



MẠNG LƯỚI PHÁT TRIỂN VÙNG CAO

Vietnam Upland Forum for Agriculture Development

Le Van An

Hue University of Agriculture and
Forestry



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Introduction

- Agricultural contributes to 27% GDP of the Vietnam
- More than 70% of 82 million people are living in agriculture
- Uplands consist of 70% of the total area of country
- Home of the ethnic minority people
- Poverty and less developing opportunity



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Introduction

- Vietnam Upland Forum (VUF) established in 2003
- Vietnam Upland Forum (VUF) is a learning and sharing networking of the researchers and practitioners from the Agricultural/ Forestry Universities and Information Centre of the Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development, who are interesting in sustainable development of the upland in Vietnam.



Introduction

- The members of VUF are:
 - Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry (HUAF)
 - Hanoi Agricultural University (HAU)
 - Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry (TUAF)
 - Tay Nguyen University (TNU)
 - Nong Lam University in Ho Chi Minh City (NLU)
 - Information Centre of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development



Introduction (cont.)

- The aim of the VUF is to provide opportunity for researchers and practitioners sharing and learning about the sustainable development in upland Vietnam.



Activities

1. Establish the email list serve of all members and website for information exchanges
2. Identify the research topics for upland sustainable development and implement these identified research projects.
3. Developing training curriculums and providing training courses on Rural Livelihoods, Natural Resource Management and Environment with participatory approaches.



Activities

4. Publication documents supporting training, research and development activities.
5. Provide training courses for VUF members to enhance research capacity with participatory approaches.
6. Organize national and international workshops on upland sustainable development



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Some results from activities





1. Establishing forum and website

- Members of VUF

Institute	2003			2005		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
HAU	23	13	10	32	16	16
ICARD	6	3	3	6	3	3
HUAF	15	7	8	22	14	8
TNU	12	9	3	30	18	12
NLU	28	23	5	28	23	5
TUAF				14	9	5
Total	84	55	29	132	83	49



1. Establishing forum and website

- The website: www.vuf.org.vn
- Topics of learning:
 - Participatory approaches
 - Participatory communication development
 - Learning from other research findings
- Annual meeting of members



2. Identify the research topics

- Ten research topics were identified and implemented, examples:
 1. Factors influencing farmer's adoption of agro-forestry models – case study in Caoson commune, Da bac, Hoa Binh
 2. The changes of land cover overtime and natural resource management issues in Mau Duc Commune, Con Cuong District, Nghe An Province



2. Identify the research topics

3. The Daklak Market Study Phase 2: Bringing farmers, traders and authorities together to improve livestock livelihood in Ea Kar District
4. Current situation of cropping system in slopping lands at Nam Nung commune
5. The changes of cropping system of household farming in Ha Giang province
6. Factors influence to poverty in northern mountainous province



2. Identify the research topics

7. The indigenous knowledge of the Catu and Taoi people in forest and land management in Thua Thien Hue
8. Improving livelihood of the upland poor based on using better local feed resources for feeding pigs
9. Natural resources management and people's livelihoods: A case study in Thanh son commune - Dinh quan district, Dong Nai province
10. Factors influence to the farm-gate price of the Cashew nut in Binh Phuoc Province



3. Developing training curriculums and providing training courses

1. Some training curriculums were developed to provide to researchers and extension workers, such as:
 - Participatory action research at Hue, Tay Nguyen universities
 - Rural development management
 - Farming system



3. Developing training curriculums and providing training courses

- Community-based natural resource management
- Participatory communication development



Publication

4. Documents, books have been published
 - Selection of scientific works on Agriculture and Rural Development by Tay Nguyen University
 - Participatory research and development methodology
 - Involving community in rural development by HUAF
 - CBNRM in Thua Thien Hue by HUAF
 - By HAU ...



Provide training courses for VUF members

1. GIS and IT
2. Participatory action research
3. Social and gender analysis in rural development
4. Participatory communication development



Meeting and workshop

1. Annual meeting of VUF members
2. Attending meeting of country for upland development
3. Meeting in the region on upland development

Case study

Community-Based Upland Natural Resources Management in Thua Thien Hue province

Conducted by Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry

1. Objectives

- To develop materially better livelihoods for the poor in upland communities
- To advance human resource capacities of various community groups, including that of community members themselves
- To support policies and programs perform for the poor

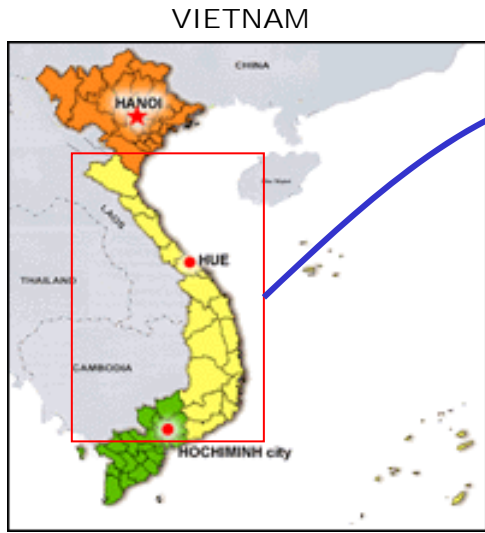
2. Research site



Hong Ha commune

A Luoi district





Thua Thien Hue Province



2. Research site

- Different ethnic groups: K'tu people 47%; Pa Co (including Pahy) about 28%; Ta Oi about 16%, and about 7% are Kinh or lowland Vietnamese
- Population: 1300 people, 250 households
- Over 60 % families are the poor
- Traditional farming: slash and burn
- Present farming: sedentary farming with wetland rice, cassava, beans, vegetable and livestock

3. Research methodology

- Multi and Inter-disciplinary approaches
 - Researchers from natural sciences: agriculture, forestry, fishery, livestock, post-harvest
 - Social sciences
- Participatory approaches

Working and learning processes

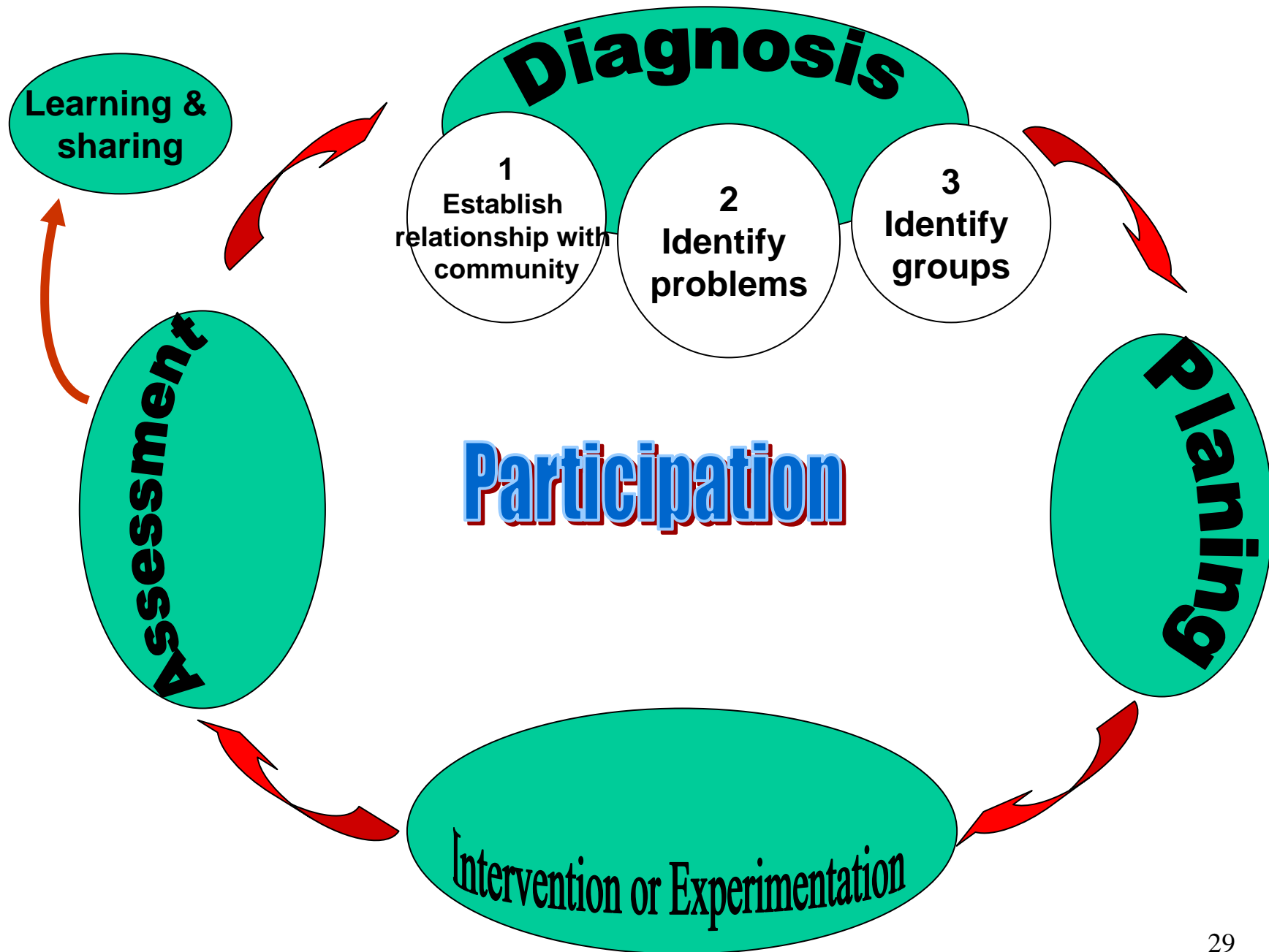


Activities and results



1. Food security

- A. Development of participatory approaches with local people and stakeholders
- *Who are they ?*
 - *Why farmer participates?*
 - *How to increase the participation and its quality?*
 - Participatory Development Communication methods
 - Integration of gender issue in CBNRM



Develop participatory approaches with local people



Meeting with farmers

Developing solutions



Test solutions



Identify solutions

Leaders		Women		The poor		Men	
Activity	Rank	Activity	Rank	Activity	Rank	Activity	Rank
Irrigation	1	Training	1	Capital investment	1	Rice production	1
Road improvements	1	Pig production	2	Training	2	Fish production	2
Rice production	3	Water for drinking	3	Rice production	3	Training	3
Fertilizers	4	Rice production	4	Cassava production	4	Home garden	4
Improve home garden	5	Cassava production	5	Pig production	5	Hunting	5
Cash sales	6	Health	6	Health	6	Off-farm works	6
Market access	7	Education	7			Market	7
Education	8	Home garden	8			Animal diseases	8

Forming the interest groups

- Farmers not have the same interest and ability in production. Farmers were formed following these groups:
 - Rice production farmers
 - Pig production group
 - Cassava production
 - Home-garden improving group
 - Forest production group
 - Fish production group

Develop solutions with farmers

- Identify solutions/ technical interventions
- Farmer possibility to implement these on-farm experiments
- A number of farmers tested these solutions
- Farmers in group learned and evaluated technical interventions
- Farmers shared their experiences with other farmers

Results

- Increasing productivity
 - Rice yield: from 1,9 to 3.6 ton/ha
 - Pigs production
 - Fish raising
 - Home-garden
 - Crop production
- Increasing number of farmers applied production technologies
- Increasing food security and income

2. Capacity building with local farmers

- Local organisation analyses: strength and weakness of these organisations
- Non-formal organisations, such as interest group of farmers
- Study visit
- Training
- Stakeholders meeting in commune
- On-farm experiments with participatory approaches

3. Increase access to resources

- Farmers and policies
 - Farmers don't know about policies or programs relating to resources management
- Stakeholders meeting
- Co-planning options
 - Increasing income from planted Non-timber forest products: bamboo, *Aquilaria crassna* plantation
 - Develop forest management options with community: forestry allocation to farmers (under developing)

Lessons learnt

1. Approach community
2. Starting with what farmer can do -
Improving food security and generating
income sources
3. Self-confidence approach in development
and Building capacity with the local people
4. Increasing access of the upland people to
natural resources

Lessons learnt

5. Involving stakeholders
6. Better natural resource management options (cost-benefit sharing; duties and responsibility)
7. Scaling up/out and disseminating
8. Decision making on CBNRM

Thank you for your attention