

Climate Change Working Group United States - Socialist Republic of Vietnam



Background

On June 24, 2008, the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam signed a joint statement between the United States Vietnam. The two leaders agreed to work together to promote Vietnamese climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts, including the formation of a new working group under the U.S.-Vietnam Science and Technology Agreement.

The Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) promotes ongoing discussions between scientists in the United States and Vietnam and helps coordinate joint initiatives.

The CCWG provides an institutional framework and a network of experts and organizations working on climate change that promotes long-term cooperation between the two countries.

Climate Change Working Group inaugural meeting, March 2010.



Priorities for Cooperation Climate Change Working Group Meeting Hanoi, March 31 – April 2, 2010

Coastal Vulnerability Assessment:
Establish a series of devices (Surface Elevation Table) on the Vietnam coast to measure changes in elevation to determine vulnerability

National Assessment for Climate Change Vulnerability:
Initiate a parallel National Assessment for the two countries; the first for Vietnam and the third for the U.S.

Higher Education:
Establish activities to promote short-term and long-term education and training

Disaster Risk Reduction:
Establish a framework to promote disaster risk reduction through education, training, and projects



Vietnamese and US scientists installing coastal elevation measuring equipment, in the mangrove forests at Can Gio, to assess coastal vulnerability.

Primary Goals:

- To identify features of Vietnam that are changing due to global climate change; Assess climate change impacts (including climate variability, sea level rise and climatic extremes) at all geographic scales in Vietnam;
- To identify types of measures that respond to climate change, e.g. to develop a database on climate change; to create opportunities for exchange of scientists working in the climate change field; to develop informational tools and visualization products for use at local through national levels; to create and maintain a forum for exchange of information, data, publications, tools, etc., on climate change;
- To promote scientific and technological activities to establish scientific and practical foundations for measuring and responding to climate change;
- To enhance organizational structure, institutional capacity and the development and implementation of policies on climate change; to enhance public awareness, responsibility and participation; to develop human resource to respond to climate change;
- To incorporate climate change issues into socio-economic development strategies, and strategies of regional and local development with an emphasis on rural development and coastal development;
- Focus on climate change and adaptation and impacts in the context of:
 - a. Increased storm intensity
 - b. Increased flooding
 - c. Sea Level Rise
 - d. Changes in Temperature/Precipitation
 - e. Other areas as mutually agreed upon

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Vietnamese Organizations Attending the Work Group Meeting in Hanoi March 31 - April 2, 2011

Vietnam National University
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dragon Institute, Can Tho University
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Department of Hydro Meteorology & Climate Change
Vietnam Administration for Seas and Islands
Ministry of Industry and Trade

Vietnam Contact:

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Vietnam Institute of Meteorology,
Hydrology and Environment
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US Members – Climate Advisory Council

U.S. Government Agencies

U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USDA Forest Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Agency for International Development

Academic and Private Sector Organizations

Pacific Disaster Center, University of Hawaii
Arizona State University
Chevron Vietnam
Baker & McKenzie
I.M. Systems Group

Non-Governmental Organizations and Commissions

International Crane Foundation
East Meets West Foundation
World Wildlife Fund
START International
Maryland-Asia Environmental
Partnership
Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Winrock International
The Henry L. Stimson Center
MacArthur Foundation
Rockefeller Foundation

U.S. Contact:

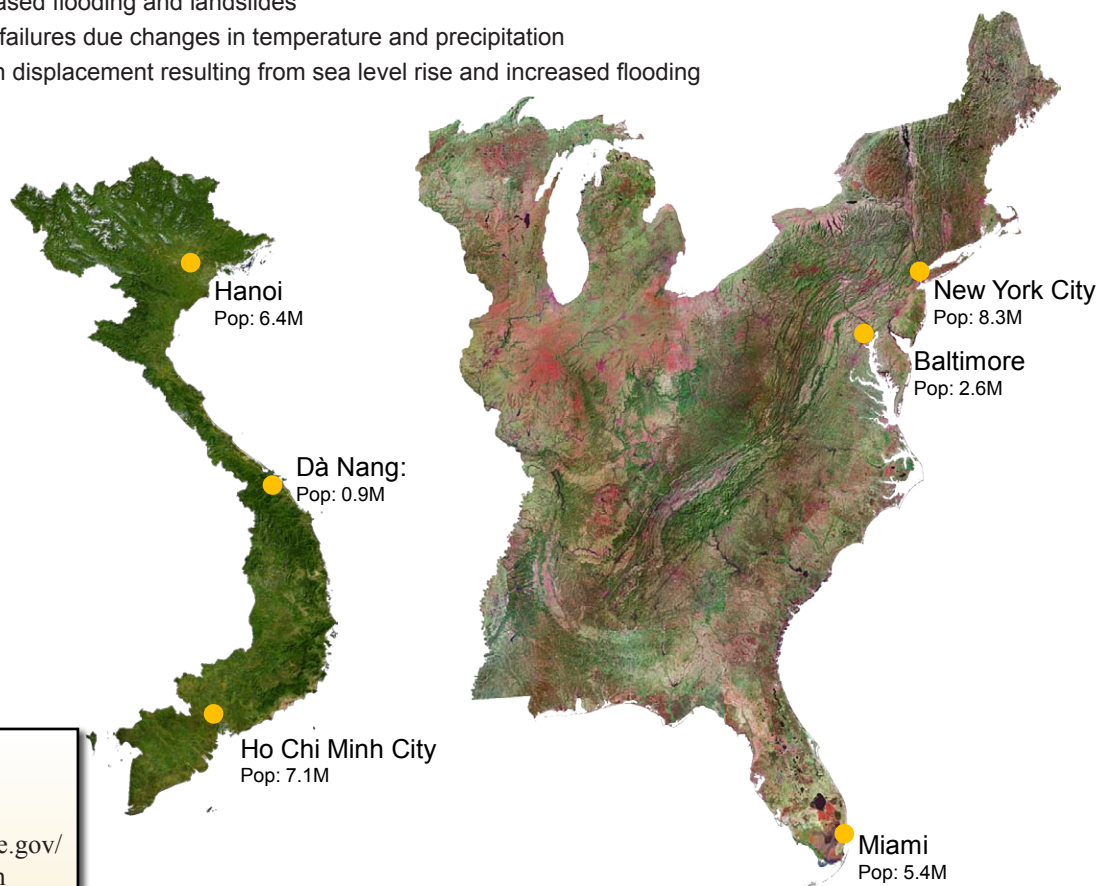
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Risks to People, Property, and Infrastructure

- Damage and displacement in coastal areas resulting from increased storm intensity and storm surge
- Increased flooding and landslides
- Crop failures due changes in temperature and precipitation
- Urban displacement resulting from sea level rise and increased flooding



Sea Level Rise
Projection; 3m
Scenario



Related Web Sites:

PWRC <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov>
VIMHE <http://www.imh.ac.vn>
USGCRP <http://www.globalchange.gov/>
MONRE <http://www.monre.gov.vn>