14. PPC members noted a high degree of appreciation for IFAD's partnership, and highlighted that as projects are actually implemented by the government itself (rather than IFAD), capacity is built locally, facilitating scaling-up of successes (women's savings and credit groups and PPP models noted as particularly effective).
15. The Committee met with two private sector project partners in the province, namely Betrimex, a coconut processing company, and an ornamental plant business focused on export. The partnership had three general dimensions: farmers were linked to companies and trained to provide higher quality output to

² The PPC oversee provincial-level departments and, under Vietnam's decentralized system, have a high degree of autonomy over budget allocation.

meet company standards (increasing income and competitiveness); companies receive stable, good quality supply (lowering risks of breaks in supply); and processing elements of each company's work provide employment opportunities for the rural poor. These examples demonstrated the benefit of conducting capacity building work through private sector partners, who know product standards and needed skillsets best.

16. Moreover, Committee members also visited a basket weaving facility where poor women, often those considered "too old" to work for larger companies, were engaged in paid labour, making baskets were made for export. This project also demonstrated how IFAD contributes to key outputs in communities, such as motorable roads, that facilitate development and market access.
17. The Committee thereafter moved to Tra Vinh Province. Discussions were held with the representatives of the Tra Vinh PPC. The IFAD-funded project in the province (Improving Market Participation of the Poor) focused on increasing employment of the poor and near poor. Women's credit union groups were a key partner in the project, and provided both access to finance and served as a platform for capacity-building and information-sharing regarding policies/ programmes that could benefit members.
18. Members visited a seafood processing company which offers vocational training to target populations, supported by the project. The public-private partnership model, to which both the project and company contribute financially, allows greater access to employment among target populations and incentivizes the company to hire amongst poorer, less educated communities by providing support to training. Committee members met with workers who had directly benefitted from vocational training, but wondered about targeting practices (i.e., through notice-boards and television) and to what degree the poorest populations were reached through targeting.
19. Thereafter, the Committee visited farmers in a primarily ethnic community who had recently organized into common-interest groups. Farmers spoke about the benefits of group membership (decreased costs of inputs due to bulk purchasing, increased return due to technical training, higher quality product, increased outputs) and challenges (need for credit, increasing salinization of soils resulting in need to diversify produce). Program assistance included farmer field training, market awareness and access, and negotiation training. An interesting spin-off benefit of the groups was the sharing of new practices with non-members, whose yield also went up in the years following the establishment of CIGs' (begging the question of the benefits of membership). Women's savings and credit unions were active in the village (8 groups, 125 members).
20. The Committee then travelled to Can Tho Province, where we met with Professor Le Quang Tri, Director of Research Institute for Climate Change at Can Tho University, to discuss potential impacts of climate change on agriculture in the Mekong Delta with Committee members. Major threats to the region include abnormal rain and weather patterns, increased levels of salinization, increased pests, and water shortage and quality. Professor Tri noted that research was key to understanding potential impacts of changes in weather patterns, increased flooding, and for the development of new techniques to help farmers, for example to mitigate risks of diversifying products to those more tolerant to higher levels of salinity. Members also discussed the degree to which challenges are related to climate change and/or issues of resource management (e.g. impacts of damming).
21. **Presentations by IOE and IFAD Management.** In Can Tho, the Acting Director IOE made a presentation of the recently concluded Vietnam country programme evaluation. The evaluation assessed the country programme as satisfactory, highlighting participatory planning, decentralised development, small-scale

infrastructure, gender, savings and credit groups, and the promise of IFAD's value-chain approach amongst other strengths. Recommendations included: a strengthened market-based approach; more streamlined geographic coverage to enhanced effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability; addressing gaps in rural finance; increased government counterpart funding; a focus on natural resource management and climate change; more strategic use of grants; more strategic engagement in partnerships; and the need to strengthen policy dialogue and knowledge-management. The Committee noted there was no doubt about the relevance of the Vietnam country programme evaluation, which was crucial for the development of the new Vietnam COSOP and all project related recommendations were justified and in the process of implementation.

22. Thereafter, the Vietnam CPM provided an overview of the IFAD country programme and the main elements of the new COSOP. Among other issues, he highlighted the added efforts being made in value chain development including promoting private sector partnerships and linkages to markets for better incomes, food security and nutrition. He also noted emerging climate change challenges that is constraining productivity and livelihoods in general. He noted IFAD had to work with Government closely to address also issues related to improve rural financial and business development services.
23. **Discussions with partners in Hanoi.** IFAD was clearly a valued partner, particularly due to its focus on the rural poor and ethnic minorities and work with public-private partnerships. As IFAD does not "implement" projects itself, government partners appreciated that local officials gain expertise from working on projects, facilitating capacity building. Government officials (in particular the Ministry of Planning and Investments) expressed a greater sense of ownership with IFAD projects.
24. The main issues emerging from interactions with the Government and other partners that merit priority include the following:
- Reduction in concessional loans due to Vietnam's LMIC status; while the government was committed to contributing more substantially to IFAD-supported projects, they underlined the need to manage carefully any transition to higher interest rates so as to avoid shocks.
 - Increasing work through Public-Private Partnerships was seen as critical in a number of respects, including: accessing and leveraging resources in a time of global economic turbulence and decreasing ODA; developing and improving value-chains; increasing investment in rural areas; and assistance with vocational training to help provide opportunities in rural areas and temper rural-urban migration.
 - A need for rural finance models that help to incentivize investment in rural areas and farms.
 - Evaluation recommendations were noted as helpful (Vice-Minister of Planning and Investment).
 - There is clear appetite for knowledge-sharing and exchange. The Vice-Minister of Finance suggested meetings between officials involved in IFAD projects of a similar nature (pointing towards a convenor role for IFAD), and the Minister of Agriculture suggested farmers' exchanges (inbound and outbound) to enhance techniques and share knowledge.
 - Officials recognized that scaling-up successes is key, but noted that resources remain a critical constraint.
25. Meeting with representatives of the World Bank, and with the UNDP and FAO (for "One UN") were also held during the country visit.

26. One UN efforts in Vietnam are focusing on leveraging genuine synergies (rather than forcing collaboration where there may be little value-added). Major challenges to UN coordination are marrying project management units and managing different reporting lines. IFAD's Director for Asia and the Pacific, noted that UN coordination tends to operate based on thematic area (e.g. health, education), yet agriculture is not defined as its own "theme", leaving a critical gap. While given IFAD's different funding modalities (loans) UN organizations are a less easy fit than others (e.g. World Bank) for partnerships, aside from obvious synergies with FAO, there are opportunities for contribute to work of sub-groups (e.g., work on ethnic minorities). IFAD chooses its engagement with UN partners strategically.
27. The World Bank is a very large development partner in Vietnam. While Vietnam is currently eligible for 'blend' loans, terms are hardening. Opportunities for World Bank – IFAD collaboration are opening as the WB looks to working increasingly with ethnic minorities and rural populations. World Bank and IFAD also overlap in areas of restructuring the role of the state in the private sector (state owned enterprises, etc).
28. **Specific topics of wider interest to IFAD.** The country visit has brought up a number of interesting issues that have implications both for the Vietnam country programme as well as for IFAD operations more broadly. Some of the main issues that deserve further reflection and discussion in the Board are summarised in the following paragraphs.
29. The country visit further reinforced the Committee's notion that IFAD needs to sharpen its role in middle income countries in general in addition to its work in other country contexts. In this regard, it is noteworthy that some of the MICs still have a large number of rural poor people. Vietnam serves as a good example for the cooperation with middle income countries where there is a high degree of overlap of development goals and approaches between IFAD and the Government. At the same time, Govt. of Vietnam needs to increase the provision of counterpart funding and scale up with its own resources successful innovations promoted in the context of IFAD-funded projects. In view of the above, key questions remain as to how IFAD could still gainfully be engaged while the country moves to middle income status, while still having a sizeable number of people living in poverty. There is no doubt that the new strategy must encourage greater government partnership (and financing), and the need to manage the transition to harder loan terms in the future. However, the case for continued engagement appears very strong, particularly given the high impact of and demand for IFAD's work (PPPs, value-chain approaches), and, in this case, the Vietnamese government's high level of engagement, learning, and enthusiasm.
30. In this regard, the Committee has requested IOE to prepare early next year a synthesis report based on the numerous evaluations done in MICs that would highlight in a coherent manner the opportunities and challenges faced by IFAD in such country contexts. The Committee recommends that this report should be discussed during the IFAD10 consultations, as the topic is of wider interest to IFAD member states, which would eventually form the basis for a revised strategy for IFAD's engagement in MICs.
31. With regard to targeting, the committee was not able to exhaustively review IFAD's work in Vietnam, especially because the focus was on the poorer populations of South Vietnam, which are vulnerable to climate change. However, the Committee was of the view that it would be interesting to see the impact of IFAD-funded operations in the poorer northern and central region of Vietnam. This raises interesting questions regarding who best to target and with which interventions (e.g., which intervention for which element of the population?). However, the committee was impressed with the degree of labour market

participation amongst women, as well as their representation at high levels in key government bodies (e.g., PPC, national Ministries).

32. Opportunities exist to strengthen partnerships with other multilateral and bilateral organisations, particularly in MICs where donors are reducing presence, resulting in fewer resources but a less crowded space, which can be beneficial to maximizing synergies. Therefore, the Committee believes IFAD could pursue a more aggressive donor contact, especially with World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and others, which could eventually lead to higher co-financing for strategic activities.
33. Several value chain approaches in the three visited provinces are still experimental. As mentioned above, although the Committee did not see absolute poor people, focus should be definitely on the active poor, which seems to be the case. As a follow up, it might be useful for Committee members to receive an update on achieved results in 12 months from now on. Considering the interest of the Govt. of Vietnam on knowledge management, a national workshop on value chain approaches in Vietnam could be organized at an appropriate time (e.g., 12 months from now on) including best practices from other countries.
34. The value of a strong IFAD country office including out-posted country programme manager was clear. The country office has enabled a closer dialogue with key partners and more intensive supervision and follow-up during project implementation. The IFAD country team has very good knowledge of the ground realities and opportunities and challenges for IFAD to make a difference to the country's efforts in rural poverty reduction.
35. With regard to policy dialogue (which is good at the provincial level but less so at the national level), the country office in Vietnam needs strong backing from top management (not only from the APR Director, but also from Associate Vice President for PMD, and even President) considering the small size of the office and the magnitude of challenges. Finally, it is important that staff have adequate infrastructure to ensure they can plan an effective and efficient role in achieving the objectives of the country programme. As part of the knowledge sharing exercise, it would be important for the country office to have its own website where it can highlight its achievements so that other country offices may more easily benefit from IFAD's experience in Vietnam.
36. The Committee members were of the view that the agriculture in the Southern part of Vietnam is well developed and it would be interesting for other countries in the region to adopt their best practices. The Committee recommends that IFAD may come up with some programme where farmers, particularly small holders, could learn from their counterparts in other countries for their mutual benefit.
37. **Organisational aspects of the country visit.** On the whole, the Committee is highly appreciative for the excellent arrangements made by IFAD and the Government of Vietnam. A special appreciation is due to the IFAD country team in Hanoi for their efforts in putting together the programme and taking care of all logistics. The Committee also is grateful to the Government of Vietnam for agreeing to the country visit and for their valuable time and attention and generous hospitality.
38. There are some organisational aspects of the country visit that the Committee wishes to underscore. These include:
 - The programme had limited opportunity for Committee members to interact among themselves and reflect on substantive issues emerging during the field visits or meetings held.
 - The Committee appreciated the presentations by IOE and APR (see paragraphs 21-22). However, it might be worth reflecting if such

presentations should be made at the beginning of the country visit, to enable members to obtain a broader picture of the IFAD-Government programme and related results and lessons learned.

- Taking into account the remit of the Committee, it would be useful if the programme had included a stronger evaluative content, with greater focus on lessons and a better balance in visiting good and less good project sites and communities.
- Preparation and briefings for the country visit should start as soon as possible, taking into account the busy schedule of Committee members. The second briefing provided at HQ was on 8 May, leaving less than 2 weeks before departure in an extremely busy period: this was insufficient for the group to organize itself or to review documentation. In general, it would have been useful if IFAD would have assisted the Committee to be better prepared by more thorough briefings (on both substantive and organisational aspects) in Rome, before the commencement of the country visit.
- Standard terms of reference (ToR) stating the purpose, programme of activities, expected outcomes of the trip, concise presentation of the country situation and IFAD activities in the countries, executive summaries of evaluations of the work of IFAD in the countries if any, etc. should be circulated to the member of EC one month before departure if possible.
- The Permanent Representatives of the visited countries should be invited and associated to any briefing organized by IFAD in Rome.
- To make more better understanding of the visited countries, especially IFAD activities in the countries, the briefing in Rome if possible should include the IFAD Country Team via videoconference and should kick off with an introduction by the IFAD Country Team of their staff and the draft program of the field visit. Plenty of time should be allowed for reactions/questions by the team. In a second stage, brief presentations on the major technical activities (if needed, with technical officers at HQ) could follow with priority given to issues highlighted in the visit program.
- The program should include in a balanced way meetings with representatives of the government but also with civil society, private sector, UN and IFIs representatives, donors, and visits in the field. Most importantly, sufficient time should be given to meeting with IFAD staff and for debriefing at the end of the trip in the country.

39. **Conclusions.** Taking into account this was the first time most members had the opportunity to attend a country visit of the Evaluation Committee, there is unanimous agreement amongst all participants of the tremendous value for money and overall usefulness of such visits. It offered the delegation an opportunity to see what IFAD is actually doing on the ground, and gain a first-hand appreciation of the corresponding opportunities and challenges facing the organisation in discharging its mandate.

40. Moreover, the visit served to strengthen dialogue among members including on issues of importance to the Fund beyond the Vietnam country programme as well as create a stronger team spirit within the Committee. Another noteworthy feature of the visit was the participation of representatives from IFAD management and IOE, which gave members a unique possibility to analyse and discuss different perspectives and opinions on the country programme. All in all, there is a firm belief that such visits are essential for members to be better informed and enable them to properly perform their functions, in line with the Committee's Terms of Reference approved by the Board.

41. **Recommendations.** The Committee recommends to the Executive Board that it reconsider its decision to discontinue from 2014 the dedicated annual country visits of the Evaluation Committee. The Committee believes that country visits, such as the one to Vietnam, are fundamental to strengthen members' knowledge about rural poverty, IFAD's operating model, and IOE evaluation processes. Moreover, the visits should be closely linked to IOE evaluations (as in the past), which would allow the Committee also to review more thoroughly the adequacy and quality of IFAD's independent evaluation methods and function. This would as a result prepare members better in fulfilling their critical oversight and strategy role and accordingly advise the Board, IFAD Management and IOE.
42. In conclusion, therefore, the Committee recommends that notwithstanding the costs involved in organising the country visits, continuing organising the dedicated annual country visit for the Evaluation Committee would contribute to enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the work of both the Evaluation Committee and Executive Board in the future. Such country visits could also be made open to few additional Board members on a self-paying basis.
43. **Concluding remarks.** We would like to once again express our sincere gratitude to all those in IFAD HQ and in Vietnam who worked so hard to ensure a successful outcome:

Thank you!

cảm ơn bạn

obrigado

danke

terima kasih

kiitos

dhanyavad

syukron

xie xie ni

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Terms of Reference for 2013 Evaluation Committee Annual Country Visit to Viet Nam

Background

1. In line with its terms of reference and rules of procedure, the IFAD Evaluation Committee (EC) decided at its 66th session in March 2011 that it would undertake its 2013 Annual country visit to Viet Nam. Prior visits of the Committee since 2000 took place in Syria, Indonesia, Mexico, Mali, the Philippines, India, Mozambique, Brazil and Ghana. The members of the EC are Brazil, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, India, Luxembourg (Japan will take over at the 108th session of the Executive Board, in April 2013), Norway and Nigeria.

Overall Objective

2. To gain knowledge and experience of IFAD's work in the field. In doing so, the EC will be able to provide general guidance related to evaluation matters to the Executive Board, IFAD Management and the Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) on a more informed basis and be more competent in its duties.

Objectives

3. The main objectives of this Annual Country visit by the Evaluation Committee are: (i) to visit projects co-funded by IFAD and the Government of Viet Nam to increase the Committee's awareness of activities on the ground and allow committee members to meet stakeholders; (ii) to promote dialogue with Government officials regarding , among other themes, IFAD's role in Viet Nam; and (iii) to gain insight on the themes addressed by the recent Viet Nam Country Programme Evaluation, namely: opportunities and challenges in strengthening partnerships, the market-oriented approach and addressing credit environment for smallholders.
4. During the field trip, the EC will visit selected communes of the Viet Nam's southern provinces (Ben Tre and Tra Vinh) ; the EC will have the opportunity to meet programme clients, understand their constraints and appreciate and also seek their views on the support received.
5. Further at the central level, the EC will meet with the the Deputy Minister of Finance, who is the Govenor for IFAD, and the Ministers of of Planning and Invesment and Agriculture and Rural Development to discuss the Government vision and framework for IFAD activities for the next five years. Members will also hold discussions with selected multilateral aid agencies such as the World Bank, and the UN Country team on how contribute to more effective synergies and/or to the scaling up of the successful models supported by IFAD over the last 20 years.
6. The EC, through its chair, will report to the Executive Board from its experience during the Annual Country visit on its findings regarding the work and processes and give recommendations to IFAD Management and IOE for future field visits regarding the scope, content and logistical aspects.

Annual Country Visit of the IFAD Evaluation Committee to Vietnam – Agenda

Last updated on 18 May at gam

A. Sunday morning 19th May – Welcome the EB members

- IFAD ICO will welcome the EB members and IFAD staff at Tan Son Nhat airport:
 - some members will arrive from Paris, with Air France at 06.55 am,
 - others from Bangkok, with Thai at 9.15 am, and
 - a last group from Hong Kong, with Cathai, at 10.20 am.
- A VIP lounge will be available at Tan Son Nhat airport while waiting for other groups and a visit folder will be distributed to the members.
- Leave Tan Son Nhat airport around 11.00am and have lunch in Ho Chi Minh City.
- Leave Ho Chi Minh City and travel to Ben Tre Province at 1.00pm.
- Arrive Ben Tre province around 3.30pm and check in Viet Uc hotel
- 16:30-18:00pm: An overview of 2011 CPE main recommendations
- 18:30: Dinner reception with the Provincial People's Committee (PPC), welcome the EB members by the Vice Chairman, Mr Tran Anh Tuan at Viet Uc hotel

B. 20th May 2013

7:00-8:00	Breakfast and check out Viet Uc hotel	Ben Tre province
8:00-9:30	Meeting with Provincial People Committee (Vice Chairman, Mr Tran Anh Tuan) and the Developing Business with Rural Poor (BDRP) Project (Project Director, Mr Nguyen Truc Son). Brief introduction of the provincial social economic development and Developing Business with Rural Poor (BDRP) Project.	Ben Tre Town
9:30-11:30	Visit the Coconut processing factory of Phu Hung Import and Export Coconut company. Visit the Dong Mai vocational training for the poor in Thanh tam commune, Mo Cay Bac (in partnership PPP with the project)	Thanh Tan Commune Phu Hung District

11:30-13:30 LUNCH at Ham Luong hotel

13:30-16:00	Visit Thanh La model Landscaped manufacturing facility model (linkage, create jobs and income for the poor) in Long Thoi commune, Cho Lach district. Visit the Hoang Duy company (produce flowers) in Hung Khah Trung B	Long Thoi Commune
16:00-16:50	Leave Ben Tre to Tra Vinh province Check in at Cuu Long hotel	Tra Vinh province

19:00-20:30: Dinner reception by the Tra Vinh PPC, at Cuu Long hotel

C. 21 May 2013

7:00-7:40	Breakfast and check out Cuu Long hotel	Tra Vinh town
7:50-9:30	Meeting with Provincial People Committee and Improving Markets Participation of the Poor (IMPP) Project Brief introduction of the Improving Markets Participation of the Poor (IMPP) Project	PPC Tra Vinh town
9:50-11:20	Visit the Sai Gon -Mekong Fishery company. (specializes in farming, processing, and trading of frozen seafood, especially Pangasius (Basa fish) and Clam frozen seafood. The company create jobs and income for the poor through IMPP project by provide training and purchase fish from farmers)	Tra Vinh province

11:30-12:30: Lunch at My Khanh restaurant

12:30-16:00	Visit the Phong Phu Commune, Cau Ke District Project activities: Market-Orientated Socio-Economic Development Planning, produce according to contract and develop various types of rices for farmers, creating non-agricultural employment and provide training in correction with private sector Visit Dou Power company (garment export company) and Dan Tien Cooperative (produce rice and provide agricultural services)	Phong Phu commune
16:00-16:50	Leave Tra Vinh province to Can Tho City Check in at Victoria resort	Can Tho city

19:00-20:30 DINNER on the board go along the Hau river with traditional musical performance.

D. 22 May 2013

6:30-9:00	Visit to farmer floating market in Can Tho	Can Tho city
10:00-11:00	Meetings with Can Tho University Prof. Dr. Le Quang Tri, Director of Research Institute for Climate Change, Can Tho University to have the update information on climate change issue in the Mekong Delta.	Can Tho University

12:00-13.00 LUNCH

13:00-14:30	An overview of 2011/2012 CPE main recommendations (Mr Ashwani Muthoo) and Vietnam Country Programmes (Mr Henning Pedersen)	Victoria resort
15.00	Check out and go to Can Tho the airport Flight VN1202, departure at 16:35 and arrive Ha Noi at 18:45	Can Tho airport
18:45-19-45	Arrive Noi Bai airport and check in Hilton hotel	Ha Noi

E. 23 May 2013

9:00-10:00	Meeting with IFAD Governor, Vice Minister, Mr Thuong Chi Trung	Ministry of Finance 28 Tran Hung Dao St
10:30-11:00	Meeting with Vice Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) on ARD national policies and programmes	MARD 2 Ngoc Ha St

12:00-13:00 LUNCH

14:00-15:00	Meeting with Vice Minister of Ministry of Planning and Investment, on Country Programme Evaluation, COSOP and feedback from the EC visit	MPI 6 Hoang Dieu Str
16:00-17:00	Meeting with Dr Dang Kim Son, General Director, Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Development (IPSARD)	IPSARD 15 Thuy Khe Str
16:00-17:00	Meeting with Ms. Louise Chamberlain, Country Director, UNDP Dr. Ken Shimizu, FAO	UNDP 72 Ly Thuong Kiet St

F. 24 May 2013

10:30- 11:30	Meeting with Ms. Victoria Kwakwa, Country Director of WB	WB 63 Ly Thai To Str
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12:00-13:00 LUNCH

13:30- 14:30	Meeting with the Mr. Hoang Xuan Luong, Vice Minister, Committee for Ethnic Minorities (CEMA)	CEMA 80 Phan Dinh Phung Str
15:30- 16:30	Meeting with Ms. Nguyen Thi Kim Thuy, Vice President of the Vietnam Women's Union	WU 39 Hang Chuoi Str