Hoi An eco-city Development

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I. Eco-city model for Hoi An development

- The model of eco-city and sustainable development oriented by Hoi An is still new and haven’t any mirror in Việt Nam.
- Hoi An has been recognized as the National special heritage with typical characteristic of the coastal estuary typography of the Central area and the cultural heritage and biosphere reserves of the World. Therefore, eco-city development with meaning of the human city, Hoi An, through learning from best practices of cities in the world as well as application of policies and directions of Vietnam Gov, has identified the eco-city image for their future on two dimensions: natural and socio ecology (humanity).
Hoi An City’s XVI Party Congress Resolution states:

“Continue building Hoi An as an eco-city at the grade 2 and cultural hub of Quang Nam Province, preserving and developing the image of city of culture and tourism, promoting as one of major tourist destinations of the country, safe, friendly and have new attraction”; “Develop eco-city in preserving the image of typical rural villages that identified as basic criteria to ensure the sustainable development and the environment and landscape in which light-green-clean-beautiful-safety are the dominant factors and bring the breakthrough.”
In applying of 5 view points related to building and development of urban system that has been mentioned in Development Strategy of Vietnam urban system by 2025 with vision to 2050 promulgated in the Decision 445/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister on 07/4/2009, Hoi An eco-city development realize in two dimensions:
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- Developing the city with own identity, imbued with cultural and traditional values on the way of modern development.
- Ensure the sustainable development in term of economy, society and environment; develop the eco-city as the city for human being and creation and response the needs of long-term stability, maintain the balance of ecology and amongst natural and artificial elements as well as nature and society, bring the life with highest quality for citizens and become an attractive destination for tourisms.
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1. Resources, advantages and drivers of Hoi An’s development as an eco-city

- Hoi An Ancient Town, World Cultural Heritage recognized by UNESCO, the physical evidence of mix-cultures overtime through the image of international commercial port and traditional Asian trading port has been well preserved.
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* Resources, advantages and drivers of Hoi An’s development as an eco-city

- Cu Lao Cham - Hoi An, recognized by UNESCO as the World biosphere reserve
* Resources, advantages and drivers of Hoi An’s development as an eco-city

- High and stable economic growth over the years; living standard has improved increasingly. The economic structure shift in the right direction and the key sectors such as tourism-services-trade accounted with major share of GDP.
- Hoi An, as recognized by the Government and Quang Nam provincial government as an typical example of “cultural city” of the country, continues building the phase 3 of cultural city with higher and more comprehensive criteria.
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* Resources, advantages and drivers of Hoi An’s development as an eco-city

- Having a natural environment that being very diverse and remaining intact from urbanization and human activities
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* Resources, advantages and drivers of Hoi An’s development as an eco-city

- Hoi An, a critical position and role in the regional linkage – both inter and extern region, located in the key economic zone of the Middle region, adjacent to East-West Economic Corridor.
- Favorable location in relation with economic regions of the North, South, Central Highland, Vietnam-Laos border checkpoints, with easy access to and from Southeast Asian countries by road, air and sea.
2. Key strategies for eco-city development

- Proper land-use aligned to the city spatial development and architectural orientation that comprises downtown (wards) and suburban communes (inland and Cu Lao Cham islands).

- Basic infrastructure development covering transport, public utilities, telecommunication, public lighting, etc. that are eco-friendly and sustainable; harmonizing old and new infrastructure aligned to land-use planning and population growth.
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- Biodiversity conservation and efficient use of natural resources; preserving the marine eco-system in Cu Lao Cham, Cam Thanh mangrove forest, rural villages, Con-Bau eco-system; reasonable conservation of rice fields along with ornamental flower villages and trees along the streets that forms green zones for city climate.
- Sustainable development of city economic sectors (tourism, agriculture, industry, handicraft, fishery, aquaculture, etc.).
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Eco-tourism

Cu Lao Cham

Vegetable plantation in Tra Que

Water coconut trees in Cam Thanh
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- Reasonable responses to natural hazards, i.e. pro-active mitigation of natural disasters (flood, typhoons, cyclone, etc.); planning for anti-salinization dikes and dams as part of the Thu Bon, De Vong Rivers; planning for shelters, lock system, and fishing ports; plan to prevent flooding and salinity, esp. in the context of operating the hydropower plants and reservoirs in the upstream of Thu Bon River.
3. Solutions

- Communication and education as a means to awareness raising that is the key to successful implementation as objectives, in combination with administrative and economic measures.

- Develop and adjust the socio–economic master-planning and faster implementation of high priority projects. The socio-economic master plan focuses on architecture, infrastructure, land-use planning, greening, water supply and resources, minerals, industry, agriculture, dikes and dams, tourism, etc.
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- Implementation of projects involving biodiversity conservation and development in the city and neighboring areas; environmental information; resource mobilization for waste treatment facilities (in places where they do not exist); multi-year and annual environmental protection plans; pushing the implementation of ODA projects funded by France for wastewater and hospital waste treatment project; biosphere reserve; natural and cultural heritage protection.

- Focused financial source allocation:
  - Increasing local budget for eco-city development; mobilizing resources including ODA, international cooperation projects, environmental protection fees and contributions from individuals and organizations of all economic sectors in the city.
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- Socialization of project implementation to which each and every local resident can contribute to city successes.
- Active submission of project proposals to get funding from national target programs and resources from the central government for Vietnam urban development program.
- Management and human resource development with clear division of labor
Besides the Central supports, increased investment by the provincial and city governments in infrastructure development, including Wastewater, Solid Waste Treatment and Environmental Protection Project; Electricity System Rehabilitation Project (funded by OPEC, JBIC); Water Supply Plant; New Urban Area Development; Cu Lao Cham Marine Conservation, Waste sorting at Source; Reducing emission from reducing plastic bags in Tan Hiep commune; Waste Incineration Project that has strongly change the face of city.
Development of Hoi An as an Eco-City

* Example projects of significant contribution

1. Waste and Wastewater Collection and Treatment Project funded by ODA from France with daily capacity of 6700m$^3$, contributing to solving environmental issues of city
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- Based on general regulation of the Central and provincial government, Hoi An People Committee introduces and promulgates the directives and regulation related to the ancient town management, conservation, construction management in line with the master plan by 2020, display of goods, advertisement, sidewalks, environmental sanitation, etc…

- Continue strengthening the international cooperation on a broad range of issues, e.g. research, administration, exchange, seminars, fundraising, etc. and in the past years, Hoi An has received the helps and supports from the UN agencies, government bodies and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of great career.
2. The project minimize waste as model of Naha city (Japan) in the city of Hoi An. This is program within the partner development program of JICA. This project aims for identifying and analyzing waste issues in Hoi An city with the participation of citizens and businesses, and suggesting measures to address environmental issues.
3. Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment of Hoi An Project funded by (UN-HABITAT) with the participation of professors from Portland State University, local experts and other UN agencies (FAO, UNIDO, ILO, UNESCO). The project supports to assess the vulnerability and Climate Change Adaptation and Response for development of City Action Plan, and improve the capacity of local officers and stakeholders needed for Hoi An Eco-City Development Strategy.

Workshop “Dialogue for Hoi An Eco-City Development”— (14-16/9/2011)
4. UNIDO-funded Policy Advice on Environmental Management: Green Industry Development Project supporting the city government to implement green industry practices in key sectors in response to climate change and environmental challenges.
III. Key challenges in Eco-City Development

- Economic growth while conserving eco-system and culture (tangible and intangible).
- Poor infrastructure.
- Lack of quality workforce and financial resources.
- Lack of experience in addressing issues of global concern, e.g. environmental pollution, climate change.
- A small number of sub-projects of Hoi An eco city development programme approved (11 out of 37 in Hoi An Econ-City Development Project).
- Lack of inter-agency collaboration and coordination in implementing the project.
IV. Priority projects to drive change in Hoi An

- Urban Infrastructure Upgrading Project (bridges, ring roads, dikes, drainage, water supply, lighting, wastewater and solid waste treatment, etc.).
- Master plan on conservation and promotion of Hoi An Ancient Town, World Cultural Heritage, in relation to city and tourism development.
- Thanh Ha Urban-Service-Industry Complex Infrastructure Development Project; improving the infrastructure in traditional craft villages.
- Cu Lao Cham Tourist Infrastructure Development Project.
- Sub-projects of Hoi An Eco-City Development Project.
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V. Commitment to future cooperation

In period from now to 2020, apart from state budget support for infrastructure development, the city is committed to:

- Continuing with the implementation of Hoi An Eco-City Development Project with high commitment and effort of city government and citizen.
- Giving prioritized budget allocation to, and mobilizing resources – human and financial - (including ODA, Government bonds, contribution from people or other targeted programs) for city development including the human resource.
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- Establishing “Hoi An Urban Development and Investment Fund” with contribution from the government, organizations, businesses and individuals.
- Setting cost and budget norms for recurrent and investment expenditures in line with City Development direction as the city at grade 2 of province.
- Reforming training policies and attracting quality workforce policies.
Hoi An has successfully attracted tourists and investors by capitalizing on its own comparative advantages embedded in culture, festivals, hospitality and personality of Hoi An people.

Hoi An has truly provided investors with these intangible favorable conditions and policies.
To harness its potential, Hoi An is in need of support from the central and provincial governments for a special finance-budgeting mechanism, apart from its own efforts.

- Resource allocation to renovation and conservation of world heritages, environmental protection, urban facelift and expansion.
- Investment to transform Tan Hiep island commune-Cu Lao Cham into a word-class resort and tourist site.
Thank you!