

**RESULTS OF THE VISIT OF PITEÅ'S DELEGATION
20 TO 25 OCTOBER 2019 IN VIET NAM**



I. MAIN ACTIVITIES

1. Workshop (October 21st, 2019) in Long Xuyên, An Giang
2. Site visits (March 04th, 2019) at Châu Thành district, An Giang
3. Training (October 22nd, 2019) in Long Xuyên, An Giang
4. Project group meetings (October 23rd to 25th, 2019) in Đà Lạt, Lâm Đồng

II. RESULTS

1. Workshop (October 21st, 2019) in Long Xuyên, An Giang

Participants: Helena Karlberg, Jonas Lindberg, Ida Karlberg, Phạm Ngọc Xuân, Trần Trường Giang, Nguyễn Hữu Trục, Trịnh Thị Kim Vô, Nguyễn Công Kha, Trần Nhân Tâm, Lê Thanh Thảo, Nguyễn Ngọc Mộng Kha, Nguyễn Hoài Nam, Lê Hoàng Tuấn, Cao Phan Tâm Yên, Bùi Dung, Quách Yến Phương Nguyễn Thanh Duy, Trần Quốc Trường, Nguyễn Đăng Khoa, Lê Thanh Phong and representatives from An Giang News and TV station.



Contents:

- ❖ In the morning of October 21st, 2019, the Swedish delegation and the An Giang-Sweden Project Management Unit held an international workshop with the goal of establishing business networks between An Giang and Piteå as well as introducing of Piteå Science Park to the delegates.
- ❖ Mrs. Phạm Ngọc Xuan, Director of An Giang-Sweden Project Management Unit has a brief introduction about the cooperation program between the two sides from 2010 to the present.

- ❖ After participants introduced themselves, Mrs. Helena Karlberg, CEO of Piteå Science Park presented the city of Piteå such as: Geography, key areas of Piteå, strengths as well as potentials for development.
- ❖ Besides, she also introduced about Piteå Science Park, organizational structure, field of activities in clean technology and creative industry, number of employees. She also introduced the successful startup model of Sunpine and the tree hotel. Piteå's goal is to attract businesses, academically and socially; increase attractiveness in research and learning; promote development and innovation; entrepreneurship develops ideas and culture that creates value.

- ❖ Mr. Jonas Lindberg, Chairman of Piteå Science Park also gave a presentation about Smurfit Kappa Company. The company has branches in over 30 countries with about 46,000 employees. It is Europe's largest paper mill and also the largest private sector plant in Piteå. The operation of the factory is a circular economic model: Planting - exploiting - replanting - producing - utilizing by-products. We can apply this model to rice in An Giang.



- ❖ Participants were divided into groups to practice canvas business model under the guidance of Helena Karlberg and Jonas Lindberg.



2. Site visits at Châu Thành district, An Giang

Participants: Nguyễn Công Kha, Trần Nhân Tâm, Lê Thanh Thảo

Contents: The Swedish delegation visited An Giang Biotechnology Center and visited the cylinder mushroom growing model of the project at Duong Van Tai household, Vinh Loi commune, Chau Thanh district, An Giang province.



3. Training (October 22nd, 2019) in Long Xuyên, An Giang

Participants: Helena Karlberg, Jonas Lindberg, Phạm Ngọc Xuân, Trịnh Thị Kim Vô, Nguyễn Công Kha, Trần Nhân Tâm, Lê Thanh Thảo, Nguyễn Ngọc Mộng Kha, Quách Yến Phượng, Lê Hoàng Tuấn.

Contents:

On the morning of October 22, 2019, representatives of Piteå Science Park continued to host the start-up support training class. This is an annual project activity that aims to support students, businesses and citizens to develop their business ideas or projects.



Projects are developed according to the Canvas business model. This is a modern business modeling tool designed by Alexander Osterwalder and Yves Pigneur, including 09 elements corresponding to the 09 factors that make up the organization of a company. Its main purpose is to assist businesses in consolidating their business activities by illustrating potential tradeoffs. By simplifying business plans in an intuitive and easy-to-understand manner, the model has been widely adopted by business people for its benefits and efficiency. Currently, many businesses in Piteå as well as Vietnam have applied the Canvas business model to analyze the business situation and find the optimal profit generation method.

4. Project group meetings (October 22nd to 25th, 2019) in Đà Lạt, Lâm Đồng

4.1. October 22nd, 2019: Project members went to Đà Lạt from Hồ Chí Minh city and An Giang.

4.2. October 23rd to 25th, 2019: Project group meetings

Participants: Bo Wiberg, Maria Widman, Göran Dahlén, Helena Karlberg, Jonas Lindberg, Nguyễn Thị Vân Hà, Phạm Ngọc Xuân, Trịnh Thị Kim Vô, Trần Nhân Tâm, Phạm Thị Như, Cao Phan Tâm Yên, Nguyễn Ngọc Mộng Kha.



Contents:

4.2.1. Progress of project activities in 2019:

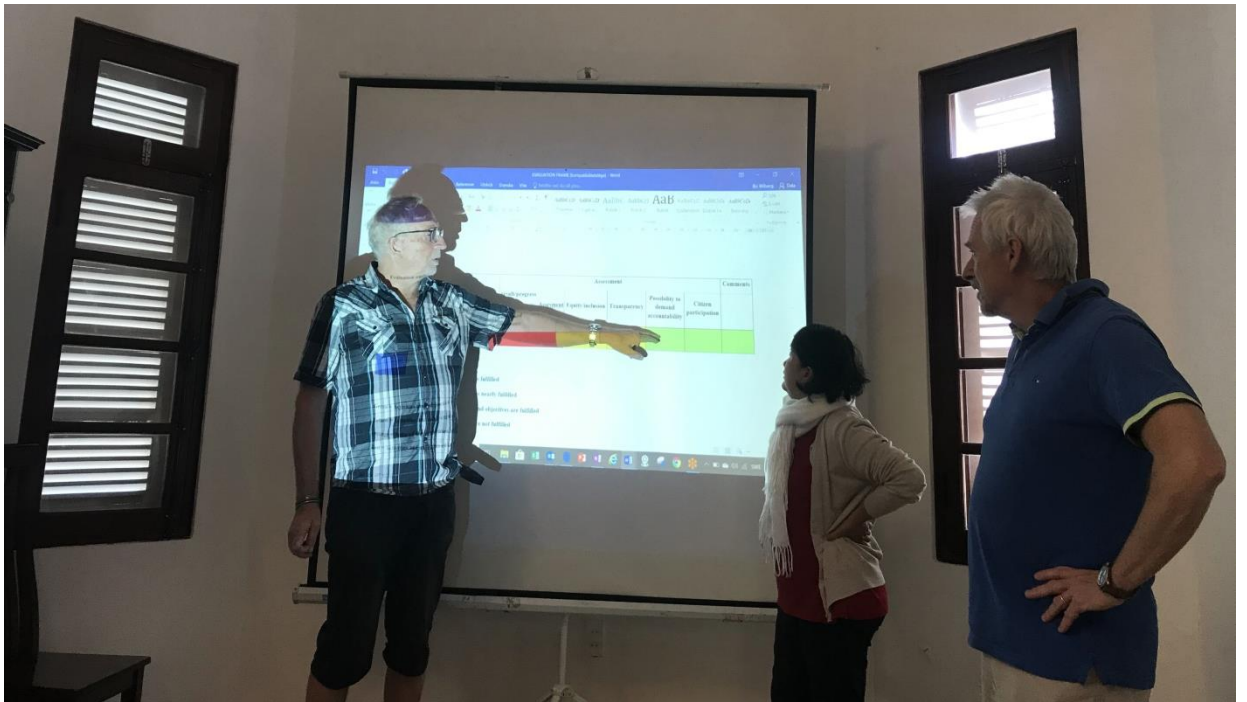
- ❖ What have been done:
 - Most of the activities have been carried out but we need to discuss more about how they are implemented, their impacts and their impacts.
 - The project website needs to add a link to the project's account on facebook. Also need to update the project information, photos, and news regularly.
 - Video clip: Project Management Unit in cooperation with An Giang Radio and Television Station has implemented and is adding English subtitles to clip.
 - Straw Rice utilization demonstration programs: Completed.
 - Study tour at the An Giang BioTech center: Need to organize one more study tour im 2019.
 - Online meeting: More information is needed for students on both sides. One thing to note is that in the new project we do not have funds for students to exchange between An Giang and Piteå so we need to connect them right now from this project.
 - In addition we need to discuss how to organize meetings, select and contact this group of students. A description of how activity should be described so that the ICLD can evaluate the process (send invitation with a full description of the project activity, the purpose of the activity, the criteria to be selected for participation).

- Study tour in China: Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyen Thi Van Ha has contacted a private company in Jiangsu but they need to know the specific participants.
- All participants agreed that we need to add detailed description of how to implement each project activity.
- ❖ What need to done:
 - Distant meetings between youngsters, Grans and Biotech center.
 - Study tour at Biotech center of An Giang.
 - Study tour in China.
 - Workshop on introduction of updated information about rice value chain and energy technologies.
 - Meetings for knowledge exchange and sharpen plan for a small scale pilot plant.

4.2.2. Discussed and built up activity plan for 2020

- ❖ An Giang to Piteå:
 - In March 2020
 - Activities: Steering group meeting and project group meeting
 - An Giang should determine the specific participants and date in early November 2019.
- ❖ Piteå to An Giang:
 - In November 2020
 - Activities: Steering group meeting and project group meeting and dissemination workshop.
 - In particular, the dissemination workshop will be held in November 2020 in Long Xuyên, An Giang. Mr. Bo Wiberg will contact ICLD to inquire about detailed information to apply for funding in February 2020.
- ❖ Discussions between project members must be reported to the Steering group's members on both sides.

4.2.3. Project evaluation framework



- ❖ Evaluation framework: Need to add description/definition, guidance for each of the core area of the ICLD.
- ❖ When evaluating activities, we need to focus on assessing the objectives of the project.
- ❖ When implementing activities, we also need to pay attention to the implementation process, linking to issues on four key areas of the ICLD (Fairness, participation, transparency and accountability).

4.2.4. Content evaluated from the learning case study report of Ms. Do Thi Phuong Thao (Ms. Thao Do)



- ❖ Based on expert judgment, we need to link project activities to key areas of ICLD. In addition, we need to describe in detail how to discuss the activity, how to invite participants, content - the invited components in the project evaluation framework to be able to evaluate each project activity in detail.

- ❖ The An Giang side also provided comments on the content of the evaluation conducted by Ms. Thao Do, which should be more specific, and should send a report to the relevant organizations and individuals for information. In addition, if there is any problem that is unclear or needs to be redefined, it can be discussed via skype with project members of An Giang and Piteå.

4.2.5. Contents of the broadening project proposal

- ❖ Mr. Göran Dahlén, Piteå's international project coordinator, announced that ICLD has closed funding for the youth project. Therefore, the new project content is discussed from the analysis of challenges and problems of both sides. In which the project members proposed the field of green energy combined with sustainable agriculture and development. Activities can include many different activities such as: planting trees under solar panels and using solar energy to dry medicinal herbs or agricultural products. However, specific activities will be discussed in detail during the 6 months in 2020.
- ❖ In addition, ICLD has sent an invitation to Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Thi Van Ha to participate in submission local policy research outline. Members participate in this research proposal will also develop a policy proposal and submit it with new proposal of 03 years project within the An Giang - Piteå cooperation program in October 2020. We need to contact ICLD for more information of application time next year.
 - Ho Chi Minh City University of Natural Resources and Environment will be the unit submits the proposal to ICLD for funding to local policy research outline.
 - An Giang Provincial People's Committee together with Piteå city will be the unit submitting the proposal for funding for the 3-year project (2021 - 2023).

4.2.6. Discuss activities that contribute to the promotion of core areas of the ICLD

Four core areas of ICLD were introduced to project members, namely:

- ❖ Equity is understood as that people should be treated the same regardless of their conditions, circumstances and positions. All citizens have equal opportunity to express their aspirations. The government should take measures to avoid discrimination, especially disadvantaged groups, women, ethnic minorities, etc.
- ❖ Participation means that local governments have a responsible role in actively promoting citizen participation in decision-making processes related to shaping public policies and services at the local level. The important point is the method of how people influence and impact on the major issues in the locality and how to governments to strengthen dialogue with people and meet the desired aspirations of the people.

- ❖ Transparency is clarity to people about the steps in the decision-making process, from planning to decision-making in public areas. This is a prerequisite for people to have information as a basis to be able to participate in important activities directly related to them in the locality.
- ❖ Accountability: the relationship between rights and responsibilities should be clarified to the people and they can ask for accountability because not all decisions have direct participation of the people. Therefore, clearly informing the public about the decision made, who is responsible for what part and in case of wrongdoing, what will be the consequences and who will be how accountability and responsibility are prerequisites for this characteristic.
- ❖ Members discussed which activities of the new project promote human rights in the human rights statement. In particular, the new project will focus on the right to education, labor, prosperity... This content will continue to be discussed among project members.
- ❖ The discussed issues were how to incorporate these principles into local practice and when implementing each project activity to ensure or contribute to equity, participation, transparency and accountability. Since then, it has strengthened a government that takes people as the root and keeps people in the position of 'owner' in the locality.

4.2.7. Wrap-up meeting

On October 25, 2019, the members had a wrap-up meeting and concluded the following conclusions:

- ❖ Time frame of the current project (Project " Implementation of action plan for a sustainable An Giang province" period 2018-2020):
 - March 2020: Steering group meeting and the project group meeting in Piteå, Sweden.
 - November 2020: Steering group meeting, project group meeting and dissemination workshop in An Giang.
- ❖ An Giang needs to send the list before November 15, 2019 so that the Piteå project members prepare to buy air tickets and arrange schedule of project members from Piteå's side to participate in activities.
- ❖ Time frame of the expansion project (if funded by ICLD):
 - June 2020: Group meeting to write project outline in Piteå, Sweden.
 - September 2020: Group meeting to write project outline in Vietnam.

	2019			2020										2021	2022	2023		
Time	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	march	april	may	june	july	aug/sept	sept	oct	nov	dec	jan' 21		
Present project	Meeting Da Lat					meet Piteå									Dissemination			
Broadening project	application								meet Piteå		meet Viet							
Next project													application					
Reasearch project												application?	Check with ICLD			max 18 month		

- ❖ The members of the team in charge of writing new project outline will be revised to suit the province's cooperation orientation.
- ❖ Project members also emphasized the need for additional information: Describe how to implement each project activity and evaluate the process or results that contribute to strengthening the core areas of the ICLD. An Giang will prepare this content and send it to Piteå.
- ❖ Besides, how to evaluate the progress and results of implementation of the Action Plan and climate change is essential. The impact of the Action Plan on climate change and socio-economic is very important in the report to ICLD. The content of the evaluation framework should be sent to the relevant units to aggregate information. Relevant Departments will review the task and give an assessment of each activity according to the ICLD criteria.
- ❖ Study tour in China:
 - Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Thị Vân Hà and GS. Jan Dahl will discuss in more detail to have specific program.
 - Mr. Bo Wiberg will check the funding to cover for Swedish experts.
 - An Giang side will also identify specific participants.
 - Suggested date: Beginning of December 2020.
- ❖ The location and time to organize activities (workshops and training) are important. The first few days of the week are the busiest days. This is a factor affecting the participation, especially civil servants and students.

4.2.9. Field trips:

- ❖ The delegation also spent time visiting the flower and ornamental flower farms of Dalat people. From there, learn new business ideas for farmers in An Giang, from identifying strengths and potentials, to applying techniques and high technologies in cultivation to commercializing products.
- ❖ Besides, members of the Swedish delegation were delighted to experience Vietnamese culture in different regions.

III. CONCLUSION

- ❖ The activities took place as planned and achieved high efficiency. Especially, the detailed implementation plan for the year 2020 was commented by members to have the most effective direction. Problems and difficulties are also discussed openly to find solutions together.
- ❖ Representative of Science Park highly appreciates the working spirit and projects and ideas of participants in the workshop and training.
- ❖ However, all activities also need to be informed to all members of the Steering group and be discussed more in details later through email before final decisions.

Prepared by: Ms. Trinh Thi Kim Vo, coordinator of the project

Appendix 1

TIMELINE OF THE PROJECT IN 2020

1. Project "Implementation of action plan for a sustainable An Giang province"

Month	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Activity			An Giang to Pitea								Pitea to An Giang	

2. The expansion project (6 months)

Month	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Activity						An Giang to Pitea		Pitea to An Giang		15/10 Submit a new 03 year propos al to ICLD		

3. Local policy research outline

Month	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Activity	Preparing application								Submit to ICLD			

Appendix 2

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

1. Project evaluation framework

Activities	How (detailed description)	When	Indicators	Assessment						Comments
				result/progress (with linked documents)	Democracy	Equity/inclusion	Transparency	Possibility to demand accountability	Citizen participation	



Green: Activities and objectives fulfilled

Yellow: Activities and objectives nearly fulfilled

Orange: Some of the activities and objectives are fulfilled

Red: Activities and objectives are not fulfilled

2. Action plan evaluation framework

Activity plan	How (detailed description)	When	Indicators	Assessment						Comments
				result/progress (with linked documents)	Democracy	Equity/inclusion	Transparency	Possibility to demand accountability	Citizen participation	



Green: Activities and objectives fulfilled

Yellow: Activities and objectives nearly fulfilled

Orange: Some of the activities and objectives are fulfilled

Red: Activities and objectives are not fulfilled