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ABSTRACT NO.6/2023

1. Vu Dinh Muoi: *Some Issues on Sustainable Livelihood Development of Khmer People in the Mekong Delta: Research in Soc Trang Province*

Abstract: Poverty and livelihood instability persist among the Khmer people in the Mekong Delta, despite considerable support from the State and international organisations. Approaching the issue from the perspective of Ethnology/Anthropology and drawing on fieldwork data, this article focuses on analysing and elucidating the primary factors influencing the livelihoods of Khmer households. Research findings reveal that factors such as rice monoculture, insufficient arable land, low levels of education, limited non-agricultural labour skills, minimal exposure to and interaction with the external world, ineffective policies, and the impacts of climate change are key contributors to the high poverty rates and livelihood instability experienced by the Khmer population in this region. Building on these insights, the author provides recommendations, solutions, and policy implications aimed at fostering sustainable livelihood development for the Khmer in Soc Trang province specifically, and the Mekong Delta at large.

Keywords: Sustainable livelihood development, Khmer, Soc Trang province, Mekong Delta.

2. Vu Thi Hai Ha: *Khmer Labour Migration in Tinh Bien Town, An Giang Province Nowadays*

Abstract: Over the past two decades, alongside traditional livelihood activities, labour migration has emerged as a new strategy for the Khmer people in the Southwestern provinces of Vietnam. In Tinh Bien town, An Giang province, the trend of working far from home, particularly migrating to cities and inland industrial zones searching for employment, has gained popularity within the Khmer community. In certain hamlets and clusters in Tinh Bien town, the rate of labour migration is relatively high, accounting for approximately 30% of the Khmer population. Drawing on the findings of ethnographic fieldwork and a questionnaire survey conducted in three hamlets and clusters in Van Giao commune and An Phu ward of Tinh Bien town in December 2022 and June 2023, this article aims to elucidate the Khmer migration situation and provide an explanation for the underlying reasons.

Keywords: Labor migration, Khmer people, Tinh Bien, An Giang.

3. Pham Thanh Thoi: *Expanding Coffee-growing Area: Livelihood Strategy of Chil Households in the Central Highlands*

Abstract: Since the Renovation (Đổi Mới) in Vietnam, numerous Chil households, a subgroup of the Co Ho ethnic group in the Central Highlands, have shifted from traditional farming to cultivating coffee in an expanding area in Lam Dong province. Drawing on field data from Chil communities, the article analyses the livelihood strategies of Chil families engaged in coffee cultivation. This shift serves as a means

to establish land use rights, especially in a context where land has become a commodity, and to generate capital through networks of commodity exchange and credit. The research results form a scientific basis for revising policies to support agricultural commodity production and promote sustainable livelihood development for Chil households, specifically, and ethnic minorities in the Central Highlands more broadly.

Keywords: Coffee plant, livelihood, household, Chil people, Central Highlands.

4. Truong Thi Hanh: *The Development of High-tech Agriculture in the Central Highlands Nowadays and Some Solutions*

Abstract: The Central Highlands occupy a pivotal strategic position in the country's economy, culture, society, and politics, boasting favourable conditions for comprehensive agricultural development. Recently, there has been a push for high-tech agriculture in this region. While it has initially yielded positive results in production efficiency and increased economic value, these outcomes do not fully align with the potential and strength of the area. This article analyses the current state of high-tech agricultural development in the Central Highlands and suggests solutions to overcome challenges and limitations, aiming to foster the advancement of high-tech agriculture in this region.

Keywords: Central Highlands, agriculture, high technology, solutions.

5. Doan Viet: *Hmong and Dao People's Social Networks in some new Livelihood Activities (Case Study in Muong Khuong District, Lao Cai Province)*

Abstract: Social networks play an essential role, significantly influencing emerging livelihood activities in the dynamic landscape of market-driven economic development, particularly in border areas. Drawing on fieldwork conducted among the Hmong and Dao ethnic groups in the Muong Khuong district, Lao Cai province, this article illustrates the impact of social networks on the development of new livelihoods within each ethnic community. The primary factors contributing to these effects stem from the distinctive cultural and economic characteristics of each ethnic group. Subsequently, the article delves into elucidating the role of social networks in the initiation of people's new livelihood activities and their utilization in discovering, establishing connections, and sustaining the development of these livelihoods.

Keywords: Social networks, new livelihoods, Hmong people, Dao people, Muong Khuong, Lao Cai.

6. Vu Thi Thanh: *Obstacles Faced by Ethnic Minorities in Vietnam in Accessing Social Services*

Abstract: Access to social services, such as education and healthcare, is crucial for human capital formation and the advancement of human development. Nevertheless, various impediments confront socially disadvantaged groups, particularly ethnic minorities, in their pursuit of education and health services. These challenges impede

their development trajectory and expose them to the risk of social isolation. The dearth of access to educational and healthcare facilities constrains opportunities and the capacity to nurture both physical and intellectual capabilities, thereby restricting prospects for further development. Utilizing secondary data analysis, this article delineates the obstacles that ethnic minorities encounter in accessing education and health services. Subsequently, the study posits several solutions aimed at augmenting access to education and health services to foster the social integration of ethnic minorities.

Keywords: Access to social services, obstacles, education, health, ethnic minorities.

7. Nguyen Thanh Xuan, Nguyen Quynh Tram: *Religious Landscape in the Ethnic Minority Areas of Vietnam*

Abstract: *Freedom of belief and religion is a universal right, irrespective of ethnicity or social class, and is consistently acknowledged and safeguarded by the law. However, ethnic minorities adhering to religious practices often encounter numerous challenges related to policies and their implementation, particularly in the realms of ethnic and religious policies. The religious landscape in the ethnic minority areas of Vietnam is multifaceted; this article elucidates the religious scenario in representative ethnic communities. These encompass the Hmong in the Northern mountainous region, who practice Catholicism and Protestantism; ethnic minorities in the Central Highlands and Central Coast highlands, who follow Catholicism and Protestantism; the Khmer people in the South, who adhere to Theravada Buddhism; and the Cham people in the South Central and Southern regions, who observe Brahmanism and Islam.*

Keywords: Religion, ethnic minorities, Vietnam.

8. Vo Hoang Nhan: *Promoting the Moral Values and Lifestyle of Nun Huynh Lien in Mendicant Buddhism Today*

Abstract: *Nun Huynh Lien serves as the Abbess of Mendicant Buddhism. Amidst a period of national conflict with the American invasion, she made significant contributions to both Dharma and the nation. This article provides an overview of the moral values and lifestyle of Nun Huynh Lien, aiming to highlight the ongoing efforts to promote her exemplary conduct within the Mendicant Buddhist Sangha, especially in Can Tho province. The intention is to propagate the Abbess's example widely among monks, nuns, Buddhists, and young individuals, fostering their commitment to religious practices. This, in turn, is anticipated to yield tangible contributions to the noble cause of constructing and safeguarding the Motherland.*

Keywords: Ethics, moral values, lifestyle, Nun Huynh Lien, Mendicant Buddhism.

9. Sa Thi Thanh Nga: *Cultural Changes of Nung People in Cao Bang Province's Border Area in the Context of Integration and Development*

Abstract: *Recently, the cultural life of the Nung people in the Vietnam-China border area in Cao Bang province has been changing in many aspects. This is inevitable in the development process of the ethnic group, especially in the context of strong economic, cultural, and social integration and development today. Research results indicate that the cultural life of the Nung people has changed significantly. The Nung people have mostly absorbed cultural values from the Kinh people living adjacent to them in Vietnam and the Zhuang people on the Chinese border, gradually changing their long-standing traditional cultural values. Along with the tendency of development and integration, in the coming time, the culture of the Nung people tends to continue to change more robustly, creating new values and making their culture increasingly rich and diverse.*

Keywords: *Cultural change, Nung people, border area, Cao Bang province.*

10. Le Tran Quyen: Funeral Rituals of Brau Ethnic Group in Kon Tum Province: Traditions and Changes

Abstract: *Funeral rituals are essential in the human life cycle. Each ethnic community has its outlook on life, which is expressed with unique characteristics through this ritual. Based on fieldwork results on the Brau ethnic group in Dak Me village, Po Y commune, Ngoc Hoi district, Kon Tum province, the article clarifies traditional characteristics and changes in Brau people's funeral rituals. Thereby, it points out the causes of change and discusses the issue of preserving and promoting the cultural value of this ethnic group's funeral rituals in the current context.*

Keywords: *Funeral rituals, Brau ethnic group, Kon Tum.*