



Valuing Water Supply Services in Rural Areas of Mekong River Delta of Vietnam

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1. Introduction:

1.1. Background: Although water is a basic human need, most of rural people in Vietnam have very limited access to clean and safe water supply. As a result, serious water-related diseases are reported every year. Thus, government has called for all actors to take part in providing improved water to rural areas with affordable price.

1.2. Main Objective: To estimate the people's willingness to pay for piped water supply services in rural areas of Mekong River Delta (MRD) using contingent valuation method.

2. Research Methods (2):

2.3. Sampling: We did multistage sampling precisely. First, all the 3 villages of one commune was chosen as a case study. Second, systematic random sampling was applied to select 20 groups out of 51 ones. Third, simple random sample was employed to select 217 sample.

2.4. Administrative methods: In-person interview

2. Research Methods (1):

2.1. Research Tools: Contingent valuation method (CVM) is used to estimate the economic value of goods or services by directly asking individuals (households) their willingness to pay or to accept for the goods or services in question. CVM is the only method available to estimate non-use value.

We applied double-bound dichotomous choice contingent valuation method to value the rural water supply services in MRD by asking them 'Are you willing to pay A (VND) for described program?' If the answer is YES, then a higher bid (A+B) is offered; if the answer is NO, a lower bid (A-C) is asked.

2.2. Survey design: We carefully designed the survey questionnaire, guidelines for focus group discussion (FGDs) and In-depth interview (IDIs); proper pilot survey's used to improve the research tools.

3. Results and Implications:

Variables' Names	Variables' description	Parameters Estimate (Standard Error)
CONS	Constant	2.35 (1.56)
Village	Dummy variable (1=Vinh Thanh, 0=Otherwise)	-0.71*** (0.22)
Gender	Dummy variable (1=Male, 0=Female)	-0.38** (0.19)
Water fee	Monthly water fee(1<=50,000VND, 2>50,000 VND)	0.69*** (0.19)
Household size	Number of members in the households	0.12* (0.07)
Quality	Water quality (0=Acceptable,1=polluted/salinity)	0.33* (0.20)
Elder	Number of elderly persons in household	-0.30** (0.15)
Income	Log-monthly income	1.16*** (0.21)
BID	Log-BID	-2.55*** (0.25)
Mean WTP	Mean WTP for water supply service (4.3% mean monthly income)	97,242 VND (6.08 US\$)
Median WTP	Median WTP for water supply service (4.2% mean monthly income)	95,394 VND (5.96 US\$)
Log-likelihood		-156.74
AIC		331.47
N	(Number of observations)	217

***, **, * Parameters are significant at 1%, 5%, 10% levels respectively



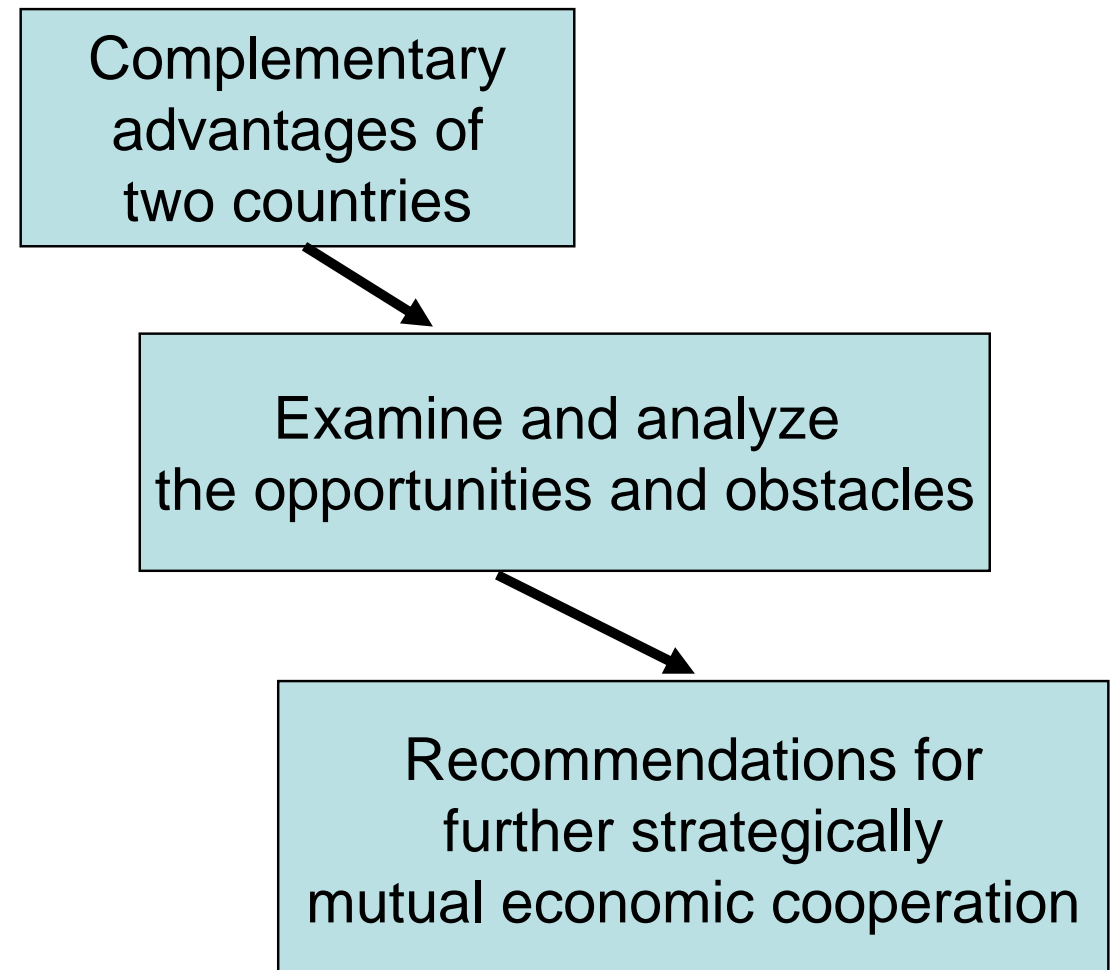
Vietnam and Japan are Complementary Economies

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This paper, written for the Vietnam-Japan strategic economic development in the new stage of co-operation, analyses the opportunities and the obstacles of Vietnam-Japan relationships to be complementary in the context of globalization and becoming of WTO member of Vietnam. It gives some recommendations for enhancing strategically mutual economic cooperation between two countries.

- Evaluate the advantages of both countries in economic, legal and infrastructure aspects to be cooperative and complementary
- Examine and analyze the the reality of economic cooperation between countries and give the comments on it
- Suggest the recommendations for enhancing strategically mutual economic cooperation between two countries in globalization and becoming of WTO member of Vietnam



“Tailoring the *Ao Dai*? – An Examination of Japan ODA projects to Vietnam”

Quang Hop Dinh

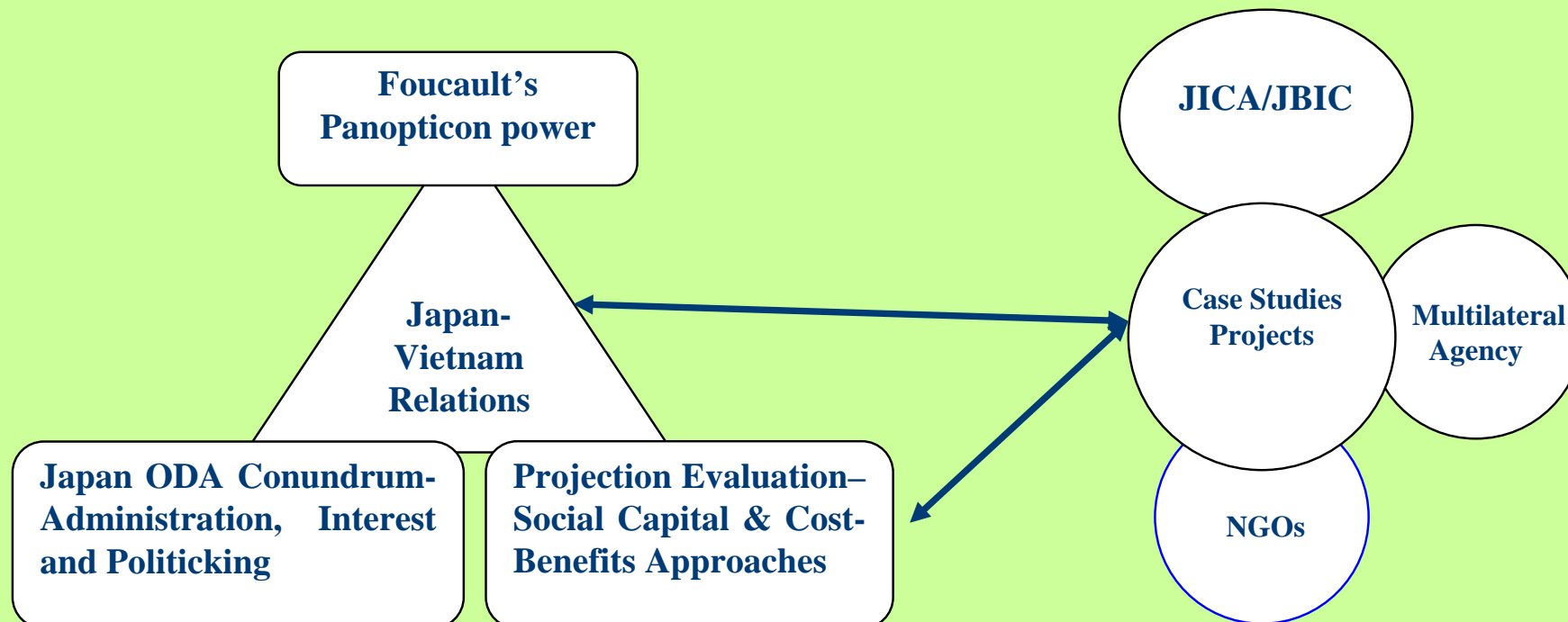
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Objectives:

- 1 - From the recipient’s perspective, analyse the effects of Japanese ODA on Vietnam’s political, economic and social environments – this ‘bottom-up’ approach will introduce and also examine the effectiveness of an alternative method for exploring the power relationship between Japan-Vietnam.→ What does the Japan-Vietnam relationship reveals about Japan’s foreign policy objectives in the region? How does Japan prioritise its ODA policy in relations to the pressure exerted by the international aid community for improvement of Japanese aid quality?
- 2 - Evaluate the effectiveness of Japan ODA projects in Vietnam - juxtaposed to questions such as, how does Japan’s approach to strengthening policies and institutions of Vietnam manifested, particularly in the context of sectoral and bureaucratic interests in both Japan & Vietnam.





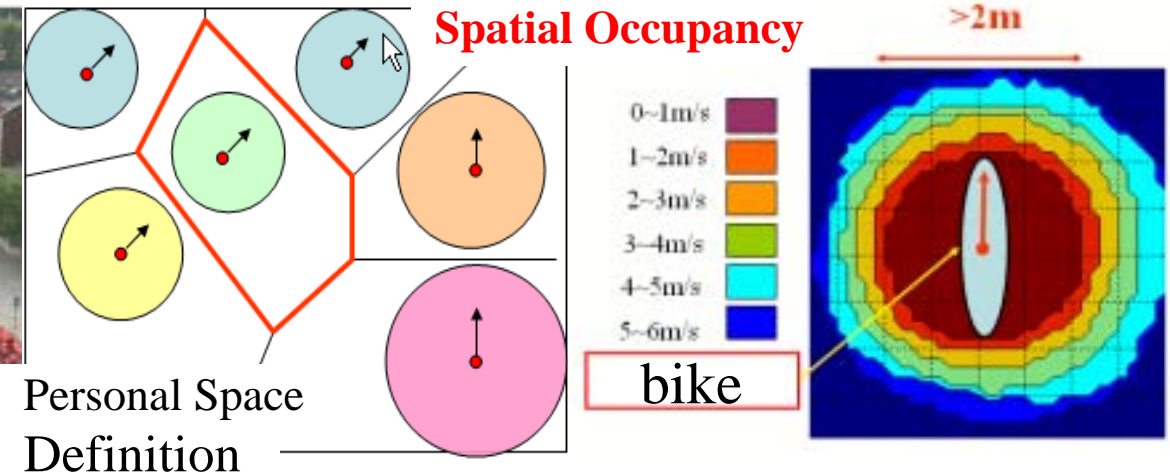
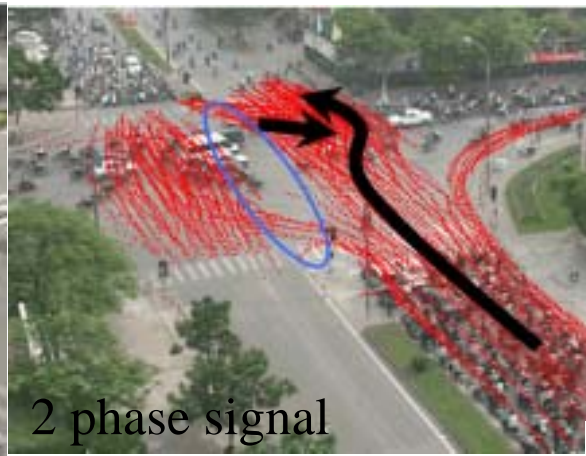
Social experiment for new traffic management method

Introduce bike lane on car lane for mixed traffic in VN

~Quantitative Evaluation of road services with spatial occupancy~

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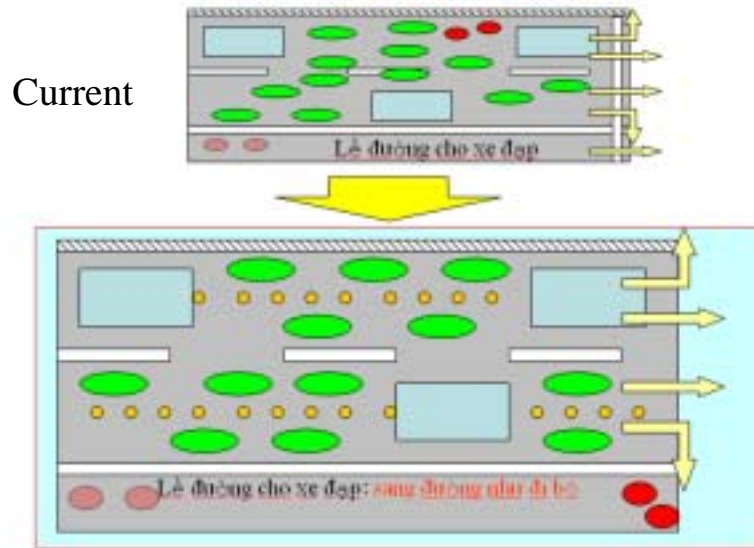
Background:



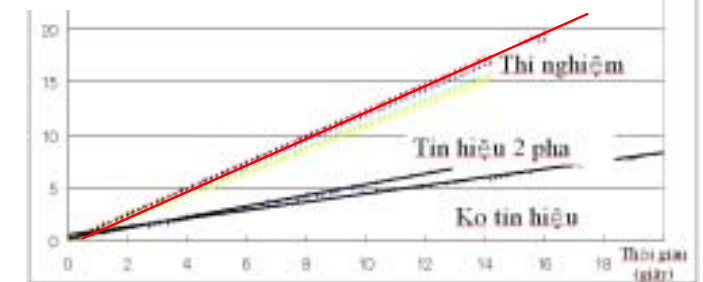
Proposal: **bike lane** on car lane

Experiment:

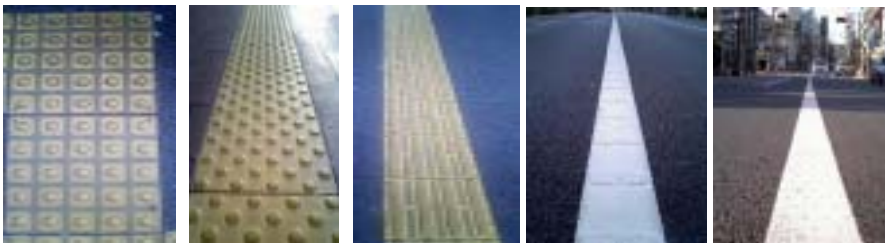
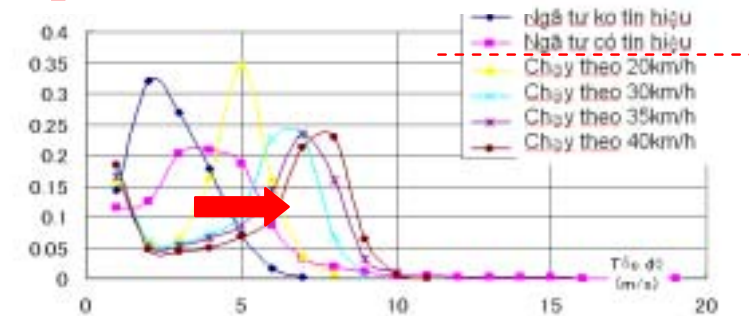
Comparison with currenence



Flow rate **Up (~2 times)**



Speed **Up (~1.5 times)**



Manner ↑, Safety ↑, Comfort ↑, Exhaust gas ↓, ...

Endogenous Development in the Era of Globalization

~Case Study of Thanh Hoa Province, Viet Nam~

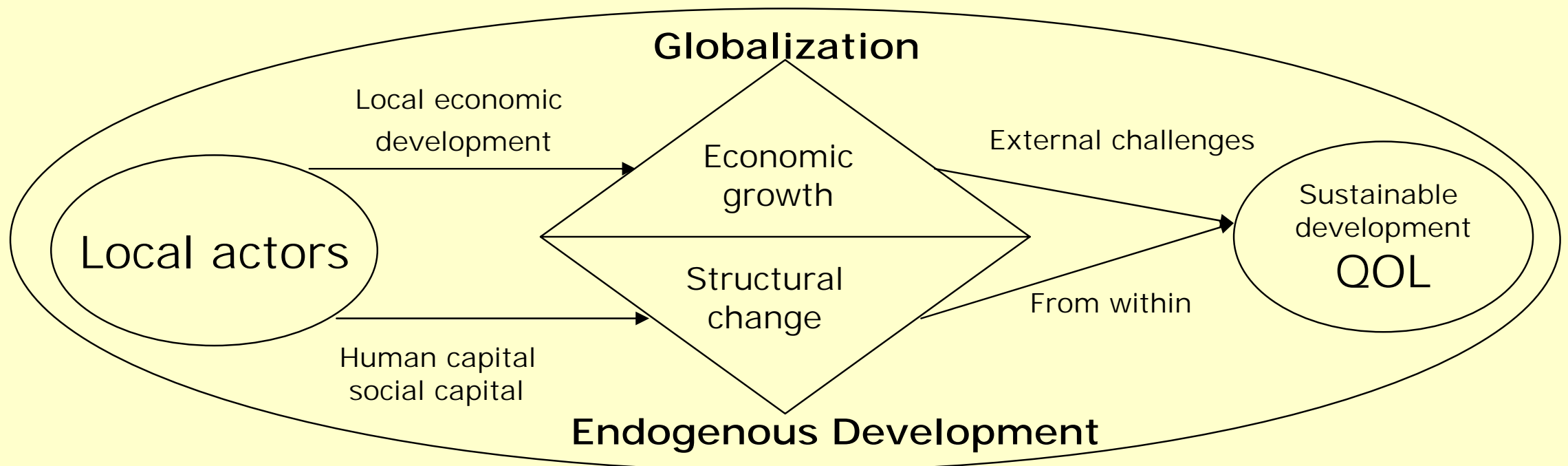
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Endogenous Development (ED) does not mean “closed economy”. ED model bases on the use of local resources, the capacity of innovation, and the ability to develop the productive interdependences, both intra-sectoral and inter-sectoral. Also, the ability to react to external challenges is important. In the era of globalization, the local community has more chances to develop as well as achieve sustainable development from the theory of ED.





Efficiency Measures for the Agriculture Sector in Vietnam: A Comparison of Parametric and Non-parametric Approaches

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This paper uses parametric approach (based on stochastic frontier production function—SFPF) and non-parametric approach (based on data envelopment analysis—DEA) to estimate technical, allocative, and economic efficiency measures for the agricultural production in sixty provinces in Vietnam during 1995-2005. We use provincial data of agricultural inputs and outputs for these research purposes.

- Under the specification of variable returns to scale (VRS), the mean technical, allocative and economic efficiency indices of the sample provinces were 52.3%; 80.5%; and 42.1%, respectively, for the SFPF; and 82.1%; 81.5%; and 67.2%, respectively, for the DEA.
- Under the specification of constant returns to scale (CRS), they were 58.5%; 71.9%; and 42.1%, respectively, for the SFPF; and 79.3%; 80.9%; and 64.4% for the DEA.
- Although the estimated mean technical, allocative, and economic efficiency measures obtained from the DEA are higher than those from the SFPF in both VRS and CRS models, efficiency rankings of the sample provinces based on these two approaches are highly correlated, in which the highest correlation is achieved for the technical efficiency rankings under VRS and CRS.



Industrial Policies as Determinant of Localization:

The Case of Vietnamese Automobile Industry

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This is my on-going research for PhD dissertation deepening my master thesis. The research discovers the relationship between industrial policy and localization to figure out the various regulations that have possible effects on the localization. Both qualitative and quantitative research methods are utilized in the research.

- How to utilize domestic sources effectively to contribute more added value to products is an extremely important matter in many countries, especially developing countries. However, how to apply industrial policies to encourage localization is a difficult question.
- Vietnamese automobile industry has developed since 1990s. But what it has achieved, particularly in localization of auto products, is too modest in comparison with the favorable conditions supported by the Vietnamese government.
- This research will discover the main reasons which have made automakers hesitate in localizing Vietnamese auto products; assess present state of localization; and suggest policy directions.



Improving Industrial Human Resource in Vietnam

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Vietnam Development Forum, Tokyo

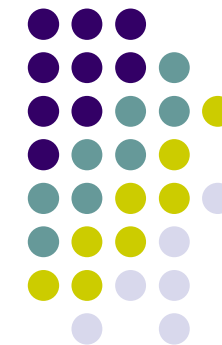
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This is my on-going study that aims to identify and measure a gap between demand (business needs) and supply (technical education & training) of industrial human resource, and to propose policy measures to narrow the gap. On the demand side, IHR patterns, business architectures, supporting industry scopes and JETRO surveys are discussed. On the supply side, legal framework, ministerial coordination, current situation of IHR and training institutions are examined.

- Vietnam industry is short of high-skilled workers, engineers, and managers. JETRO surveys show that more than a half of Japanese enterprises operating in Vietnam find difficulties in recruitment of local engineers and factory managers. Industrial *meisters* and *multi-skilled workers* are highly demanded.
- Diversification in authority of industrial human resource development and weak coordination among authorized organizations lead to a risk of their inaction or inconsistent actions. Insufficiencies of good instructors, curriculum, up-to-date teaching materials and equipments result to only about 19% of industrial labor forces received vocational educations. Industrial manners should also be acquired at training institutions.
- Policy directions target to create and strengthen linkage among trainers, employers, and policymakers; improve quality of instructors, curriculum, teaching materials and equipments; and open up opportunities for the poor to acquire technical and vocational training. Concrete measures will be work out in coming time.



VIETNAMESE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



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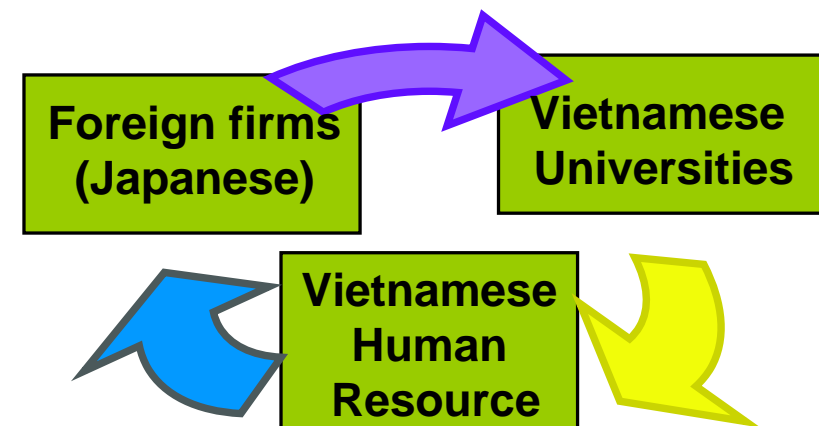
Current thesis: “Japanese manufacturing firms in Vietnam: Determinants of Formal Training”

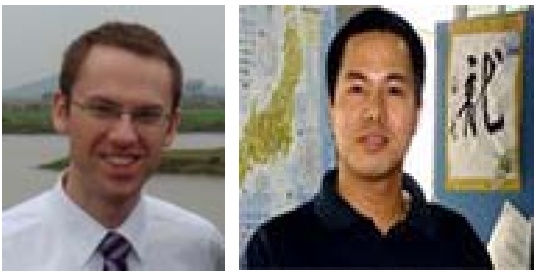
- 👉 **Hypotheses:** *Firm Size, Education & Skill Mix, Firm’s Technology, Automation & Quality Control* positively correlate with **Incidence of Formal Training** while *Female Rate* negatively does.
- 👉 **Methodology:** Questionnaire Survey (based on previous study by Tan & Batra (1995) in 5 developing countries, under World Bank sponsorship)
- 👉 **Responses:** 141 complete ones (84 firms in North & 57 firms in South)
- 👉 **Findings:** - **From Survey:** Bigger firms with higher level of workers’ education and skill mix, who upgrade technology more frequently, and with higher degree of automation & quality control standard, tend to train workers more. No significant correlation between female rate and incidence of formal training was found.
- **From Literature:** The higher an employee’s education background, the more he/she is likely to get Training (Formal & Informal) sponsored by his/her employer
→ Policy implication: More on Education & Less on Training
- 👉 **Limitations:** Firm type (Only Japanese manufacturing sector), Training type (Only Formal Training for workers), Respondents (Mostly those in major industrial parks)

Further topic of interest:

Foreign Firms & Vietnamese Universities

Cooperation for Vietnamese Human Resource Development





Patterns and Determinants of Living Arrangements of the Vietnamese Elderly under Economic Transition

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This on-going research will seek to quantify the extent, the evolution, and the determinants of living arrangements of the Vietnamese elderly under economic transition. With the focus on various possible factors, the findings are hoped to provide useful information to social welfare policy makers.

- This paper uses the Vietnam Living Standard Surveys in 1992/93 and 1997/98; and the Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys in 2002 and 2004.
- It is initially found that (i) a majority of the elderly lived in households where an elderly person was household head. Among them, households with multiple children were prevalent; (ii) the percentage of elderly living alone increased over time, and this situation was popular among female and rural residents; (iii) a potentially worrisome trend is that there was a shift over time from households with dependent elderly to only elderly households; and (iv) among dependent elderly, a vast majority were found to live with married sons, and this situation between rural and urban areas was significantly different.
- Bivariate and multivariate analyses will be conducted to see the impacts of possible factors, such as age, gender, education, marital status, and income, on different type of living arrangements of the elderly.