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# Getting Organized in Vietnam

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Vietnam Update Series

# **Getting Organized in Vietnam**

## **Moving in and around the Socialist**

*edited by*

**Benedict J. Tria Kerkvliet  
Russell H.K. Heng  
David W.H. Koh**

**ISEAS**

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# Preface

Beginning in 1990, the Australian National University (ANU) has been holding its series of Vietnam Update conferences almost every year. The chapters in this volume began as papers presented at the Vietnam Update 2001 held at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore on 19–20 November. The theme of that particular Update was “Governance in Vietnam: The Role of Organizations”.

By the time of the Vietnam Update 2003, there would have been 10 conferences, each focused on a particular theme. Over the years, the Update has looked at agriculture, education, law, civil society, mass media, urban culture, local government, and social differentiation, to name just a few of the themes. Conference proceedings have resulted in eight publications (books and monographs). The specialized nature of ANU’s Vietnam Update is its hallmark, attesting to a capacity to draw on a critical mass of experts, both Vietnamese and non-Vietnamese, to explore specific topics. It also underlines the university’s long record in researching Vietnam.

The 2001 Update was the first time the conference left the shores of Australia. Holding the conference in Singapore tapped into the island’s strategic location in the region and drew a greater attendance from people working in Vietnam and other Southeast Asian countries. Since then, ISEAS has continued to co-host the conference in Canberra in 2002 and 2003. This book underlines how fruitful this ANU-ISEAS collaboration has been. More titles will be available when the volumes from the 2002 and 2003 Updates are published.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who funded the Vietnam Update 2001: the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), ISEAS and the ANU’s Research School of Pacific and Asian

Studies. We are also grateful to staff members of both ANU and ISEAS who rendered invaluable organizational, editorial, and secretarial support.

*Organizing Committee, Vietnam Update 2001*  
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# Abbreviations

AIC	Association of Industry and Commerce, later UAIC, Hoi Cong Ky Nghe Gia
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
AVF	Association of Vietnamese Folklorists, Hoi Van Nghe Dan Gian Viet Nam
CCRD	Centre for Rural Communities Research and Development, Trung Tam Nghieu Cuu va Phat Trien Cong Dong Nong Thon
CDB	Commune Development Boards
CGOP	Committee for Government Organization and Personnel (since mid-2001, the Ministry for Home Affairs)
CHESH	Centre for Human Ecology Studies of Highlands, Trung tam nghien cuu sinh thai nhan van vung
CIEE	Council on International Educational Exchange
CIEM	Central Institute of Economic Management, Vien Nghien Cuu Quan Ly Kinh Te Trung Uong
CIRD	Centre for Indigenous Knowledge Research and Development, Trung tam nghien cuu kien thuc ban dia va phat
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CRES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
DOLISA	Department of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs
Eco-eco	Institute of Ecological Economy
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDI	foreign direct investment

GDP	gross domestic product
GRINGOS	government-run-and-inspired NGOs
HEDO	Highland Educational Development Organization
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HUAIC	Hanoi Union of Associations of Industry and Commerce, Hiep Hoi Cong Thuong Thanh Pho Ha Noi
HVO	Health Volunteers Overseas
ICCO	Interchurch Organization for Cooperation and Development
IPF	indicative planning figure
IPM	Integrated Pest Management (an FAO programme)
LDG	local development group
LPDI	Law on Promotion of Domestic Investment
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs
MOSTE	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
NASC	National Assembly Standing Committee
NCCD	National Coordination Committee of Disability
NEDCEN	Non-state Economic Development Centre
NEZ	New Economic Zone
NGO	non-governmental organization, <i>co quan phi chinh phu</i>
ODA	overseas development assistance
ODTA	Office of Disability Technical Assistance
PACCOM	People's Aid Coordinating Committee
PAM	Programme Alimentaire Mondiale
PDP	Progress of Disabled People (of Hoi An), Tien Bo Nguoi Khuyet Tat Hoi An
PO	peoples' organization
PWDs	people with disabilities
RDSC	Rural Development Services Centre
RIDEF	Rural Infrastructure Development Fund
RIDU	Rural Infrastructure Development Unit
SAP-VN	Social Assistance Program for Vietnam
SOEs	state-owned enterprise
SPC	State Planning Committee
TEW	Towards Ethnic Women, Trung tam huong toi phu nu dan toc thieu so

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UAIC	Union of Associations of Industry and Commerce, formerly AIC, Hiep Hoi Cong Thuong Thanh Pho Ho Chi Minh
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VACVINA	Vietnam Gardening Association, Hoi Lam Vuon Viet Nam
VCCI	Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Phong Thuong Mai va Cong Nghiep Viet Nam
VCP	Vietnam Communist Party, Dang Cong San Viet Nam
VFF	Vietnam Fatherland Front, Mat Tran To Quoc Viet Nam
VGCL	Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, Tong Lien Doan Lao Dong Viet Nam
VINASA	Vietnam Software Association, Hiep Hoi Doanh Nghiep Phan Mem Viet Nam
VNAH	Vietnam Assistance for the Handicapped
VND	Vietnam Dong
VUFO	Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations, Hoi lien minh cac Hoi huu nghi Viet Nam
VUSTA	Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations, Lien Hiep Cac Hoi Khoa Hoc Ky Thuat Viet Nam