

WHY

What is the problem the initiative addresses?

- Innovation policy lacks coherence – multiple ministries but little coordination.
- Innovation is often seen narrowly as technological innovation.
- Grassroots innovation is not well recognized at the policy level.

Why is your organisation doing this project?

- UNDP as the convenor is well positioned to steer the Innovation policy to be more inclusive and take an active role in facilitating conversations with different stakeholders in this space.
- The work on Inclusive innovation is part of a broader initiative to both accelerate inclusive growth and introduce new governance approaches such as AAA Governance to enable the Government to navigate complexity.

Why is this initiative important for Viet Nam?

- The key challenge for Viet Nam, in becoming a higher-middle income country is to continue rapid, sustainable and inclusive growth, moving from the growth model that is based on exploiting simple skill labor and natural resources to the new model in which productivity and innovation will be key drivers.
- S&T and Innovation are key drivers in Viet Nam in the coming SEDS and SEDP. However, Viet Nam's efforts so far have been strongly focused on (i) S&T, while the state spending on S&T of 0.2% of GDP (VN's spending on S&T/R&D of around 0.4% of GDP) remains low and has not been increasing and (ii) and start-ups that somewhat mirrored the Silicon Valley model.
- National Innovation Center (NIC) represents an important opportunity to catalyze policy coherence and take a broader perspective on innovation policy development, moving beyond a narrow technology focus to facilitate bottom-up innovation.
- COVID-19 has changed some dynamics in the innovation space towards inclusion with different people participating in the Innovation ecosystem.

Is this initiative improving an existing system or approach or is it innovating a new system or approach? BOTH

WHAT

Objectives

- More inclusive and coherent innovation policy space with broader understanding of Inclusive Innovation for NIC and SEDS
- New governance mechanisms to address new volumes of uncertainty

Resources

1. UNDP Viet Nam Accelerator Lab
2. Central Institute of Economic Management of Ministry of Planning and Investment
3. Centre for Social Initiatives Promotion (CSIP) and Universities

INCLUSIVE INNOVATION IN VIET NAM

“Innovation of, by and for all as both producers/innovators and consumers/users for the purpose of both economic growth and social advancement.”

Phases of Activity

1. Action-oriented research: Inclusive Innovation Policy for the Next Development Stage in Viet Nam with 02 roundtable discussions
2. Experimentation on MSMEs innovation with CIEM
3. Technical advisory to NIC

Outputs

- Report – 02 workshops
- MoU signed with CIEM of MPI
- Support to NIC

HOW (EFFECTS)

What effect* is the initiative producing?

- A shift in thinking of what Innovation means and who can be a participant of the innovation ecosystem.
- More information about social innovation in Viet Nam and ways to support and promote it at the policy level.
- New governance mechanisms around innovation policy and SMEs development.

What will we gain as a result of this project?

- New type of questions and dialogue in the innovation policy space.
- Institutions that are more inclusive and better equipped to address complexity.

What could accelerate /amplify effect of the initiative? e.g. new connections, leverage points

- Better connection with existing initiatives and with other donors and more dialogue among different innovation ecosystem players.
- New institutional frameworks e.g. innovation intermediaries.



Inclusive Innovation

- (1) Social, environmental, economic
- (2) No one left behind!
- (3) Participation to understanding
→ Inclusivity in input to policy
- (4) Tools (maybe tech) for the mass (8) IP protection
- (5) Innovation (tech) ↔ inclusive (excluded people) to produce tech
- (6) Innovation → productivity → econ. growth
- (7) Bottoms-up approach



How might we create the institutional conditions for
Inclusive Innovation in Viet Nam that allows
innovation of, by and for all as both producers and
consumers?