

# THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM CONTINUES TO INHERIT AND PROMOTE HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY

*Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hoang Phuc Lam*

*hoangphuclam@hcma.vn*

*Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Hanoi, Vietnam*

*MA. Hoang Dieu Thao*

*hdthao@hunre.edu.vn*

*Hanoi University of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam*

## **Abstract**

*Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development is his system of views on the development of political, economic, cultural and social fields in association with the protection of natural resources and the environment, in which people are the center of development to build Viet Nam as a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, and strong country; fulfill international obligations and ensure the development of the next generation. His concept shows the scientific, revolutionary and humanistic nature, agrees with the modern world's concept of sustainable development, continues to be considered as the ideological foundation and guideline for the Party's actions and the Vietnamese Revolution. It is an invaluable spiritual asset for our Party and nation to continue to successfully implement the country's sustainable development strategy in the current period of national renewal, integration and development.*

**Keywords:** *Communist Party of Vietnam, innovation, sustainable development*

## **1. Introduction**

President Ho Chi Minh lived and operated in an era where the development of the industrial economy had not yet set an urgent need, and the problem of environmental pollution was not widespread, that is, there is no basis for the theory of sustainable development to appear. However, with his strategic vision, in reasoning as well as directing the development of the country, President Ho Chi Minh has always focused on putting people as the center for development, economic development associated with economic development. Cultural and social development and protection of the living environment - these are also the fundamental ideas of sustainable development today. Inheriting and continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development, the Party's policy through each period, especially through each congress, has made great strides in awareness as well as in guiding the implementation of sustainable development in Vietnam.

## **2. Method**

The research is based on the theoretical basis of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, viewpoints and lines of the Communist Party of Vietnam, policies and laws of the State of Vietnam on sustainability development and related issues. Selectively acquire research results published by scientists on sustainable development. To study the topic, the authors base themselves on the actual achievements and limitations and inadequacies in implementing sustainable development in Vietnam through 35 years of renovation. Especially focusing on the changes in awareness and actions to achieve the sustainable development goals Since Vietnam started to carry out activities on a national scale as well as attend and sign commitments at international conferences on sustainable development (from 1991 to present)

The research is based on the methodology of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought to deploy research tasks. Focus on using interdisciplinary methods of social sciences and humanities. Using a combination of methods: History, logic, combining history with logic, analysis, synthesis, comparison, forecasting... These specific research methods are used flexibly and appropriately to have a analyzes, comments and assessments on the issue that the Communist Party of Vietnam continues to apply and promote President Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable national development in theoretical awareness as well as practical direction.

## **3. Results**

Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development has been interested and researched by many scientists. Some typical works related to the topic: “Book of Development Philosophy - From Marxism-Leninism to Ho Chi Minh” (Huyen, Nguyen Van, 2001); “Culture and Philosophy of Development in Ho Chi Minh Thought” (Lam, Dinh Xuan, & Phong, Bui Dinh, 2007); “The work of Ho Chi Minh Thought - Human values and development” (Tan, Ta Ngoc, 2015)... pointed out the core arguments, propositions, and ideas that contain human values and developed in Ho Chi Minh's thought, has great significance for the revolutionary cause of Vietnam and the world. Human values and development in his thought are the basis for our Party to develop policies and guidelines for economic, political, cultural, social and foreign development, in order to build Vietnam as a developed, people-oriented country.

The Party's policy and views on developing the country in a sustainable, long-term and certain direction, there are also many research works such as: “30 years of renovation and development in Vietnam”, this is a combined work research results of the state program (Huynh, Dinh The, Phu, Phung Huu, Nghia, Le Huu, Hien, Vu Van & Thong, Nguyen Viet, 2015); In general, when assessing sustainable development in Vietnam, there is “Vietnam Report 2035, Towards Prosperity, Innovation, Equity and Democracy” (Ministry of

Planning and Investment & World Bank Group, 2016). Through research works, scientists of Vietnam and the world believe that: The success of 30 years of renovation puts more expectations and heavier responsibilities on the future of Vietnam.

In-depth research on the perception of the Party and the State in implementing sustainable development has the article “Sustainable development in Vietnam - Guidelines and some results” (Dung, Vu Thi Mac, 2019), showing that sustainable development Sustainability is an inevitable global trend and becomes the focus of development strategies of many countries. The work has generalized and systematically on the leadership of the Party for the sustainable development of Vietnam; “Our Party's awareness and resolution of the relationship between innovation, stability and development” (Phong, Tran Van, 2019) has re-organized the entire process of cognitive development and practical direction of the Communist Party of Vietnam. From the 6th to the 12th congress on the relationship between innovation, stability and development.

The research works have initially generalized and suggested the viewpoints, contents and values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development, showing that Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development is not only an invaluable asset for the Vietnamese revolution but also has profound contemporary significance.

Through studying the status of sustainable development in Vietnam, researchers have focused on affirming that in order to survive and develop, Vietnam must have policies and measures for economic development but still ensure social justice. National security is guaranteed and associated with environmental protection.

In fact, the Party and State of Vietnam were soon aware of the great role of the country's sustainable development, so in the international perspective, Vietnam is a country that has made commitments as well as roadmap to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. However, the issue of the Communist Party of Vietnam leading the country's sustainable development according to Ho Chi Minh's thought has not yet been systematically discussed and needs to be further studied.

Therefore, the results of the study of the problem: “*The communist Party of Vietnam continues to inherit and promote Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development of the country*” will contribute to supplementing and enriching the scientific awareness of Ho Chi Minh's ideological values on sustainable development as well as the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought to solving problems development sustainable in Vietnam today. In particular, it will contribute to providing more scientific basis for the Communist Party of Vietnam to continue to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought in the process of formulating guidelines and policies to ensure the sustainable development of the country in the period of renovation, integration and development.

#### 4. Discussion and Conclusion

##### *Values of Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development*

The term “sustainable development” does not appear directly in President Ho Chi Minh's expression, but the conceptual content has been discussed by Ho Chi Minh when referring to each element of sustainable development as well as the harmonious combination between them to achieve the goal of sustainable development. Even, President Ho Chi Minh also made many profound, comprehensive, systematic, and forward-looking comments on issues related to sustainable development. In today's modern society, these contents have gradually been proven to be true. Maintain political stability, clean up the apparatus, ensure the sustainable development of the country; comprehensively develop Vietnamese culture and people, creating a driving force for sustainable development; Economic development is the premise, the basis for cultural and social development, in order to eliminate poverty and backwardness, bring enough food, warm clothes and happiness to the people, and bring Vietnam to the next level. progressive countries in the world; Economic development is not “trade-off” at all costs even though the cause of national construction and development after the war requires exploitation of many natural resources. Exploitation needs to be planned, associated with economical, efficient and reasonable use and associated with environmental protection, planting trees causing forests, protecting forests... President Ho Chi Minh had the right perception of Sustainable development, linking economic development with protection of the ecological environment, he initiated the movement “Tree planting festival”. In the economic development of the country to serve the construction of socialism in the North and to support the South, he always emphasized the importance of forest resources, coal, land... He considered this as “gold”, both exploiting for economic development but also having to have a plan for protection, rational use, exploitation of timber combined with afforestation, economical and rational use of coal... In the end of his life, President Ho Chi Minh taught us that we should cremate our bodies and use clean energy sources to protect the environment for us and for future generations. Knowing how to live not only for the common good but also to take care of the interests of future generations is one of the contents of sustainable development, which was not until 1992 when the United Nations proposed in the “Environment and Development Summit” held in Rio de Janeiro.

In Ho Chi Minh's thought, when he emphasized the role and focus of directing the development of political, economic, cultural, social, and environmental fields, these pillars were dialectical, harmonious relationship, not overemphasizing the one and not taking the other lightly. President Ho Chi Minh did not set them apart, but one pillar will be the premise for another pillar. As he once advised: “Those construction works are closely related to each other” (Minh, Ho Chi, 2011). The development of the country is not only shown through quantitative economic figures, but also through qualitative assessments of areas such as culture, society, and environment. And above all, the basis for harmonious unification for

all these factors is to take people as the center for development.

The important thing is, not only thinking about the development of the country with the content is the harmonious development, closely linked between the fields of social life, between society and the natural environment, Ho Chi Minh said. Minh always emphasizes that this development must be ensured for future generations. Building and developing the country in Ho Chi Minh's thought is to build and develop a country in a sustainable, sure and long-term direction.

Before his death, his last wish was still the goal of sustainable development of the country: "My last wish is: The entire Party and people of our country unite to strive to build a peaceful Vietnam. peace, unity, independence, democracy and prosperity, and worthy contribution to the cause of world revolution" (Minh, Ho Chi, 2011). Sustainable national development in the view of President Ho Chi Minh is to maintain independence and self-control; meet the material and spiritual needs of the people, ensure democratic and equal rights, and fulfill lofty international obligations. The above striving goals are currently continuing to be inherited and strived for by the Communist Party of Vietnam.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, besides brilliant achievements in science and technology and strong development of economies, mankind is also facing great challenges in terms of politics, culture and society and especially environment. A series of serious problems related to the environment have appeared such as: climate change, biodiversity degradation, pollution of toxic and persistent organic substances, soil pollution, air pollution, water pollution, etc. These challenges are increasing day by day, directly threatening human existence on Earth and forcing humanity to switch from a development strategy that focuses on economic growth to a strategy. Sustainable development, 8 *Millennium Goals* were also added, developing into 17 *Sustainable Development Goals* to match the current situation and requirements of global development.

The vitality and value of Ho Chi Minh's thought for the times, with the progressive development of mankind is something that no one can deny, as General Vo Nguyen Giap once affirmed: "The world is still changing. but Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought live forever" (Giap, Vo Nguyen, 2016). In particular, Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development clearly shows that value. While, the United Nations officially launched 8 Millennium Development Goals for Agenda 21 on Sustainable Development in 2007, almost all of these goals have been approved by President Ho Chi Minh mentioned and implemented for decades before, such as: eradicating poverty; raising the people's intellectual level, popularizing education; promoting equality between men and women and empowering women; reducing the child mortality rate; maternal health; prevention of diseases; environmental Protection; establishing international relations for development. It can be seen that, although the wording is different, the millennium goals, today's sustainable

development goals and development goals in Ho Chi Minh's thought all aim at good, humane values, for human, putting people at the center of development.

The issue of sustainable development has gradually become a global issue, requiring the cooperation and contribution of the whole community. In Ho Chi Minh's thought, this issue was recognized by him early. When answering international journalists about foreign policy, President Ho Chi Minh stated that Vietnam “wants to be friends with all democratic countries in the world”. During the first year of the new State of Vietnam, as President, he wrote letters and telegrams many times to the US President, Soviet leader Stalin and the governments of some countries asking to recognize the independence of Vietnam, building friendly relations with Vietnam. The person who expressed Vietnam's desire and determination to join the United Nations.

After 35 years of Vietnam's renovation, construction and development, besides great achievements in economy, culture, society and increasing position in the international arena, Vietnam are also facing many difficulties and challenges. The war has long since receded, but the consequences of the war left on people and nature in Vietnam are still heavy. The psychology of hot economic development leading to uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources causing the danger of environmental pollution is still common. Environmental management is still inadequate, etc. These difficulties show that the awareness of sustainable development is not really complete, the organization and management of sustainable development is not really tight, human resources are also inadequate for sustainable development has not been properly invested and effectively mobilized and promoted...

Moreover, sustainable development is both a problem for the world and a problem for the development path of each country, including Vietnam. Therefore, implementing sustainable development requires both a roadmap, in line with common commitments, and separate measures and steps to suit the context of the country. In order to solve the problems posed in the implementation of sustainable development today, Vietnam needs to make more efforts, not only perfecting the policy lines on sustainable development, but also raising the awareness of political - social organizations, people on sustainable development. These instructions, from the twenties of the twentieth century, were mentioned by President Ho Chi Minh. It can be said that President Ho Chi Minh laid the foundation and continued to orient and suggest sustainable development in Vietnam. Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development is an invaluable spiritual asset for our country's revolution, has great topical significance in the period of industrialization, modernization, renewal, integration and development with the goal: “Fast and sustainable economic development, striving to turn our country basically into a modern industrialized country” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016).

Thus, Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development has profound theoretical

and practical value, continuing to orient and suggest for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy in Vietnam today. Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development has similarities, even surpasses those of progressive humanity's view of sustainable development, which is not only valuable to the nation but also has a profound meaning to the times, with the implementation of the global sustainable development strategy. In the context of innovation, integration and development, the implementation of sustainable development in Vietnam, besides the great achievements, also has limitations, shortcomings, development is not commensurate with the potential and position. Many pillars in development are not really sustainable. Therefore, the Communist Party of Vietnam needs to continue to research, orient and propose solutions to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development to help Vietnam develop stronger and stronger as expected. His wish: To build a new Vietnam, which in the new era can be comparable with the great powers of the five continents.

***Perception and policy of the Communist Party of Vietnam on sustainable development according to Ho Chi Minh's thought***

*The Party's process of awareness and policy on sustainable development*

The value of Ho Chi Minh's thought is affirmed by the Communist Party of Vietnam: “His thought, together with Marxism-Leninism, is the ideological foundation, a guideline for the actions of the Party and the Vietnamese revolution, is the extremely great and precious spiritual assets of the Party and our nation, forever illuminating the way for the revolutionary cause of the Party and our people” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016). Inheriting and affirming the value of Ho Chi Minh's thought, the Communist Party of Vietnam once again affirms that Ho Chi Minh's thought on Vietnam's development is the thought that ensures the country's sustainable development, have national and epochal values: “His thought has been paving the way for our people's struggle to win, becoming sustainable values of the Vietnamese nation and spreading to the world” (Anh, Pham Ngoc & Phong, Bui Dinh, 2018). From the beginning of the renovation period, the Sixth Congress (1986) to the Seventh Congress (1991) and the Eighth Congress (1996), in these congresses, although the term sustainable development has not yet appeared in the the Party's conditions, but it can be affirmed that the chapters and guiding views in the country's development have been directed towards the realization of the country's sustainable development goals. In these documents, it is not difficult to see the common occurrence of the phrases: economic growth associated with progress and social justice; welfare; environmental Protection; implementation of equality between men and women; protection and rational use of resources; against the trend of chasing growth and immediate benefits, harming the environment... Development history has shown that these are all goals of sustainable development in Vietnam and the world. Inheriting Ho Chi Minh's thought, the concept as well as the direction of the Party on the implementation of sustainable development of the

country has formed and developed more and more clearly, showing the correctness, science and creativity.

Especially, since the 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress (2001), the Party's policy on sustainable development has been clearly demonstrated when the field of environment has been really valued and placed in parallel with economic and social development in the goals for developing the country. The rational and economical use of natural resources, together with the protection and improvement of the natural environment, have become an important content in the Socio-Economic Development Strategy 2001-2010: "Fast, efficient and sustainable development. sustainable, economic growth goes hand in hand with progress, social justice and environmental protection" (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2011). The Party advocates that socio-economic development must be closely linked with environmental protection and improvement. Growth is fast, but growth quality must be ensured, that is, growth quality must be improved with a growth model that focuses on balanced investment, not only in the economic field, but also in investment in people. education, health care, renewable resources and environmental protection to ensure the sustainable development of the country.

In the Party's concept, sustainable development is to ensure the simultaneous development of all three pillars of economic, social and environmental sustainability. Economic growth must go hand in hand with the realization of social progress and justice, which is to improve capacity and create opportunities for everyone to bring into full play their talents, participate in the development process and enjoy the benefits. development results. As a subject, people have the opportunity and ability to catch development opportunities. At the same time, socio-economic development must be closely associated with environmental protection and improvement, and environmental protection requirements are considered an important criterion in evaluating development solutions. With the viewpoints on sustainable development identified, the 9th Congress approved the 10-year socio-economic development strategic goals (2001 - 2010) with contents focusing on sustainable development such as: Bringing our country out of underdevelopment, significantly improving the people's material, cultural and spiritual life; creating a foundation for our country to basically become a modern industrialized country by 2020; human resources, scientific and technological capacity, infrastructure, economic potential, national defense and security are enhanced; socialist-oriented market economic institutions are basically formed; Vietnam's position in the international arena is enhanced.

In 2004, in order to realize the Party's stance that has set forth and implement international commitments on sustainable development, the Government issued the *Strategic Orientation for Sustainable Development in Vietnam (Agenda 21 of the Government Vietnam – Agenda 21)*. The content of the Strategy includes long-term goals, principles, priority areas, policy directions and organizational measures to implement sustainable development.



Strategic orientation sets out a policy framework for sectors, localities, and social organizations to design and implement action plans towards their sustainable development goals. With long-term development strategic orientations, the Strategy document is regularly reviewed, supplemented and adjusted to suit each stage of the country's development, updating new perceptions to improve the sustainable development path in Vietnam. Agenda 21 sets out the key goals and principles for sustainable development in Vietnam. In particular, the overall goal of sustainable development is to implement the orientation set out in the 2001-2010 Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the Ninth National Party Congress. The specific objectives of the three aspects of development, namely economic, social and environmental protection, no matter how developed, must ensure a close, reasonable and harmonious combination with each other.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Party Congress (2006) has drawn 5 great lessons after realizing the development perspective and also the guiding thought on socio-economic development for the next period (2006 - 2010). In particular, the first lesson concluded is the lesson on rapid and sustainable development. Rapid and sustainable development are two sides of the same issue, expressed at both the macro and micro levels, demonstrating the comprehensiveness of the development strategy. In the Five-Year Plan (2006 - 2010), an overall goal has been set, although economic development is emphasized as a premise for development, but the prerequisite is still “effective” along with “sustainable”: “Accelerate economic growth, achieve important changes in improving the efficiency and sustainability of development, and soon bring our country out of underdevelopment” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2006).

By the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress (2011), the view of sustainable development was reflected throughout the Party's document. The first of the five development perspectives stated in this Strategy is: “Fast development is associated with sustainable development, sustainable development is a requirement throughout the Strategy” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2011). In the Party's concept, the Party always attaches special importance to the quality, efficiency and sustainability of development, demonstrating the consistency in awareness of the relationship between development and sustainable development as well as the relationship between development and sustainable development. rapid growth and sustainable development. Specifically: sustainable development is the basis for fast development and rapid development to create resources for sustainable development. Rapid and sustainable development must always be closely linked in the country's socio-economic development plans, plans and policies.

At the 12<sup>th</sup> National Congress (2016), sustainable development was expanded, deepened, and penetrated into all areas of social life. It can be seen that at the very beginning of the title, Section II of the Political Report, it is affirmed that “Fast and sustainable development, striving to turn our country basically into a modern industrialized country” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016). Our Party has set a goal by 2020 to ensure rapid and

sustainable development on the basis of macroeconomic stability: to ensure harmony between economic growth and cultural development, human development, practical implementation, progress, social justice, ensuring social security, environmental protection, and sustainable social development. During the 12<sup>th</sup> National Congress, for the first time, the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda was included in the tasks and solutions to implement cultural and social development and improve people's living standards: “Implementation: United Nations 2030 Agenda, effectively integrating sustainable development goals into socio-economic development plans of the whole country, each sector and each locality” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2016).

The 13<sup>th</sup> Party Congress (in 2021) takes place in the context of the Party's assessment: “sustainable development becomes an all-encompassing trend in the world” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021), Agenda 2030 of the United Nations continues to be mentioned and is considered an issue that “has great influence on the mode of growth, economic cooperation, trade and investment in the world” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021). The issue of rapid and sustainable development of the country is paid special attention by the Party when seriously looking back at the advantages and limitations, as well as pointing out some experiences and orientations for the country's development institutions in the period of 2021 - 2030 is: “Continuing strongly renewing thinking, building and completing synchronously the institutions of sustainable development in terms of economy, politics, culture, society, environment... trouble, difficulty; awakening all potentials and resources, creating new impetus for the country's rapid and sustainable development” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021). The key tasks in the 13<sup>th</sup> Party Congress term are determined to include 6 tasks, 2 of which are in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development. The second task, affirms the need: “to mobilize, allocate and effectively use resources, create motivation for rapid and sustainable economic development” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021). Task 6 also defines: “Strictly manage, rationally and effectively use land and resources; protect and improve the environment; proactively and actively implement solutions to adapt to climate change and extreme natural disasters” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021)

#### *The Party's policy on sustainable development today*

2020 is considered to be an extremely difficult and challenging year when the COVID-19 pandemic rages, causing great loss not only to the global economy but also dangerously affecting all fields of social life in countries, including Vietnam. In such circumstances, the issue of global cooperation against the pandemic becomes more and more urgent, and it also proves President Ho Chi Minh's vision of the era on sustainable development, on building a new world with civilized behavior and fulfillment of noble international obligations, including solidarity to fight the epidemic, is extremely right.

Continuing to inherit and apply President Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development, the Communist Party of Vietnam soon had appropriate guidelines and policies to help the country overcome difficulties before the attack of the epidemic, which is highly appreciated by the international community. In 2020, not only effectively fighting the epidemic, along with that, Vietnam also highly promotes the strength of solidarity of the whole people, overcoming the difficulties of historical floods, bringing the lives of central people early return to stability. Once again, the concept in sustainable development of the country “no one is left behind”, “willing to sacrifice some economic benefits to protect the safety and health of the people” was adopted by the Party and State. Vietnam's country “said coupled to do”, showing the superiority, humanity and goodness in the Party's guidelines and directions on sustainable development of the country.

In the context of international implementation of the global goals on sustainable development, as an active member of the United Nations, the National Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was issued under Decision No. 622/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister. The plan clearly states 17 Vietnam's Sustainable Development Goals (VSDG) by 2030, including 115 specific goals, corresponding to the global sustainable development goals (SDGs) adopted at the Association United Nations Summit. A set of 158 sustainable development indicators that help provide “real evidence” for the process of monitoring, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of sustainable development goals in Vietnam has also been issued. The action plan has demonstrated the efforts and commitment of the Government and the State of Vietnam in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Based on actual conditions, Vietnam has made adjustments to specific targets compared to the United Nations and has obtained certain results, initially highly appreciated, since then, every year, Vietnam's sustainable development ranking has increased significantly.

Together with *the 2030 Agenda Programm*, the Government of Vietnam and the United Nations have developed a joint strategic plan to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals with the Socio-Economic Development Strategy (2011-2020) and Socio-economic development plan (2016 - 2020). This plan focuses on four main areas: Investing in people; ensure climate adaptability and environmental sustainability; prosperity and cooperation; promoting justice, peace and inclusive governance are used to inform how the Sustainable Development Goals are being implemented. Under the leadership of the Party, the concept of sustainable development has been integrated by the Government throughout the Socio-Economic Development Strategy for the period 2011 - 2020, the Socio-Economic Development Plan for the 2011 - 2020 period. 2015 and the period 2016 - 2020, have been and continue to be integrated in the Socio-Economic Development Strategy for the period of 2021 - 2030. Therefore, after 35 years of renovation under the leadership of the Party, “our country has never had the opportunity, potential, position and international

prestige as it is today” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021 ).

In terms of achievements, the macro-economy is stable, the scale and competitiveness are increased, the economic structure is gradually rationalized, and the economic integration is proactive and in-depth. The economy has continuously maintained a good growth rate, from a country in the group of poorest countries in the world, Vietnam has come out of underdeveloped status, becoming a middle-income country and a dynamic economy market. Vietnam has joined most international organizations, becoming an active and responsible member in activities of the international community. In 2020, under the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global economy declined, many countries fell into negative growth, but Vietnam's economy was still one of the very few countries in the world that achieved positive growth, “GDP growth in 2020 still reached 2.91%, which is the highest growth rate in the world” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021). In 2020, Vietnam was elected by the United Nations General Assembly with a very high number of votes of confidence, almost absolute, for the second time becoming a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Vietnam's position in the region has also increased dramatically when Vietnam holds the chair of ASEAN and has made great contributions to the common prosperity of this region. In addition, social security issues have been paid attention and guaranteed, sustainable poverty reduction, material and spiritual life of the people have been increased markedly. Natural resource management and environmental protection have made positive changes, more proactive in responding to climate change and disaster prevention, the sustainable development index has increased many levels. According to the United Nations: “Vietnam's sustainable development index in 2017 increased 20 places to 68/157 countries and territories. Vietnam's sustainable development index in 2019 ranked 54/162 countries and territories, thus, 34 steps up compared to 2016 and 3 steps up compared to 2018” (United Nations Development Programme, 2018).

However, there are also limitations, inadequacies and difficulties that need to be overcome for Vietnam's development to be truly sustainable. The economy faces many difficulties, challenges, potential risks, and development is not really sustainable. The development of culture and society is still slow, not commensurate with the economic and political development of the country. Natural resources are exploited unsustainably, management and use efficiency is not high. Environmental pollution is still widespread and leaves serious consequences. In the process of national development, especially in the integration period with the aim of turning our country into an industrialized country soon, the demand for exploitation and use of natural resources is increasing, requiring management solutions, reasonable and effective use, while there are still some obstacles and conflicts in the Laws leading to difficulties in implementation. The decline and degradation of natural resources takes place in many places. Faced with the successes achieved as well as the remaining difficulties in the process of implementing sustainable development of the

country, it is even more demanding that the Communist Party of Vietnam continue to study and effectively apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on the principles of sustainable development.

Continuing to inherit and promote Ho Chi Minh's thought on sustainable development, the Communist Party of Vietnam leads the country's development consistently with the goal: “Continue to develop rapidly and sustainably the country; closely linking and synchronously implementing tasks, in which socio-economic development is the center; Party building is key; cultural development is the spiritual foundation; ensuring national defense and security is vital and regular” (Communist Party of Vietnam, 2021). Specifically, Vietnam's development policies focus on efforts to minimize the impact of growth on the environment and adapt to climate change. Many strategies and plans to promote green growth and sustainable use of natural resources are being implemented, which are initially effective. Thus, the views and direction of the Party on sustainable development have been gradually developed and perfected, the pillars of sustainable development have appeared clearer, have a closer relationship with each other, suitable and promoting the advantages of the path of national development that President Ho Chi Minh, together with the Party, State and people of Vietnam have chosen: National independence is associated with socialism.

## 5. References

1. Anh, Pham Ngoc & Phong, Bui Dinh. (2018). *Ho Chi Minh Thought on innovation, integration and development*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher Labor, p.9
2. Ministry of Planning and Investment and World Bank Group. (2016). *Vietnam 2035, Towards Prosperity, Creativity, Equity and Democracy*. Washington DC: Publisher World Bank
3. Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. (2017). *National action plan to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*
4. Dung, Vu Thi Mac. (2019). Sustainable development in Vietnam - Policy and some results, *Party History Magazine*, (12), p.49-53
5. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2001). *Document of the 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.162
6. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2006). *Document of the 10<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.185
7. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2011). *Document of the 11<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.98
8. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2016). *Document of the 12<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.8, p.21, p.76 & p.299-300
9. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2021). *Document of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies (Volume 1)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics Truth, p.61 & p.207
10. Communist Party of Vietnam. (2021). *Document of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Deputies (Volume 2)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics Truth, p.322, p. 324,

p.335 & p.337

11. Giap, Vo Nguyen. (2016). *Ho Chi Minh Thought and Vietnam's revolutionary path*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics Truth, p.400

12. Lam, Dinh Xuan & Phong, Bui Dinh. (2007). *Culture and philosophy developed in Ho Chi Minh's thought*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

13. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 8)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.266

14. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 11)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

15. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 12)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics, p.624

16. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 13)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

17. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 14)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

18. Minh, Ho Chi. (2011). *Full episode (Volume 15)*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

19. Huynh, Dinh The. Phu, Phung Huu. Nghia, Le Huu. Hien, Vu Van & Thong, Nguyen Viet. (2015). *30 years of innovation and development in Vietnam*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

20. Huyen, Nguyen Van. (2001). *Development Philosophy - From Marxism-Leninism to Ho Chi Minh*. Hanoi, Vietnam: Publisher National politics

21. Phong, Tran Van. (2019). Our Party recognizes and resolves the relationship between innovation, stability and development. *Journal of Political Theory*, (1), p.3-8

22. Tan, Ta Ngoc. (2015). Ho Chi Minh Thought - Human values and development. *Journal of Political Theory*, (5), p. 8-15

23. United Nations Development Programme. (2018). *Report on the National Voluntary Review of the Sustainable Development Goals of Vietnam*. Extract from: [www.vn.undp.org](http://www.vn.undp.org)