



Vietnam Japan University

And

Sustainable Development

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Rector of Vietnam Japan University

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- 1. Welcome to Vietnam
- 2. Brief Introduction of VJU
- 3. Reason why Vietnam Japan University chooses sustainable development as a basic philosophy
- 4. VJU and SDGs

1. Welcome to Vietnam

I have been studying Vietnam for over 40 years. Why was I fascinated by Vietnam?

Chaotic vitality that people are running towards selfish direction



One of the sources of vitality =
coexistence of heterogeneous
things

Vietnam was the country belonging to the East Asian Civilization which used Chinese characters <Kanji>, but now uses the alphabet as the national language writing system



Vietnam= symbol of 20th century
national liberation movement=
cherish the cultural heritage of the
colonial period



Doi Moi =An attempt to coexist socialism and capitalism?

2. Brief Introduction of Vietnam Japan University (VJU)

Brief History of VJU

- 2009 Vietnamese Gov requested for cooperation from Japanese Gov to build international university in Vietnam
- 2013 Friendship Parliamentary Alliances of both countries, advocated establishment of VJU as commemorating service of the 40th anniversary of the formation of diplomatic relations between Japan and Vietnam
- H.E. Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and H.E. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe agreed on the idea of establishing Vietnam Japan University
- 2014 On July 21st, the Prime Minister of Vietnam signed the Decision establishment of VJU as the seventh member university under Vietnam National University, Hanoi.
- 2015 JICA and VNU agreed on Technical Cooperation Project for implementing master programs in VJU (to help VJU to open master programs)
- 2016 On September 9th VJU grand opening ceremony and opening of 6 master programs

Grand Opening Ceremony in 2016



A member university of VNU

Many partner universities in Japan

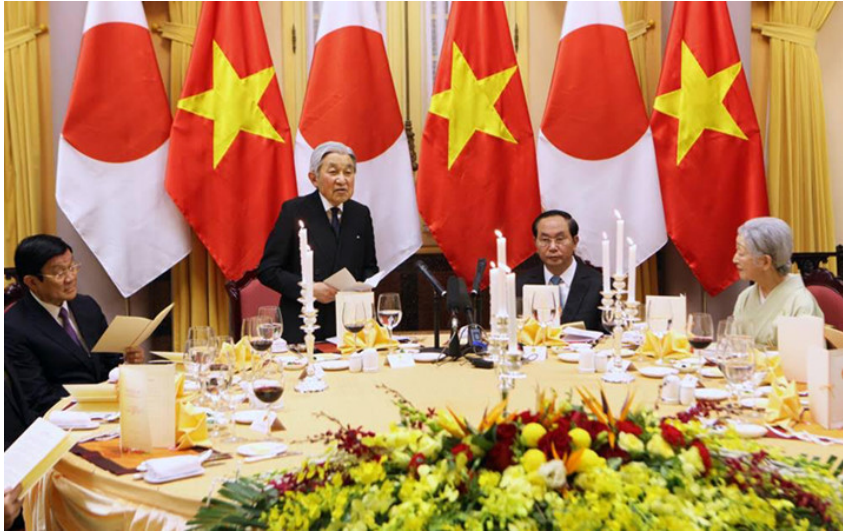


- **Partner Universities in Japan**
- **Ibaraki University,**
- **Osaka University,**
- **Ritsumeikan University,**
- **University of Tokyo,**
- **University of Tsukuba,**
- **Yokohama National University,**
- **Waseda university**
- **.....**

Now VJU has 165 students
of 7 master programs



VJU is a symbol of the close and fruitful cooperation between Vietnam and Japan.



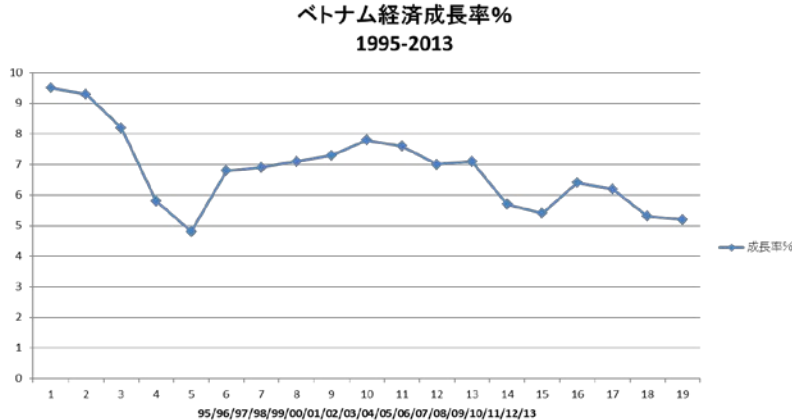
Basic Philosophy of VJU

- **Japan and Vietnam cooperate each other and want to create a new university which can transmit new value to the world.**
- **Thinking so, we are promoting sustainable development as a basic philosophy of the university.**

3. The reason why
Vietnam Japan
University chooses
sustainable
development as a
basic philosophy

As the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals clearly show, sustainable development now becomes a global goal including both Japan and Vietnam.

a particularly challenging issue in Vietnam



- Vietnam has developed into middle-income countries due to economic growth during this period, but in order to further develop in the future, Vietnam needs to aim for sustainable development by withdrawing from growth of conventional resource-wasting type.

Environmental Pollution



- **Furthermore, rapid economic development has caused serious environmental pollution and countermeasures in this aspect are urgent issues.**

Sea Level Rising

- **In addition, it is said that Vietnam is one of the countries which are most seriously affected by sea level rising due to global warming.**

Experience of Japan

- **Meanwhile, Japan experienced serious environmental destruction in the era of rapid economic growth, and has extensive experience in overcoming environmental pollution. As a result, sustainability science became an important pillar of academic exchange between Japan and Vietnam relatively early.**

Vietnam Japan Academic Exchanges

- **Prof. Mai Trong Nhuan, the former president of VNU, recognized the necessity of sustainability studies from early on, and has promoted exchanges with Japan in this field. With strong support from Prof. Nhuan and VNU, the Second International Conference on Sustainability Science in ASIA held in Vietnam in April, 2011. The exchange between VNU and Japanese researchers in the field of sustainability science became the foundation of the establishment of VJU.**

Sustainability Science

- Today's world, universities are expected to play a big role for sustainable development. However, this is a very challenging task for universities. Sustainability science is newly emerging academic field seeking to understand the linkages among global, social and human systems, and concomitant risks to human well-being and security. Sustainability science must be based on interdisciplinary approach, method system of interdisciplinary sciences. However, at many universities in the world, the walls of the existing disciplines are thick, and it is difficult to build a research and educational system of interdisciplinary field fusing both social sciences and natural sciences. However, VJU is a new university, so there are not many existing discipline barriers. Thus VJU raises a Sustainable Development as a basic philosophy .

Vision towards 2035 of VJU

- **By 2035, Vietnam Japan University is aiming to become one of the leading Asian research universities in the field of advanced technology and interdisciplinary sciences serving sustainable development.**

Liberal Arts

- **At the same time, in order to be responsible for sustainable development, it is necessary to train human resources with a broad perspective. Therefore, Vietnam Japan University makes liberal arts as a philosophy of education. It is a big feature of Vietnam Japan University's education to combine sustainability and liberal arts. We believe that the contents of liberal arts will change with the times. And sustainability science is one of the important contents of the liberal arts for the 21st century.**

7 Master Programs of VJU

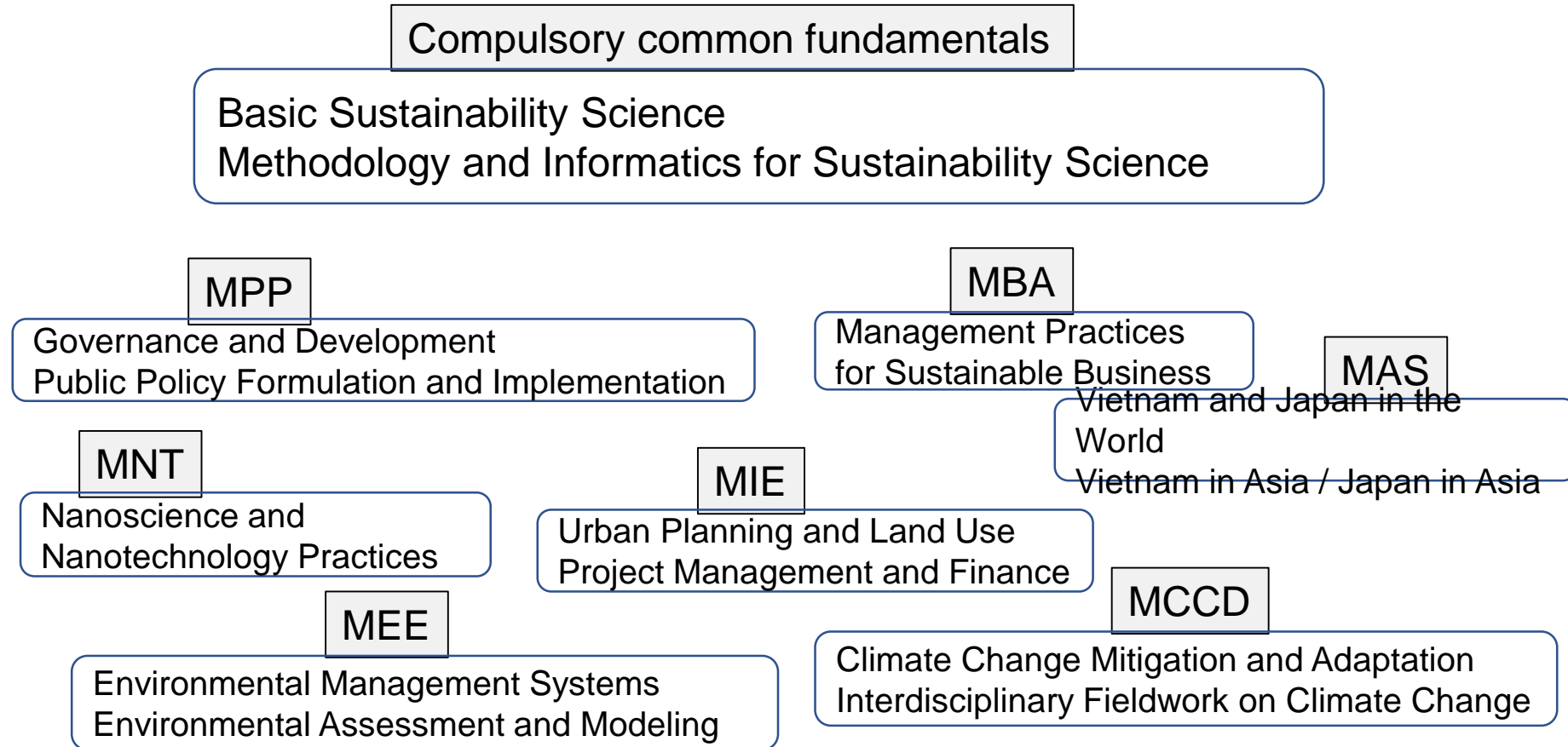
- **This year Vietnam Japan University has seven master's programs, namely Public Policy, Nanotechnology, Area Studies, Infrastructure Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Business Administration, Climate Change and Development. These are interdisciplinary programs covering many fields of social science and natural science, all residing under the overall domain of sustainability science.**

VJU and SDGs

1 Educational features for Sustainability
Science and SDGs

2 Research activities and promotion relating to
SDGs

1-1 Examples of educational courses relating to SDGs



2-1 Small but sure steps toward VJU research activities on Sustainability Science



2-2 Ongoing Researches on Sustainability Science in the 6 programs

(VJU 2018 – topics of the JICA grant and the master thesis concerning SDGs)

MPP

Research on Public Policies for Sustainable Development in Vietnam

Policy Studies on Education
Energy
Elderly assistance
Disaster
Waste management etc.

MBA

Business Administration
Employment
Intellectual capital
Leadership
E-commerce
Social entrepreneurial intention etc.

Research on Merger and Acquisition

MAS

Research on "Morality" in the modern and contemporary Vietnam

Vietnam and Japan Studies on Culture
Religion
Environment
Public diplomacy
Society etc.



MNT

Development of Sensing Platform

Nano Material Studies concerning
Rechargeable sodium-based batteries
Insulator - metal - insulator structure
Gold-magnetic Nanocurcumin

MIE

Infrastructure Studies on Transportation (network, public bus)
Green building
Multi-cracks
Rural development program etc.

Research on Consolidation of Soft Clays

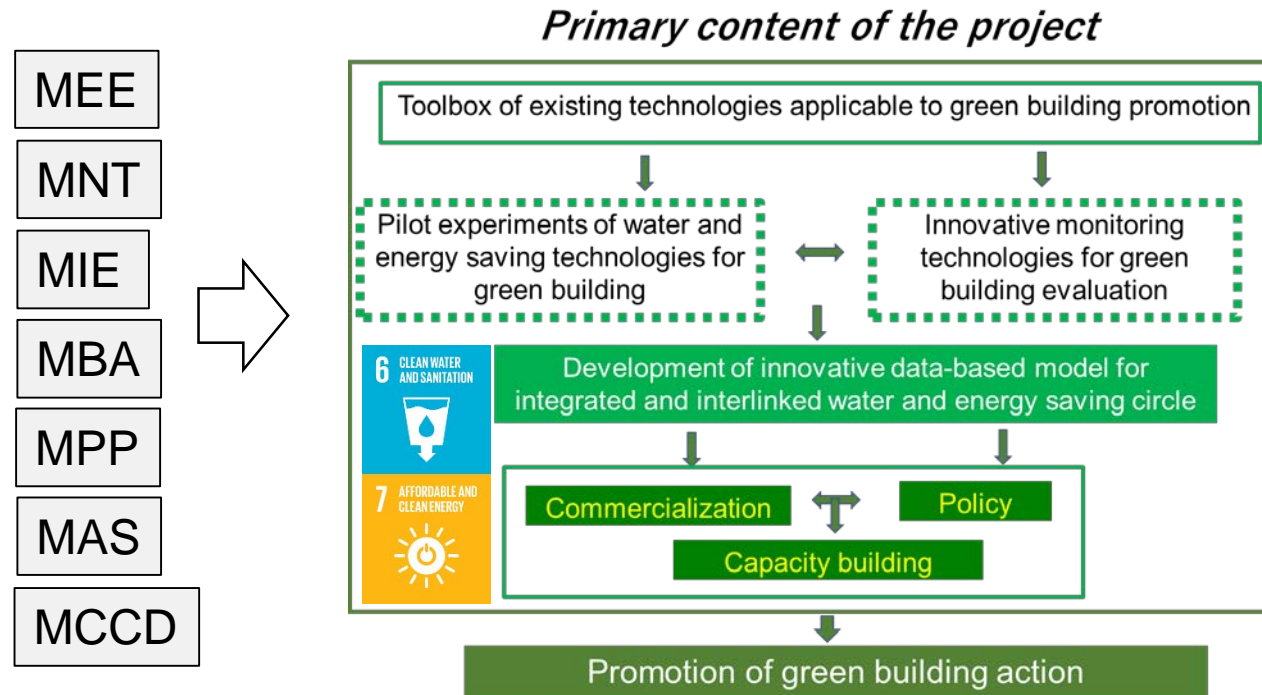
MEE

Research on Urban and Rural Environment Improvement in Vietnam

Environmental Studies on Malodorous gases
landfill leachate
Wastewater
Heat stress etc.

2-3 Integrated research project by cooperation among the seven programs (tentative)

Promotion of green building action through developing integrated innovative energy and water saving system in Vietnam



2-4 Establishment of Institute of Sustainability Science under VJU

Institute of Sustainability Science is being established with the aim of promoting the research activities of VJU and it contributes to development of research projects, collaborative research, dissemination of research results, and improvement of the quality of research in VJU. Its mission is to develop VJU into Asia's most prestigious research-oriented university in the fields of advanced technology and interdisciplinary science that contribute to sustainable development.