

Gender Inequality in Education in Vietnam**DO THIEN KINH**

The paper presents general picture of inequality in educational opportunities in Vietnam and its trend from 1993 to 2006, especially gender inequality in education. Three conclusions can be reached regardless of methods of measurement and approaches to educational inequality, namely: (1) inequality in educational opportunities in Vietnam has been declining over time for each level of education; (2) the general dynamics is that at the higher educational levels the educational inequality becomes stronger (or educational inequality tends to increase with increasing educational levels). In other words, inequality in educational opportunities in Vietnam increases with increasing levels of educational attainment; (3) there is a contradiction, a paradox in gender inequality in educational opportunities. Women tend to perform better than men, but they only have lower educational attainment. This paradox is due to patriarchal prejudices in Vietnamese society.

SOCIAL WELFARE IN EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM**Trinh Hoa Binh - Nguyen Van Chien**

Achievements in social welfare are one of the factors contributing to educational development in Vietnam in recent past that one cannot ignore. Being implemented in various forms, social welfare in education has helped to reduce inequality in education among social groups, and at the same time it has created favorable conditions for the poor to have better access to basic education. There need to have more policy studies and assessments in the coming time to judge the effectiveness of investment in education in terms of educational quality and socio-economic efficiency of investment in education. This paper provides discussion on the role of social welfare in educational development in Vietnam in present time.

Vietnamese Entrepreneurs: From "A Group" to "A Social Stratum"**TRINH DUY LUAN**

The paper presents discussion on entrepreneurs as a new social group in social structure of Vietnam during Doi Moi period. The emergence and rapid growth of this group has provoked different view points about its labeling. Each label may have certain implications about economic, political, and social statuses. However, all the labels so far lack theoretical and practical supporting foundations. The question from sociological point of view is whether the collective of entrepreneurs has formed a stratum in the current social stratification structure of Vietnamese society or not? The author's answer is "Not". The reason for it lies in the fact that entrepreneurs in Vietnam are socially premature, small in size, lack of collective social consciousness, and limited influence in social life of the country. However, there are signs suggesting their potentials to become a new and important social stratum in the Vietnamese social structure in the coming decades.

Migration Policies to Development the New Economic Zones in Viet Nam

DANG NGUYEN ANH

Based on the results of the State-level research project “Migration Policies for the Socio-economic Development of the Mountainous Provinces”, the article presents findings on a review of policies on the New Economic Zones (development throughout different historical periods of Vietnam. The author points out the achievements and limitations of the resettlement and migration related policies. Over the past decades, the Government has issued a number of policies such as decisions 133, 134, 135, 143, etc. which have both positive and negative impacts on the lives of people and regional development. The article concludes with policy recommendations aiming at the appropriate spatial distribution of the population and labor, improving the living standards and making the land resettlement programs more effective.

The Village Community: The Lead To A Research On Social Institutions

BUI QUANG DUNG

In agricultural societies that are in the process of transition to market relations, social changes in whatever circumstances will lead to development of political and social institutions. In context of rural Vietnam today, the question is how this transition is going on in the context of social and economic transformation toward industrialization and modernization?

As a start of a more in-depth study on this issue of current Vietnamese rural society, the paper provides discussion on some concepts relating to social institutions in rural areas: residence pattern, the government system, the local autonomy, etc. The paper also introduces some of the theoretical views relating to the socio-economic nature of Vietnamese village community, especially the theory of "moral farmers" (J. Scott) and theory of "Rational Peasants" (S. Popkin).