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Social impacts of International Economic Integration in Vietnam

In the context of globalization, international economic integration has brought about positive impacts on the economic development of Vietnam in the past 2 decades. It is also creating positive and negative social effects. The article examines these effects in some main areas such as: poverty reduction, social inequality and intensified social stratification, job and migration, labor relations, and human development. Based on discussion of achievements and problems in these areas, the authorse come to conclusion that social impacts of international economic integration in Vietnam are complicated and multi-dimensional. So that Vietnam have to improvise policy solutions in both short term and long term to enhance the process of international integration, to ensure economic growth while trying to reach the national strategical targets and sustainable development in the coming years.

TO DUY HOP

Difficult Social Problems During The Rural-Agricultural-Peasantry Reform Process in Vietnam

In this paper the author addresses 10 difficult social problems emerged during the Reform in rural Vietnam: 1/increasing rich-poor gap and social inequality; 2/ increasing under-employment; 3/increasing spontaneous migration; 4/low knowledge base; 5/inadequate health care services; 6/degradation manifestation of cultural life; 7/increasing tendency of social conflicts; 8/weak social management capacity; 9/poor infrastructure; and 10/alarming environmental polution.

The paper presents recommendations to address the above mentioned problems from sustainable rural development theoretical points. The main point is to synchronize economic, political and cultural measures; to provide further supports for this sector, especially for farmers and agriculture; and to refine rural-agricultural-peasantry theory.

NGUYEN HUU MINH and DANG BICH THUY

Studying Children Rights in Vietnam - Some Methodological and Practical Issues

The authors review results of recent studies on implementation of children rights in Vietnam and propose issues for consideration. In general, there are few theoretical studies on implementation of children rights in Vietnam. Practical studies mention many issues but they are not linked well with any clear theoretical framework for implementation of children rights. These studies have not provided satisfactory analysis of the relationship between knowledge, socio-economic conditions and cultural factors with the implementation of children rights.

Based on the analysis of current situation, the authors propose to study further : 1/knowledge about children rights and its meaning for social development ; 2/roles of social policies, legal framework and government mass media for the implementation of

children rights ; 3/relationship between socio-economic conditions and implementation of children rights ; 4/cultural factors of implementation of children rights ; 5/roles of families in implementation of children rights ; 6/roles of community, school and social organizations in implementation of children rights ; 7/economic integration and factors promoting/limiting implementation of children rights.

NGUYEN DUY THANG

Using Social Capital in Farmers' Livelihood Strategy in Hanoi Suburban Areas Under Impacts of Urbanization

Hanoi is one of the big cities experiencing strong impacts of urbanization. This is especially true for the suburban areas. In recent years agricultural land of the suburban communes has been shrunked dramatically as it is increasingly used for the city development purposes. According to the statistics of suburban communes, tens of thousand agricultural laborers have lost jobs. What are they doing and how do they adapt to the changes? This study is carried out in 4 suburban communes to explore the use of social capital in farmers' livelihood for productive activities and stabilization of family life under the impacts of urbanization.

The results show that farmers in suburban areas use social capital in land use strategy and in seeking non-agricultural jobs. The use of social capital in livelihood strategy has helped farmers to reduce inputs spending for production and reduce transaction costs for seeking jobs or market for their products. At the same time, they share with each other market information to avoid risks. Thus, in addition to indispensable factors in farmers' livelihood such as land, labor and capital, social capital appears to be one of the important factors contributing positively to economic development of farmers during urbanization process.

PHAN TAN

Land Disputes in Rural Ha Tay

Based on sociological analysis of social conflicts, the author provides discussion of a process in which social factors generate conflicts. The scope of conflicts ranges from micro to macro levels. Individuals, groups, and social organizations are studied as representatives of social forces participating in social conflicts.

Based on degree, forms, size, types of social groups, social conflicts are classified as followed: conflicts among individuals; conflicts between groups; conflicts between communities, ethnic groups, and the state. The papers presents analysis of land disputes in Ha Tay to illustrate theoretical points. Land disputes in Ha Tay during the Reform have manifested in many forms, from individual level to group, community level, especially conflicts between people and socio-economic organizations, between people and local government. There are conflicts emerged from implementation of social policies relating to cultural value system, honour, religion, and ethnic identity.