

# Communist Party of Vietnam's environmental protection policy in the period 2021-2030

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## **Abstract**

*Environmental protection has become an urgent issue not only in Vietnam but also globally. This paper analyzes the viewpoint and policies of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) regarding environmental protection, focusing on emphasizing its importance for the sustainable development of the country. The Party has implemented a series of measures such as pollution control, conservation of natural resources, and investment in renewable energy. However, challenges such as balancing economic development and environmental protection, illegal deforestation, and difficulties in promoting renewable energy use still exist. Nevertheless, the Communist Party of Vietnam is committed to continuing to prioritize environmental protection in policies and measures, with the hope of creating a healthy and sustainable living environment for future generations of the country.*

**Keywords:** *Environment, protection, policy, sustainable development*

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## **I. Introduction**

Environmental protection is not only a national issue but also a global challenge that is becoming increasingly severe. In recent years, environmental pollution has escalated significantly, with greenhouse gas emissions, air, water, and soil pollution all facing increasingly serious problems.

In Vietnam, despite strong economic development, environmental pollution remains significant. Air pollution in major cities such as Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City is becoming increasingly severe, causing serious health problems for the population. Clean water is also a major issue, with many groundwater areas being polluted due to industrial and domestic activities, along with unsustainable resource exploitation leading to land loss. These issues not only affect human health but also threaten the survival of animal and plant species, as well as deplete the precious natural resources of the country.

Given this alarming situation, environmental protection has become extremely urgent and imperative. It is not only the responsibility of the government but also of every individual, organization, and business. Environmental protection is not only about protecting current human and animal life but also about protecting the future of the next generation. Without specific and effective measures to prevent and minimize environmental pollution from now on, we will face unforeseen consequences for the development and survival of humanity on this planet.

Therefore, researching and analyzing the viewpoint of the Communist Party of Vietnam on environmental protection is not only necessary but also extremely urgent, with the hope of providing practical and effective solutions to address the challenges facing the environment and the people of Vietnam.

In this context, the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) has shown a clear awareness of the urgency of environmental protection. At the 13th Party Congress held in January 2021, one of the highlights emphasized was a profound understanding of the importance of environmental protection and sustainable development.

Resolution of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Party Congress clearly reflects the Party's viewpoint on environmental protection. This includes reassessing current strategies and policies while proposing specific measures to address environmental issues. The Party's goal is not only to minimize environmental pollution and protect natural resources but also to build a sustainable development economy, promoting a balance between economic development and environmental protection.

Therefore, researching and analyzing the Communist Party of Vietnam's viewpoint on environmental protection in this resolution will help us better understand the commitments and specific actions of the government and the community in building a healthy and sustainable living environment for the future.

The Communist Party of Vietnam's perspective on environmental protection:  
In examining the viewpoint of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) on environmental protection, the most prominent aspect is the recognition of the importance of environmental protection for the sustainable

development of the nation. The CPV has consistently emphasized that environmental protection is not solely the responsibility of individuals or organizations, but it is a societal responsibility that needs to be actively pursued.

The Party has articulated numerous policies on environmental protection in documents ranging from the 6<sup>th</sup> National Party Congress to the 13<sup>th</sup> National Congress; in the Guidelines for Building the Country in the Transition Period towards Socialism in 1991, amended and supplemented in 2011; in the Socio-Economic Development Strategies for the periods 1991-2000, 2001-2010, 2011-2020, and 2021-2030; Directive No. 36-CT/TW dated June 25, 1998, of the Politburo "On strengthening environmental protection during the industrialization and modernization period of the country"; Resolution No. 41-NQ/TW of the Politburo dated November 15, 2004, "On environmental protection during the period of intensifying industrialization and modernization of the country"; Resolution No. 24-NQ/TW dated June 3, 2013, of the Central Executive Committee of the XI<sup>th</sup> Party Congress "On Proactively Responding to Climate Change, Strengthening Resource Management and Environmental Protection".

The urgency of environmental protection extends beyond preserving natural resources and the living environment for humans; it profoundly impacts the sustainable development of the nation. The CPV recognizes that a clean and sustainable environment not only facilitates economic development but also serves as a foundation for protecting health, improving living standards, and safeguarding the rights of the people.

Furthermore, according to environmental protection laws from 1993 to 2020, environmental protection entails conserving and developing natural resources such as forests, water, and land, which are vital resources indispensable to the country's development. The CPV acknowledges the importance of maintaining and protecting these resources not only to meet current needs but also to ensure the survival of future generations.

The Party has shown great concern for climate change adaptation and disaster prevention in Vietnam. Vietnam has actively participated in the United Nations framework convention on climate change and the Kyoto Protocol.

In summary, the Communist Party of Vietnam's perspective on environmental protection is an integral part of the nation's sustainable development strategy. Emphasizing the urgency and importance of environmental protection highlights the Party's commitment to building a healthy, sustainable environment and promoting a balance between economic development and environmental protection for the nation's future.

### **Policies and specific measures**

The Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) has demonstrated a strong commitment to environmental protection not only through its recognition of its importance but also through the implementation of a series of specific policies and measures to promote environmental protection and sustainable development.

To protect the environment and natural resources, the Party and the Government have issued numerous regulations and supportive policies. The documents of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Party Congress reflect an increasing emphasis on environmental protection, setting specific targets for the environment by 2030: "1- Forest coverage stability rate at 42%; 2- The rate of treatment and reuse of wastewater discharged into river basins reaching over 70%; 3- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 9%; 4- 100% of production and business facilities meeting environmental standards; 5- Increasing the area of marine reserves and coastal areas to reach 3-5% of the natural area of the national coastal zone." "By 2030, basic sustainable development goals for resources, the environment, and climate change adaptation will be achieved. The rate of severely polluting facilities being treated will reach 100%; the rate of hazardous waste destruction and treatment will reach 98%, of which the rate of medical waste treatment will reach 100%; the rate of industrial parks and export processing zones operating with centralized wastewater treatment plants meeting environmental standards will reach 100%; the rate of reuse and recycling of domestic solid waste will reach over 65%."

In the development orientation for the period 2021-2030, our Party has outlined tasks such as "Proactively and effectively adapting to climate change, preventing, controlling, and mitigating natural disasters, epidemics (...); Making people's lives and health the top priority; resolutely eliminating projects causing environmental pollution, ensuring the quality of living environment, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems; building a green economy, a circular economy, environmentally friendly". Developing a green economy, reducing waste, low carbon emissions, and greenhouse gas emissions. The Party has put forward initiatives to promote green economic development, circular economy, promote reuse, recycling, and energy recovery production from waste linked to the formation of continuous production chains.

One of the most important measures that the Communist Party of Vietnam has implemented is pollution control. To minimize environmental pollution, the Party has promoted the application of strict standards for factories, enterprises, and other sources of pollution. Pollution control not only protects the health of the people but also ensures the living environment of organisms and considers sustainable development.

Furthermore, the Communist Party of Vietnam has implemented policies and measures to conserve and develop natural resources. The conservation of forests, rivers, and other ecosystems not only preserves the habitats of various species but also ensures a renewable resource base for humans. The Party has promoted effective forest management, halted illegal deforestation, and encouraged forest regeneration to maintain a balance between resource utilization and protection.

Moreover, the Communist Party of Vietnam has heavily invested in renewable energy development. The transition from traditional energy sources such as coal and oil to renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and hydroelectric power not only helps reduce harmful emissions but also provides a clean and sustainable electricity source for the country.

In summary, through the implementation of specific policies and measures such as pollution control, conservation and development of natural resources, and investment in renewable energy, the Communist Party of Vietnam has demonstrated a strong and enduring commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development. This not only yields immediate benefits but also leaves a significant legacy for future generations.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the policies and measures implemented by the Communist Party of Vietnam in environmental protection is crucial for ensuring the success of the country's sustainable development strategy. This analysis not only assesses the contributions of implemented measures but also identifies challenges to be addressed and new opportunities to be explored.

One of the measures implemented by the Communist Party of Vietnam is pollution control. Despite significant progress in reducing environmental pollution, many issues still need to be addressed. Industrial areas continue to emit large amounts of pollutants, causing air and water pollution. Strengthening pollution control and preventive measures is essential to ensure a healthy living environment for people and preserve natural resources.

Conservation and development of natural resources is another important aspect of environmental protection policies. However, implementing conservation measures still faces many challenges. Illegal deforestation, especially in primary forest areas, remains rampant, leading to significant declines in forest area and biodiversity. To achieve conservation and development goals for natural resources, enhanced management and promotion of environmental regeneration activities are necessary.

Investing in renewable energy is a crucial measure to minimize pollution and reduce dependence on traditional energy sources. However, despite significant progress, renewable energy still falls short of meeting the country's increasing demand. There is a need for enhanced investment and supportive policies to promote the development of the renewable energy sector, from research and technology development to infrastructure construction and widespread adoption.

In conclusion, evaluating the effectiveness of the policies and measures implemented by the Communist Party of Vietnam in environmental protection is extremely important to ensure the country's sustainable development and environmental protection. Enhanced management and promotion of more effective measures are needed to address the growing challenges of environmental and resource management.

The implementation of environmental protection policies by the Communist Party of Vietnam faces challenges and difficulties that need to be evaluated and addressed effectively to ensure the success and sustainability of these measures.

One of the biggest challenges facing the Party is the conflict between economic development goals and environmental protection. During economic development, increasing production and use of resources can lead to increased environmental pollution and depletion of natural resources. The Party needs to find ways to balance these two goals while ensuring that economic development does not harm the environment and vice versa.

Another challenge is illegal deforestation and the loss of habitat for wildlife. Despite existing policies and measures for forest conservation, deforestation continues due to the demand for land for economic development and infrastructure construction. The Party needs to find appropriate solutions to halt this phenomenon while promoting sustainable forest conservation and development.

Furthermore, promoting the use of renewable energy also faces many challenges. Despite increased investment and support from the government, limitations still exist in infrastructure construction and technology development. To achieve the goal of widespread use of renewable energy, the Party needs to promote research and technology development, as well as create policies to encourage and support individuals and businesses to participate in this field.

In summary, facing challenges and difficulties in implementing environmental protection policies is inevitable. However, by recognizing and addressing these issues effectively, the Communist Party of Vietnam can continue to strengthen environmental protection and sustainable development in the country.

## **II. Conclusion**

Environmental protection is an undeniable responsibility of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Despite facing many challenges, the Party has demonstrated a strong commitment through the implementation of specific policies and measures. However, promoting sustainable development still faces many difficulties, from balancing economic development with environmental protection to preventing illegal deforestation and promoting the use of renewable energy. The Party believes that, with the solidarity and efforts of all stakeholders, the goal of environmental protection and sustainable development will be achieved. In the future, the Party will continue to prioritize healthy and sustainable living environments in its policies and measures to protect the future generations of the country.

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