

### **VOLUNTARY SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS IN RED RIVER DELTA: SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS AND EXCHANGE**

**Dang Thi Viet Phuong  
Bui Quang Dung**

Using data collected from a research on social network in Dong Quang commune (which was recently split into Dong Ky ward and Trang Ha ward in Tu Son town, Bac Ninh province), the analysis is focused on identification of the voluntary social organizations, forms of social connectedness and exchange in rural areas. The findings suggest direction for further exploring formation and features of the civil societies in rural areas in the context of on-going transformation toward a more modernizing and industrializing society.

### **LIVELIHOOD OF A COASTAL COMMUNITY: SITUATION AND PROSPECT**

**Nguyen Xuan Mai  
Nguyen Duy Thang**

In Vietnam the short-distance over-fishing along the coastal sea areas has been destroying coastal natural resources and makes the environmental recovery difficult. In order to reduce the over-fishing and protect the coastal natural resources, an alternative livelihood for the coastal community is necessary. Carefully analyzing the existing livelihood, its risks and possibility for an alternative livelihood, the authors propose new alternative livelihoods which are based on community consultation.

### **NATIONAL AND RURAL-URBAN SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND THE PORTRAIT OF VIET NAM FARMER STRATUM**

**Do Thien Kinh**

The paper presents the system of social structure for the whole country and for rural and urban areas from the point of view of causes-and-effects between social structure and economic structure. According to the author, the economic structure determines the social structure and there is a strong association between them. The social structure for the whole country as well as for urban and rural areas has a pyramid shape reflecting non-

modern society and there is a sign of slow change. This also reflects a non-modern economic structure and its slow change. Examining components of social structure and its trend, the author thinks that it is difficult for Viet Nam to achieve the goal to make Viet Nam an industrial country by 2020. In the author's view, farmers are the social stratum that has the lowest socio-economic status in the society. This poses serious challenges for the implementation of the National Program for Building New Rural in Viet Nam.

**NETWORK OF INFORMAL SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS IN THE CONTEXT OF MARKET ECONOMY (*A Case Study of Tam Son commune, Bac Ninh province*)**

**Mai Văn Hai**

**Ngô Thị Thanh Quí**

One of the important features of rural areas in the Red River Delta since the beginning of Doi Moi is the fast development of informal social organizations. The linkage among members of an organization as well as the linkage of individuals of one organization with members of other social organization have created a broad social network in which the most profound are the linkages at village level. For most of villagers, these social networks play important roles in meeting their material and spiritual needs. For local state management officers, these social networks create favorable conditions for them to convey policies and guidelines to different social groups.

**ISSUES OF TRANSFORMATION OF ECONOMIC STRUCTURE IN BUILDING THE NEW RURAL**

**Bui Tat Thang**

During the process of industrialization and modernization, the transformation of economic structure as a whole as well as economic structure in rural areas are viewed as among the most important issues. The paper presents the macro-level analysis of the shift of labor structure in the process of industrialization and modernization in the context of the country specific population and agricultural features. In conclusion, the author proposes a number of recommendations for shifting economic structure in the direction to facilitate the Program for Building New Rural in Viet Nam, including development of special policies for intensive farming, reviewing criteria for the share of labor force working in agriculture, forestry and aquaculture, and promoting trained and skilled labor.