

Research and policy dialogue on climate change, migration and resettlement in Viet Nam UNDP / MARD

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Project objective

To draw out the main lessons on **migration** and **resettlement** for Viet Nam in relation to past and present **climatic stresses**, and recommend migration and resettlement policy directions to strengthen resilience in both sending and receiving areas and population groups that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change according to different but realistic climate change and adaptation policy and investment scenarios for the coming years and decades.



Vinh Tri commune, Vinh Hung district, Long An



Floods coming sooner, lasting longer



Livelihoods – rice paddy & fishing

Vinh Tri commune, Vinh Hung district, Long An



2 clusters, 190 HHs receiving
foundations



1 dyke, 46 HHs receiving
foundations

Long Thuan commune,
Hong Ngu district, Dong Thap



Riverbank erosion



New land formation

Long Thuan commune,
Hong Ngu district, Dong Thap



Agriculture – spring onion, rice, lettuce



Fish farm

Long Thuan commune,
Hong Ngu district, Dong Thap



4 dykes, 1637 foundations

An Khanh ward, Ninh Kieu district, Can Tho City



Boarding house



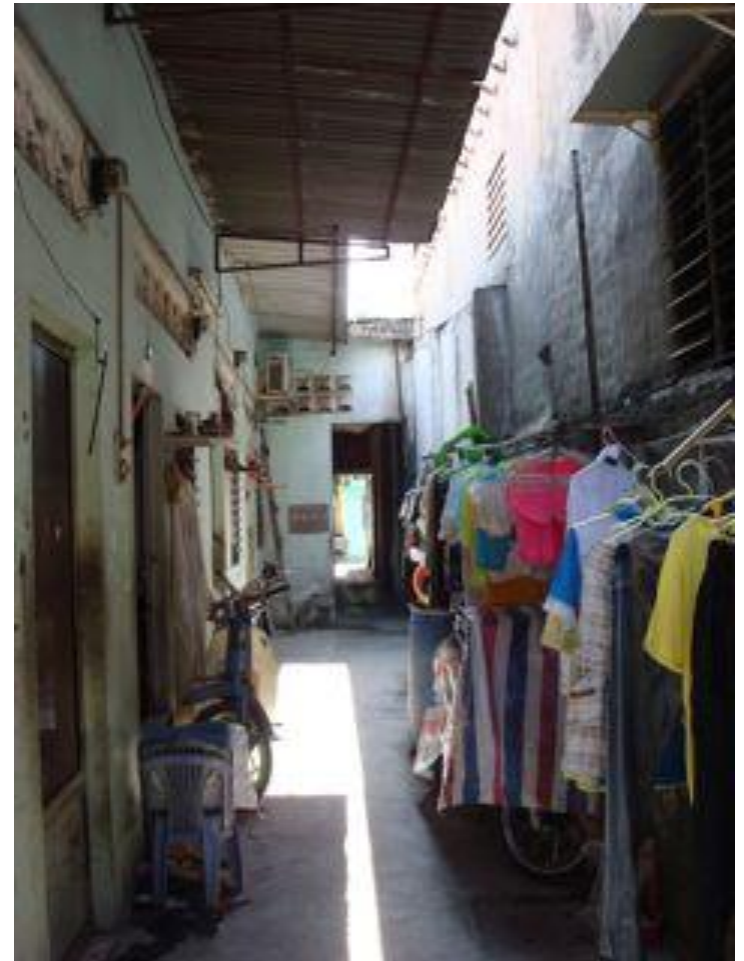
Sub-ward with high concentration of migrants

- Ward with high numbers of migrants
- Low skilled work, study, business & buy house

Ward 15, District 8, Ho Chi Minh City



Dyke protecting residential area from river



Boarding house

- Poorest ward in D8
- Factories, cottage industries, construction, low skilled work

Selection criteria & sample

Purposive sampling

RURAL

Environmental stress

Poor, near poor, above

Occupation – agriculture,
fishery, non-agriculture

URBAN CENTER

Poor, near poor

Migrants from rural MD

Previous LH in MD –
agriculture / fishery

RESETTLEMENT SITES

Environmental stress

Poor, near poor, above

Occupation – agriculture,
fishery, non-agriculture

Cluster & dyke

Dyke phase 1 & 2

Data collection tools

Structured questionnaire

- Demographic profile & residency / LH & assets / Environmental conditions / Migration history & experience / Resettlement experience

In-depth interview

- Migration / resettlement & residence experience / LH & assets / Environmental conditions & link to LH & migration / Government policies & programs

Focus group discussion

- Mapping the community & its history / Hazard mapping / Social structure / Community facilities & actors / Migration & non-migration / Life compared to origin

Key informant interviews (central, provincial, district, ward)

- Environmental conditions & link to LH & migration / Resettlement programs / Profile of community / State of migration & migrants / Early warning & evacuation

	Rural	Resettlement site	Urban center	TOTAL
Structured questionnaire	188 100 LA 88 DT	200 100 LA 100 DT	200 100 CTC 100 HCMC	588
In-depth interview	18 9 LA 9 DT	36 18 LA 18 DT	18 9 CTC 9 HCMC	72
Focus group discussion	4 2 LA 2 DT	6 4 LA 2 DT	4 2 CTC 2 HCMC	14

Preliminary findings – Rural migrant sending areas in DT & LA

Floods

- Floods are regular & necessary part of life.
- Fishing during floods, but not during high floods.
- 2011 floods arrived sooner, receded later.
- Rain, wind, storms significant LH impact for landowners, but not as much for hired work.
- Expect severe flooding this year but lack prevention measures



Riverbank erosion

- More shock than floods, sudden & tangible loss
- Landowners becoming landless & more poor
- Landowners lose land to erosion → less hired work
- Erosion in some areas, new land formed in other areas. Impact of sand excavation?



Preliminary findings – Rural migrant sending areas in DT & LA

Livelihoods

- Poor & near-poor predominantly agricultural hired work during crop season. No work during flooding season, ½ the year.
- Non-agricultural work – low skilled labor, vendors
- LA – Poor & near-poor also fish during flood season, but not when water levels very high / storms & rain.
- Enough to get by day to day, no savings.
- LH seasonal, wages low, few options.
- Elderly especially vulnerable.



Preliminary findings – Rural migrant sending areas in DT & LA

Migration

- Push factor – lack of jobs, seasonal employment, low wages
- Young people migrating to HCMC, Binh Duong, industrial zones
- Young migrants leaving children in origin with grandparents / relatives
- Seasonal migration within MD
- DT – border area, migration to Cambodia
- Little / no remittances from poor migrants
- Remittances important for health care, school fees, daily expenses
- Information channel critical as motivation & deterrent for migration
- Social network often determines destination (urban & rural)

Not migrating

- Poor health
- Caretakers
- Lack skills



Preliminary findings – Rural migrant sending areas in DT & LA

Debt

- Survival strategy for daily expenses
- LH failure
- Health care
- Heavy dependency on loans → debt spiral

Lack financial planning skills

- Difficult to plan long term
- Lack plans to repay debt

Dependency on local authorities

- Lack options
- Lack sense of initiative & possibilities

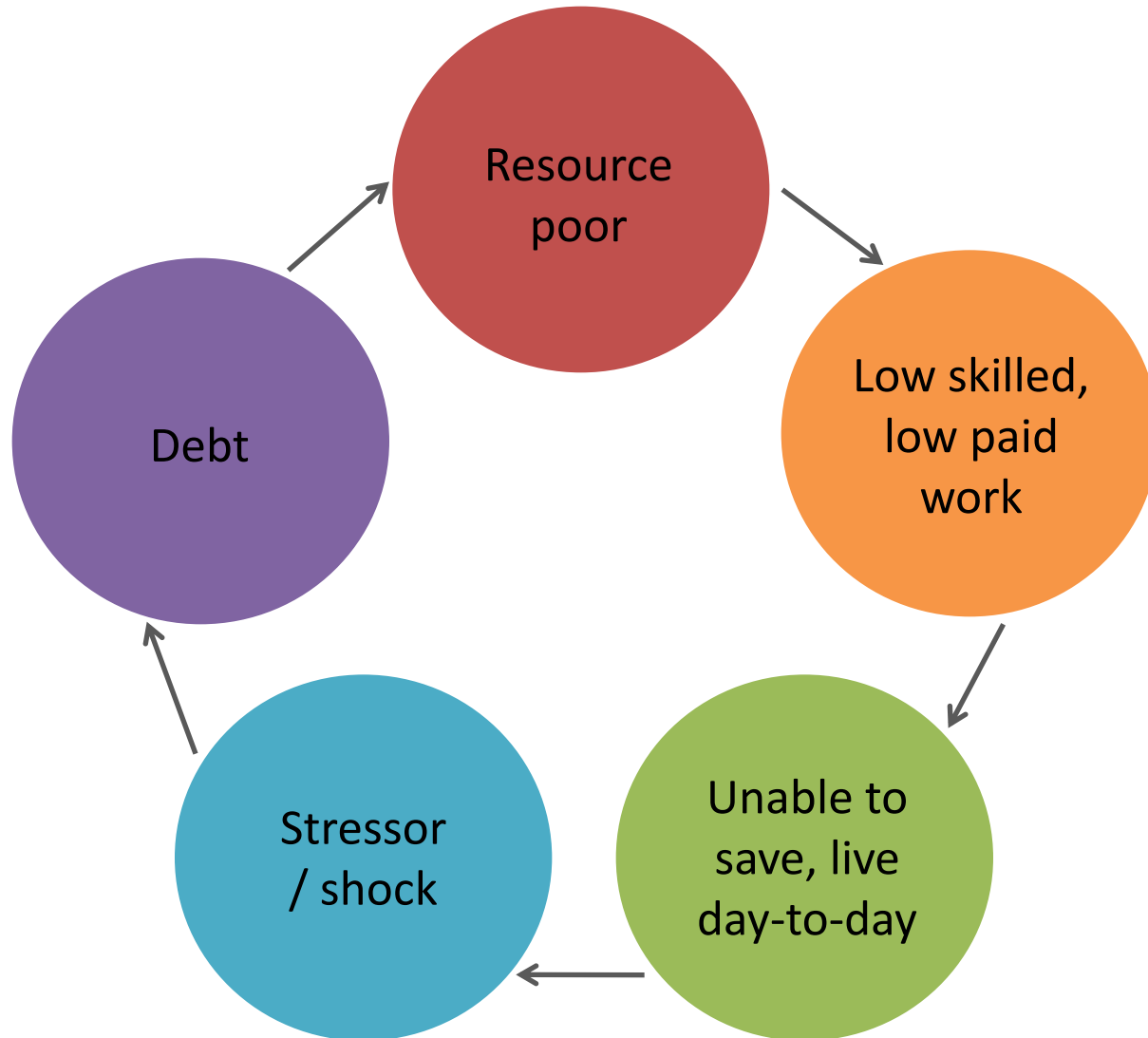
Poor health

- Burden of HH member in poor health
- Significant HH expenditure if chronic / serious condition
- Use of income & savings
- Having HK helpful to decrease costs

Importance of social assets

- Rely on loans from relatives, friends, neighbors
- Support in times of need

Cycle of impoverishment



Preliminary findings – Resettlement sites in DT & LA

Livelihoods

- Different outcomes between DT & LA. Proximity to origin & LH critical!
- DT – LH same / improved
- LA – more competition for less jobs
- Lost income from inability to raise livestock / fish
- For vendors / small businesses, increased income
- LA – area during flood season to fish (most vulnerable time)



Social fabric

Different outcomes between DT & LA. Stronger support network when neighbors from origin remain together in resettlement site.



Preliminary findings – Resettlement sites in DT & LA

Infrastructure & public services

- Mixed results
- Electricity
- Water
- Roads
- Toilets in house
- Higher expenditure on electricity & water
- DT – community initiative to provide water to neighborhood



Preliminary findings – Resettlement sites in DT & LA

Process of resettlement

- Transparency & accountability
- One site showed more consistencies in price of foundation & house & moving support
- Loans sometimes not given in timely manner
- Cases of grants automatically deducted from loan amount
- Lack of community participation in planning & design



Housing foundations, Long Thuan commune,
Hong Ngu district, Dong Thap

Preliminary findings – Urban migrant receiving cities

HCMC & Can Tho City

CTC vs HCMC

- CTC – short distance migration
- HCMC – migrants from all regions

Pull factors

- Higher income, availability of jobs, work year round, less labor intensive
- But elderly, sick migrants can fall deeper into poverty

Land ownership

- Land ownership back home increases chances of return
- Landlessness back home decreases tie to origin, increases chances migrant will stay long term



Can Tho site



HCMC site

Preliminary findings – Urban migrant receiving cities HCMC & Can Tho City

Social networks

- Migration to destinations with relatives already there
- Introduction to jobs
- 'Trial' migration

Weak urban social fabric

- Migrants from same area looking out for each other

Remittances

- More likely to remit if dependent living in origin
- Poor migrants cannot remit

Better infrastructure & public services

- Transportation & roads
- Education
- Health care
- Generally accessible with KT3

Greater expenditure in city

- Must buy everything

Preliminary findings – Urban migrant receiving cities HCMC & Can Tho City

Migrants living on land marked for development

- Land price cheap
- Vulnerable – compensation / paperwork

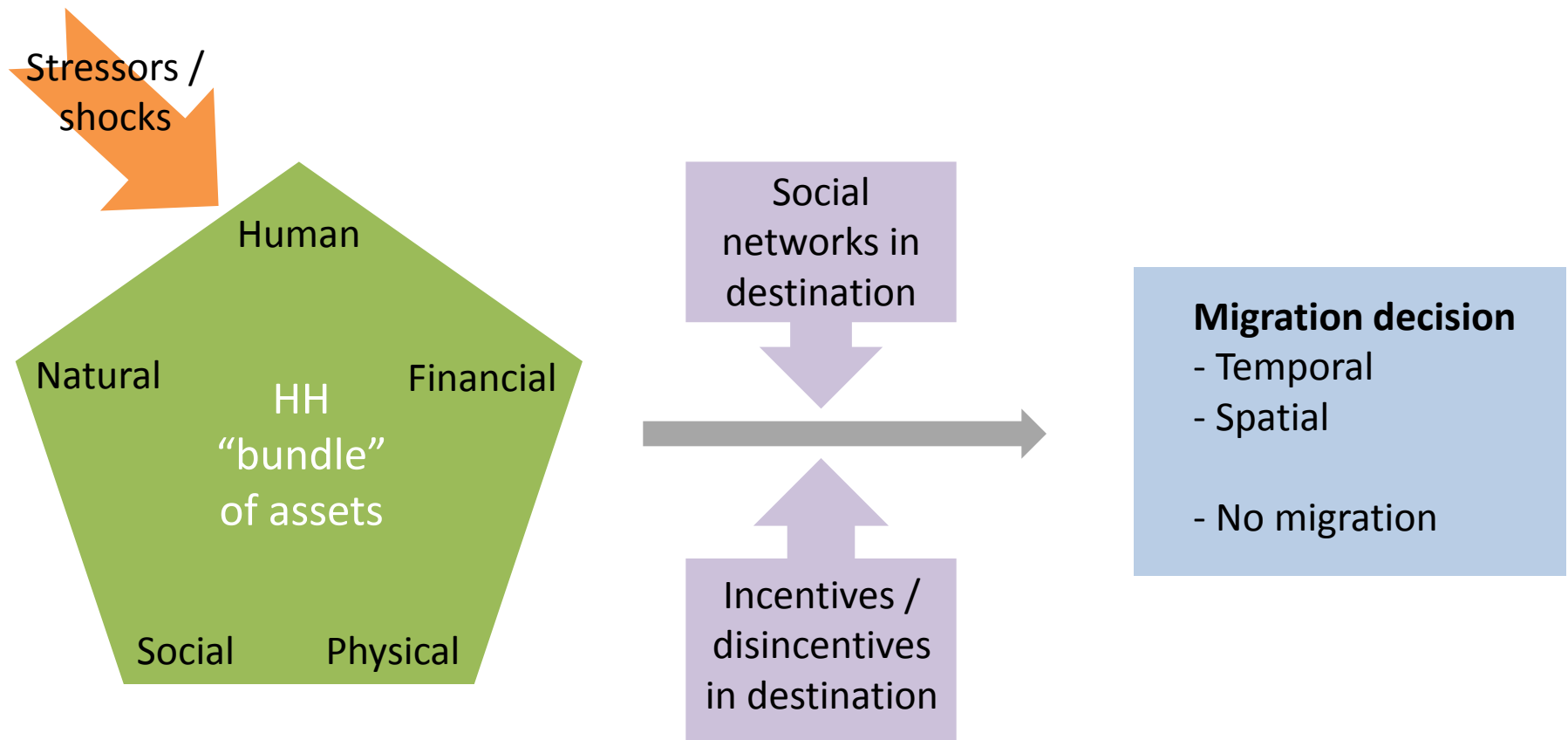
HH registration system (ho khau)

- Loan, school & work opportunities, easier administrative procedures
- Discrepancies



Link between environmental stress & migration

Environmental stress / change is one of the multiple drivers of migration



Thank you

