

Study On The Situation Of The Implementation Of The Socio-Economic Development Plan For Ethnic Minority And Mountainous Areas In Quang Hoa District, Cao Bang Province In 2021 And 2022

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Summary : This study focuses on evaluating the implementation of the "National target program for socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021 - 2025 in Quang Hoa district " in the years 2021 and 2022. The authors use a combination of 3 methods: method of analyzing and synthesizing documents; information collection method and comparison method . Research results show that: Quang Hoa district has over 95% of the population are ethnic minorities. "National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021 - 2025 in Quang Hoa district" has achieved a number of positive results in 2021 and 2022 : The rate of poor households has continuously decreased over the years, the rate of households using national grid electricity approaches 100%, the rate of rural areas using hygienic water reaches 100%, healthcare and education work is increasing day by day. receive more attention and achieve the set goals . This is a good start for the implementation of the Program in the following years.

Key word: Ethnic minorities, National target program, Socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas, Quang Hoa district

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I. Overview

Ethnic minorities in Vietnam make an important contribution to the country's cultural diversity and national identity. Currently, according to statistics, there are about 54 officially recognized ethnic groups in Vietnam. Among them, the Kinh ethnic group accounts for the majority (about 86.3% of the total population), 53 ethnic minorities account for 14.7% of the remaining population [1]. Each ethnic minority has its own unique culture, traditions, language, and customs. Ethnic minorities are mainly distributed in regions with difficult natural conditions such as highlands and remote areas. Due to the geographical location and undeveloped infrastructure, ethnic minorities face many limitations in accessing education, healthcare, clean water and a number of other social services.

With the policy of "Bringing the mountainous areas to catch up with the lowlands", the Government of Vietnam has implemented many policies and development support programs for ethnic minorities with the goal of ensuring rights and development opportunities for all. all citizens. Policy for ethnic minorities in Vietnam is an important part of efforts to build a fair, sustainable and diverse society. The Vietnamese government has been implementing many policies to ensure the rights and sustainable development of ethnic minority communities across the country. By 2023, Vietnam will have 188 policies issued by the Government and the Prime Minister being implemented in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, including 136 ethnic policies, divided into 9 groups: sustainable economic development policy; education, training, vocational training and employment policies; health policy, population, people's health care; culture, sports and tourism policies; information, communication, law dissemination and legal aid policies; policies on gender equality and children; policies for organizational structures, cadres, civil servants, public employees, armed forces, and prestigious people; international cooperation policy on ethnic affairs; defense and security policy. These programs and policies aim

to support ethnic minorities, ethnic minority and mountainous areas; eliminate the gap between mountainous areas and lowland areas [2]. In particular, we focus on the basic contents:

- Ensuring basic rights: Policies for ethnic minorities focus on ensuring basic rights, including access to education, health services, social benefits and other rights. others to enhance social justice;
- Socio-economic development: The Government implements many policies to encourage and support the socio-economic development of ethnic minority communities. This includes investing in infrastructure, agricultural development and conservation, promoting traditional crafts, creating favorable conditions for businesses and production;
- Education and training: Education and training policies are especially important to improve the quality of life and create development opportunities for ethnic minorities. Measures include providing educational resources, supporting study costs and building schools in ethnic minority areas;
- Preserving and promoting culture: The Government also focuses on preserving and promoting the cultural values of ethnic minorities. This includes supporting traditional cultural activities, community tourism, and preserving languages, traditional costumes and customs;
- Ensuring social security: Social security policy is applied specifically to ensure that ethnic minorities have enough conditions for sustainable development. Some current social security policies that the state focuses on and are constantly improving include: Social insurance; Health Insurance; Unemployment insurance; Policies on hunger eradication and poverty reduction; Social support policies for people in extremely difficult circumstances; Policies on ensuring health, education, housing, clean water,...; Welfare packages for victims affected by epidemics, natural disasters...

Some typical development programs for ethnic minority and mountainous areas:

- Program 134: Implemented under Decision No. 134/2004/QĐ-TTĐ of the Prime Minister on a number of policies to support production land, residential land, housing and water for ethnic minority households poverty, difficult life. This is an important decision, demonstrating the special attention of the Party, State and Government to poor ethnic minorities in the cause of hunger eradication and poverty reduction.
- Program 135: Implemented according to Decision 135/QĐ-TTĐ on Approving the Socio-Economic Development Program for Communes with Extreme Difficulties in Mountainous and Remote Areas. This is a typical program for the Party and State's concern for ethnic minorities living in mountainous, remote, and extremely difficult areas. Program 135 achieved many important achievements: The infrastructure system of ethnic minority and mountainous areas and extremely difficult socio-economic areas received infrastructure investment (inter-village roads, communes, schools, health stations, irrigation support works, community houses); production development support model; creating job opportunities, improving livelihoods for ethnic minorities, helping people escape poverty... [3].
- Program 30a: Implemented according to Resolution No. 30/A/2008/NQ-CP of the Government on the Program to support rapid and sustainable poverty reduction for 61 poor districts. The goal of the program is to "create faster changes in the material and spiritual lives of the poor and ethnic minorities in poor districts, ensuring that by 2020 they are on par with other districts in the region. Support the development of sustainable agricultural and forestry production, towards commodity production, exploiting local strengths. Build socio-economic infrastructure suitable to the characteristics of each district; Transform economic structure and effective forms of production organization according to planning; build a stable rural society rich in national cultural identity; People's knowledge is improved, the ecological environment is protected; firmly ensure security and national defense" [4].
- National target program on sustainable poverty reduction 2017-2020: Implemented according to Decision No. 1722/QĐ-TTĐ, dated September 2, 2016 of the Prime Minister approving the National target program on sustainable poverty reduction period 2016 - 2020. Objectives of the program: Implement sustainable poverty reduction goals, limit relapse into poverty; contributing to achieving the goal of economic growth, ensuring social security, improving people's lives, increasing income, especially in poor areas, creating conditions for the poor and poor households to access Facilitate basic social services (health, education, housing, water and sanitation, access to information), contributing to achieving the goal of reducing the rate of poor households in the 2016 - 2020 period according to the Decree No. resolution proposed by the National Assembly [5].
- National target program on socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025: This is a program to develop ethnic minority areas ethnic

minorities and mountainous areas was implemented most recently, according to Decision No. 1719/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister.

Located in the east of Cao Bang province, Quang Hoa district has an area of 668.95 km². The population is 64,120 people of 4 ethnic groups (Tay, Nung, Mong, Kinh) [6], of which over 95% are ethnic minorities. Quang Hoa district has a geographical location: To the east it borders Guangxi, China and Ha Lang district; The west borders Hoa An district; The south borders Thach An district; The north borders Trung Khanh district. The district has Ta Lung international border gate for trade with China [7]. Quang Hoa district has 3 towns and 16 communes; including 4 communes and towns in region I (Quang Uyen, Hoa Thuan, Ta Lung, Dai Son), Doc Lap commune in region II, the remaining 14 communes in region III - especially difficult communes (Be Van Dan, Cai Bo, Cach Linh, Chi Thao, Hanh Phuc, Hong Quang, My Hung, Ngoc Dong, Phi Hai, Phuc Sen, Quang Hung, Quoc Toan, Tien Thanh, Tu Do). With over 95% of ethnic minorities and 73.7% of administrative units being extremely difficult communes, Quang Hoa district is one of the districts that has received a lot of attention in implementing population programs and policies. tribal, mountainous areas of Cao Bang province. During the 2016-2020 period, ethnic work in Quang Hoa district achieved many important results:

Regarding the economy: the economic structure has shifted strongly towards commodity production; The lives of ethnic people are continuously improving.

Regarding culture and society: traditional culture is preserved and promoted; Socio-economic infrastructure in ethnic minority areas is invested; Equal rights among ethnic groups are guaranteed; The great national unity bloc continues to be consolidated, people of all ethnic groups always believe and well implement the Party's guidelines, policies and laws of the State; Political security, social order and safety are guaranteed; The grassroots political system has been consolidated and perfected.

By the end of 2020, the average income reached 240.2 million VND/person/year; 100% of communes have motorable roads to the commune center; 19/19 communes and towns have medical stations; 70% of communes meet the national health criteria; 98.8% of households have access to national grid electricity; Over 70% of communes built solid classrooms; Over 96% of the rural population has access to water for daily use and sanitation; 98% of households can watch television; The entire district has 01 commune meeting new rural standards. The poverty rate of the entire district decreased by an average of 4 - 5%/year [8].

However, ethnic work in the district still has some difficulties such as: The rate of poor households in communes and towns is still high (in particular, in some communes and hamlets the rate of poor households is up to 48%); Poverty reduction results are not sustainable, production is still fragmented; The ability of ethnic minorities to access and apply scientific and technical advances in production is still limited; The quality of education and healthcare is still limited; Some outdated practices and customs, child marriage and consanguineous marriage still occur; Land disputes, drug trafficking... still occur, especially in remote, border, and especially difficult areas of the district. The reason is that ethnic minority areas have complex terrain, difficult transportation, and production practices that rely heavily on natural conditions. Besides, investment resources and support from the State have not met the needs of socio-economic development; A part of the people in ethnic minority areas still have the mindset of waiting and relying on the State.

In October 2021, the National Target Program on socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-2030 was approved by the Prime Minister. On that basis, on September 6, 2021, the People's Committee of Quang Hoa district issued Plan No. 163/ KH-UBND on "Implementing the National Target Program for Socio-economic Development in the Delta". ethnic minorities and mountainous areas in the period 2021 - 2025 in Quang Hoa district. This study was implemented to evaluate the implementation of the socio-economic development plan for ethnic minority and mountainous areas in 2021 and 2022 in Quang Hoa district, Cao Bang province.

II. Data and research methods

To complete this research, the authors used data sources from legal documents of the Government and related agencies, the General Statistics Office, the Communist Party of Vietnam Electronic Newspaper, and the People's Committee. Quang Hoa district. These are reliable, valuable, recognized and publicly available data sources.

The methods used include document analysis and synthesis; information collection method and comparison method. The research content focuses on a general overview for this study; National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025; natural, economic and social conditions of Quang Hoa district; Status of implementing socio-economic development tasks in ethnic minority and mountainous areas according to the "National target

program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2021 -2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025" in Quang Hoa district in 2021 and 2022 . These research methods are consistent with the goals and content of the research.

III. Research results and discussion

3.1. Overview of the National Target Program on socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025

Implementing Resolution No. 120/2020/QH14 dated June 19, 2020 of the National Assembly on approving the investment policy of the National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas period 2021 - 2030, on October 14, 2021, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 1719/QD-TTg approving the National Target Chapter for socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2021 - 2030. period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025.

Phase 1 of the program will be implemented from 2021 to the end of 2025, in communes and villages of ethnic minority and mountainous areas; In particular, prioritize the resources of the Investment Program for especially difficult areas (especially difficult communes, extremely difficult villages), safe zone communes (ATK) in ethnic minority areas and mountainous region.

The Program's subjects include (1) communes and villages in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; (2) ethnic minority households and individuals; (3) Kinh households and individuals belonging to the poor or near-poor households living in extremely difficult communes and villages; (4) enterprises, cooperatives, cooperative unions, and economic organizations operating in extremely difficult communes and villages.

The general goal of the Resolution is to exploit the potential and advantages of localities in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; innovate, promote economic development, ensure social security; Reduce poverty quickly and sustainably, gradually narrowing the gap in living standards and average income of the region compared to the national average; Gradually reduce the number of communes and villages with special difficulties; planning, arranging and stabilizing the population, building a synchronous, inter-regional socio-economic infrastructure system, connecting with developed regions; comprehensively develop education, training, health, and culture; Significantly improve people's lives; improve the quantity and quality of cadres, civil servants, public employees, and ethnic minority workers; preserving and promoting the good cultural identities of ethnic minorities along with eliminating backward customs and practices; Implement gender equality and solve urgent problems for women and children; build a strong grassroots political system, maintain political security, social order and safety, and ensure national border security; Consolidate and strengthen the great national unity bloc, enhance the trust of ethnic people in the Party and State [9].

Estimated total capital to implement the Program for the period 2021 - 2025 is 137,664,959 billion VND, including central budget capital (104,954,011 billion VND), local budget capital (10,016,721 billion VND), policy credit loans (19,727,020 billion VND), other legally mobilized capital (2,967,207 billion VND) [9]. The Program's component projects are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 . Component projects of the national target program on socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025

No	Project	Project content
first	Project 1	Solve the shortage of residential land, housing, production land, and running water
2	Project 2	Plan, arrange, arrange and stabilize population in necessary places
3	Project 3	Develop agricultural and forestry production, promote the potential and strengths of regions to produce goods along the value chain
4	Project 4	Investing in essential infrastructure to serve production and life in ethnic minority and mountainous areas and public service units in the ethnic sector
5	Project 5	Develop education and training to improve the quality of human resources
6	Project 6	Preserving and promoting the fine traditional cultural values of ethnic minorities in association with tourism development
7	Project 7	Taking care of people's health, improving the physical condition and stature of ethnic minorities; Preventing child malnutrition
8	Project 8	Implement gender equality and solve urgent problems for women and children

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9	Project 9	Investing in the development of ethnic groups with very few people and ethnic groups still facing many difficulties
10	Project 10	Communication, propaganda and advocacy in ethnic minority and mountainous areas. Inspect, monitor and evaluate program implementation

"National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021 - 2025 in Quang Hoa district" was approved by the People's Committee of Quang Hoa district in October 2021 , closely following the goals of the national program. In particular, specific goals until 2025 are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 . Specific goals until 2025 of the national target program on socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas for the period 2021-205 in Quang Hoa district

No	Criteria	Target
1	Average income level of ethnic minorities	Increased more than 2 times (compared to 2020)
2	Poverty rate among ethnic minorities	Average decrease from 4%/year
3	Getting out of the area is especially difficult	04 hamlets (57.14%) and 14 communes (100%)
4	District and commune roads are asphalted/concreted	85% length
5	The commune has a road to the commune center that is asphalted/concreted	100%
6	Number of schools, classrooms and medical stations are solidly built	100%
7	Number of households using national grid electricity and other appropriate electricity sources	100%
8	Ethnic minorities have access to hygienic water	100%
9	Ethnic minorities can listen to radio and watch television	100%
10	Planning, arranging, relocating, and arranging scattered ethnic minority households in places at risk of floods, flash floods, and landslides	80% of households
11	Percentage of 5-year-old kindergarten students attending school	99%
12	Percentage of students of primary school age	99%
13	Rate of secondary school education	99%
14	High school attendance rate	Over 90%
15	Percentage of people aged 15 and older who can read and write fluently in Mandarin	Over 94%
16	Ethnic minorities participate in health insurance	100%
17	Pregnant women receive at least 3 prenatal check-ups during pregnancy and give birth at a medical facility or with the assistance of medical staff.	Over 80%
18	Percentage of malnourished and underweight children under 5 years old	Falling below 16.4%
19	Child Marriage	Average reduction of 3%/year or more
20	Marrying close blood relatives	Average reduction of 5%/year or more
21	Workers of working age receive vocational training appropriate to the needs and conditions of ethnic minorities	50%
22	The hamlet/residential group has a cultural house to meet usage needs	100%
23	The hamlet has a traditional cultural and art team (club) that operates regularly and with high quality	100%
24	Support investment in typical community tourism destinations	03 points in 03 craft villages
25	Organize cultural activities, traditional arts and sports, and Mong ethnic cultural festivals	

26	Training, planning, and building a team of ethnic minority officials, especially local ethnic minorities; Ensure that the proportion of officials, civil servants, and public employees from ethnic minorities is consistent with the proportion of the ethnic minority population in each locality.	
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(Source: Compiled from [8])

3.2. Results of implementing the task of socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021-2023 in Quang Hoa district, Cao Bang province

*** Implementation results in 2021**

2021 is the first year that Quang Hoa district implements the overall project for socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas for the period 2021-2025. The main objectives and contents of the year include reviewing, synthesizing, reporting, proposing policies, determining regional delimitation in the next period and sending them to competent agencies for decision and approval. In 2021, the tasks of implementing the overall project for socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas for the period 2021-2025 will be carried out according to plan, specifically:

- Quang Hoa district has issued an official dispatch instructing communes and towns to review and identify ethnic groups still facing many difficulties and ethnic groups with specific difficulties according to Decision No. 39/2020/QĐ-TTg dated March 31, 2020. December 2020 of the Prime Minister. Review results: in the district, it was determined that there is a Mong ethnic group that still faces many difficulties.

- Propose 141 programs to serve the implementation of the National Target Program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021-2025, total capital: 619.4 billion VND

- Issue a plan to implement the project "Strengthening international cooperation to support socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas in the period 2021-2025". Proposed 314 programs and projects calling for investment to mobilize foreign non-governmental aid for international cooperation to support socio-economic development in ethnic minority areas, total capital: 539.9 billion VND. Proposing 10 projects requiring investment from World Bank ODA capital, total capital: 206.2 billion VND [10].

*** Implementation results in 2022**

The National Target Program for Socio-Economic Development of Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in Quang Hoa District in 2022 aims to: attract maximum resources for investment in economic development. local socio-economic status; Infrastructure development creates favorable conditions for economic development; Economic development goes hand in hand with social development; Implement the goals of social security and social welfare, improve the material and spiritual life of the people; prevent epidemics and take good care of people's health [11]. Specific goals and results of implementation of the National Target Program for Socio-Economic Development of Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in Quang Hoa District in 2022 are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 . Evaluating the implementation results of the National Target Program for Socio-Economic Development of Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in Quang Hoa District in 2022

No	Criteria		Evaluate
	Plan	Perform	
1	Poverty rate decreased: 4%	3.19 %	Not achieved
2	Percentage of households using national grid electricity: 100%	99.8%	Not achieved
3	Percentage of rural areas using hygienic water: 100%	100%	Obtain
4	The rate of 5-year-old kindergarten students attending school is 99%, elementary school age students are 99%, middle school students are 99%, and high school students are over 90%; People aged 15 and older can read and write Mandarin with over 94% fluency.	100%	Obtain
5	Reduce the rate of malnourished children under 5 years old: down 0.2% compared to 2021	0.6%	Obtain
6	Increase 1 commune to meet national health criteria; 100% of commune health stations have doctors;	2 <100%	Obtain Not achieved

	Over 80% of women received antenatal care at least 4 times during pregnancy, gave birth at a medical facility or with the assistance of medical staff; Strengthen medical work so that ethnic minorities have access to modern health care services;	<80%	Not achieved
7	100% of the population participates in health insurance	89.2%	Not achieved
8	Preserve and develop fine traditional cultural values and identities of ethnic groups; 100% of community houses meet living needs; 50% of hamlets have traditional cultural and artistic teams (clubs) that operate regularly and with high quality	30% <50%	Not achieved Not achieved

(Source: Compiled from [12], [13])

Thus, in 2022, Quang Hoa district has 4/8 goals achieved as planned. This is a remarkable result given the limited socio-economic conditions and available local resources. In addition, the National Target Program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas was officially implemented for the first year in Quang Hoa district (2021 will mainly review resources). and develop plans).

** General assessment:*

During 2 years of implementing the task of socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas according to the "National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021-2030, phase I: from 2021 to 2025", Quang Hoa district always receives the attention of Cao Bang province and the State along with the support of the people in the commune.

Party committees and authorities at all levels from districts to villages and communes have effectively implemented Resolutions and Directives of the Party and State on ethnic work. From there, people's trust in the Party and State is built. Ethnic policies and ethnic work implemented in Quang Hoa district have contributed to promoting socio-economic development, improving people's lives, and at the same time contributing to ensuring the security situation. order and national defense. People in the district always actively participate in projects of the Socio-Economic Development Program for ethnic minority and mountainous areas. The 2021 goals and some 2022 goals are basically achieved. This is the achievement of implementing tasks and solutions for socio-economic recovery and development after the covid-19 epidemic; actively shifting towards commodity agricultural production, promoting highly efficient agricultural production models; Since then, people's income has improved, allowing them to pay attention to education, health care as well as quality of life. This is also the result of implementing the State's policies for ethnic minority and mountainous areas; solidarity and consensus between the government and people of Quang Hoa district in the process of implementing the goal of socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas.

However, some goals for 2022 have not been achieved. The reason is due to lack of capital; People's lives are still difficult, the rate of poor and near-poor households is still high; A part of the people are still not fully and properly aware of the program, and still have a mindset of dependence and expectation on the State. Besides, unfavorable infrastructure and transportation are also an obstacle in the process of implementing the Program's goals. In addition, agricultural production depends on the weather, arable land is basically mountainous land and low prices of agricultural products have affected the production and lives of people in ethnic minority areas.

IV. Conclusion

Quang Hoa district has over 95% of the population are ethnic minorities. "National target program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period 2021 - 2025 in Quang Hoa district" has achieved a number of positive results in 2021 and 2022: The rate of poor households has continuously decreased over the years, the rate of households using national grid electricity approaches 100%, the rate of rural areas using hygienic water reaches 100%, healthcare and education work is increasing day by day. receive more attention and achieve the set goals. This is a good start for the implementation of the Program in the following years.

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