Climate Change Legislation in Vietnam

Vietnam is currently revising its Law on Environmental Protection and therefore also revisiting the chapter on climate change. Ecologic Institute supports the Vietnamese Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in adapting the provisions to the requirements of the Paris Agreement. In addition, recommendations are being developed based on experiences in other countries with climate change framework laws.

The 2015 Paris Agreement, substantiated by the 2018 Katowice Rulebook, provides the international framework for the governance of climate change response at the global level. On the national level, various developed and developing countries have already adopted legal frameworks to govern climate change response – with the United Kingdom adopting the first climate change law already back in 2008.

The revision of the 2014 Law on Environmental Protection and its Chapter IV on "Climate Change" presents Vietnam with the opportunity to make its legal framework for climate change response fit for implementation of the Paris Agreement taking into consideration international experience with climate change framework laws, i.e. laws that determine the governance framework for climate change response, but not the mitigation or adaptation policies themselves.
Currently, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment is revising the Law on Environmental Protection and will submit a draft to the National Assembly for adoption in the end of 2020. The GIZ project “Support to Vietnam for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement” supports the Vietnamese Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in the revision process. Within the scope of this project, Ecologic Institute provides recommendations for revising the chapter on climate change taking into account the requirements of the Paris Agreement and experience in other countries with climate change framework laws.

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