Outcome of poverty reduction for ethnic minorities and the policy orientation for the upcoming years

Thai Nguyen, June 2014

Issued specific policies for poverty reduction

1. Resolution 30a

- The beginning of the actual needs of the local poverty reduction;
- Develop mechanisms, policies, guidelines, organization inspection and evaluation;
- Additional beneficiary of the mechanisms and policies under resolution 30a;
- Rapid poverty reduction outcome in the poor districts.

Issued specific policies for poverty reduction

- 2. Preparation and promulgation of Resolution 80/NQ-CP
- Prioritizing investment resources for the poor districts, poor communes and particularly destitute villages;
- Forming 2 policy groups: general poverty reduction policies group and specific poverty reduction policies group;
- 3. Formed National Front Program of sustainable poverty reduction in the period

Issued specific policies for poverty reduction

- 4. National policies and poverty reduction programs mainly focused on ethnic minority and mountainous areas; In most fields of life as: production support, education, health, housing, land, productive land, clean water, hygiene; accessing to information legal aid.....
- 5. Investment resources for poor district, poor commune and minority regions accounting for over 90% of the total capital of the country.

The determination of poor ethnic minority households

1. Preparation and promulgation of the standards of poor households, practically poor households applied in each phase

Instruction for investigation process, annual checking of the poor and practically poor households and the instruction in determining and classifying poor households, including the subject of poor households in ethnic minority areas.

The determination of poor ethnic minority households

- 2. Poverty outcomes in ethnic minority areas
- a) In the period 2005-2010

The poverty rate had declined from 22% (2005) to 9.45% (2010);

The poverty rate in particularly poor communes and villages had declined from 47% (2006) to 28.8% (2010).

The determination of poor ethnic minority households

b) In the period 2010-2013

The national poverty rate had declined from 14.2% (2010) to 7.8% (2013);

The poverty rate in 62 poor districts under Resolution 30a/2008/NQ-CP decreased from 58.33% (2010) to 38.20% (2013); The poverty rate in poor districts had reduced to average 5-7% a year.

In the field of Vocational Labor Employment

1. Issued policies of vocational training for rural workers under Resolution 1956/QĐ-TTg, including preferential policies for the poor workers in the ethnic minority areas

In 3 years (2010-2012), the vocational training for the 223 792 people in ethnic minorities area (primary education and vocational training under 3 months), accounted for 20.6% apprenticeship supported by the national government

In the field of Vocational Labor Employment

2. Issued the Decision 71/2009/QĐ-TTg on April 29, 2009, on the approval of supporting scheme for poor communes to promote labor exports contributing to sustainable poverty reduction

From 2009 to present, there were more than 20.000 labors in poor commune who register, over 10,000 laborers were sent overseas to work in Malaysia, UAE, South Korea, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan ... in which the overseas employment of the poor in ethnic minorities accounted for 95%.

In the field of Vocational Labor - Employment and

- 3. Employment policies also contributed to poverty reduction in mountainous regions
- Resolved the employment problem for hundreds of thousands workers among the ethnic minorities people;
- Particularly the job creation of the National Endowment
- Particularly supported by the National Endowment over tens of thousands of workers in the localities to get loans, and create jobs.

Limitations, Survival and Reasons

1. Limitations and survival rate

- The results of poverty rate is unstable, rich-poor disparities between regions and population groups are not decreasing, particularly in the mountainous regions in the North and Highlands
- Although the poverty rate has dropped quickly, in many places the poverty rate is still over 50%, mostly over 60-70%...

Limitations, Survival and Reasons

- A number of policies are much fragmented, scattered, and some are inappropriate and ineffective.
- The implementing policies in some places are not timely and appropriate because the policies have no linkage between life support, no production development, including the transfer of science and technology, technical progress, and environmental protection.

Limitations, Survival and Reasons

- The Plan of resources is disproportionate with the issued policies; ineffective policy implementation in a number of locals; lack of balance between budget allocation for infrastructure investment to support the livelihoods of the people
- Many policies are almost given away, create dependence of beneficiaries, lack of fairness and do not promote the active role of the people
- Nhiều chính sách còn cho không, tạo ra sự ỷ lại của đối tượng thụ hưởng, thiếu công bằng và chưa phát huy vai trò chủ động của người dân.

Limitations, survival and Reasons

2. Reasons

- a) General reasons:
- The foundation of socio economic conditions in the mountainous regions is weak
- The capability to receive language policy support of the ethnic minorities is limited, mostly difficulties in language communication proficiency.

Limitations, survival and Reasons

- b) Particular reasons:
- Restrictions on information and propaganda;
- Not interested in investing livelihood creation, and lack of authority among the people in the community;
- Limitations in resources integration leading to broaden, scatter, and no synergistic effect and real impact to beneficiaries.
- Chưa quan tâm đầu tư hỗ trợ tạo sinh kế, thiếu cơ chế trao quyền cho cộng đồng, người dân;

1. General Orientation

- To review, amend, or supplement policies in ethnic minorities by forming overall, multipurpose and long-term policies.
- Policies should focus in supporting the development of household production, creating jobs income increase, and ensure adequate specific needs for households.

- 2. Specific contents for the direction of modification mechanisms and policies to reduce poverty after 2015
- Credit policy incentives for poor households: integrate some programs on existing preferential credit plan, consider households as center, credit limit must meet the households priority needs, and issue lending policy with interest rate of 0%;

- Research mechanism for decentralization and empowerment of the communities by directly implementing poverty reduction policies, associated with the actual needs of the people to preserve and promote the nation's cultural identity.
- Research on supplement policies on production support for poor households, just out of poverty households, mostly to mountainous areas and ethnic minority areas.

- The support policies of education and training for poor students: integrate a systematic policy on the existing poverty reduction plan, based on the minimum essential needs that the poor should have access to education — training services; research, and develop policies with regulations on specific work placements for boarding schools.

- The policies of production support for poor household: to build general policies of production support for poor households, practically poor households, including priority support for households in ethnic minorities, poor households in poor districts, poor communes, practically poor households and recently improved poverty households; and application of allocating the livelihood needs of the communities which are appropriate to each locality, and ethnic group.

- The policy of legal aid for the poor: intergration of general policies on legal aids for the poor, ethnic minority households, including preferential policies for the poor households in poor districts and communes; expansion of beneficiaries for poor people with practically poor households and recently improved from poverty households.

- Specific policies for ethnic minorities: integration of common policies specifically for ethnic minorities, including priority ethnic minority groups.
- The policies on vocational training, creating job, overseas work:
 - + Policy on creating job: regulations on supporting policies to change career and job creation; and policies for creating public jobs.

+Policies for vocational training: unify the existing vocational training programs; amend and supplement meals and return the allowance policy to rural labors of poor and practically poor households.

+ Support policy for overseas workers: to increase the level of support for prospective overseas workers and expand its allocation.

- The support policy for transfer of science and technology: integrated policies to support the transfer of scientific and engineering for poor households, practically poor households and just recently improved from poverty households, priority must be given to poor ethnic minority households

- Management mechanism: research and development management mechanism investment capital for poverty reduction, the mechanisms for establishing and delivering annual plans in the medium term to strengthen decentralization and empowerment for locals, grassroots and communities; integrated programs and projects to limit the duplication of investment in building essential infrastructure at the commune and under commune level.
- Mechanism of payment and settlement capital assigned for community as investor.