



Government of Viet Nam
Ministry of Planning and Investment



**Opening Speech by Leader of Viet Nam Ministry of Planning and Investment at
the Asia LEDS Forum 2016 on
“Mobilizing Finance for Implementing Priority Actions”**

(Hanoi on 27-29 June 2016)

Mr. Nguyen Duc Cuong, Vice Chairman of Thanh Hoa Province, the Co-Chair of the Asia LEDS Partnership;

Senior government representatives from across the Asia region;

Representatives from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), GIZ, the Regional Collaboration Centre of the UNFCCC, the World Watch Institute, CIFOR, UN-Habitat, UNEP, Center for Clean Air Policy, the Global Green Growth Institute, and other partners;

Representatives from the private sector;

Members of the research and academic community;

Ladies and gentlemen;

On behalf of the Government of Vietnam, I am honored to be welcome you to Hanoi. We are pleased to join hands with the Asia LEDS Partnership as co-host of the 2016 Asia LEDS Forum, the premier event for our regional coalition committed to advancing climate-smart development.

Over the next three days, this year's Forum will bring together government policy makers, private and business representatives, international organizations, research institutes, and other practitioners to share experiences, advance regional coordination and develop best practices that can propel Asia as a model for low-emission and climate-resilient development.

Last year, the world reached the historic Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to keep the planet safe for us all. Over 177 countries, including Vietnam and all of the countries participating in this Forum, submitted their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Implementation of the NDCs are vital to help keep the global temperature rise since pre-industrial times to well below two degrees Celsius, with a preference to limit it to 1.5 degrees.

It is therefore timely that the focus of this year's Forum is to support countries in mobilizing finance (including capacity building towards development of investment plans and associated investment measures) to implement priority actions, including those contained in their NDCs.

This year's Asia LEADS Forum will help focus our collective efforts on three key issues, as follows:

First, we know that both the scale and type of financing required to implement actions in the NDCs need to be assessed.

Second, that a wide-range of financing sources need to be accessed in a timely manner.

And third, that policy arrangements and financing instruments to drive public and private investment in support of low-emission development need to be accelerated.

Underscoring each of these areas is the realization that mobilizing finance will require the development of dedicated institutional capacities in many areas including research, analysis, project development, project selection and prioritization – and of course implementation capacities.

In Vietnam, with support from our partners, we have begun this work and we welcome the opportunity to share our experiences during the Forum and learn lessons from you so that Vietnam can apply them in its own development context.

Let me also underscore the importance of enabling the access, growth and involvement of the private sector in order to meet a significant portion of the financing requirements to address climate change. Private sector engagement in the fight against climate change is essential.

Successful implementation of the Paris Agreement and NDCs also requires strong partnerships between government, development partners, private sector, and communities.

Here, the Asia LEADS Partnership plays a pivotal role by bringing these actors together to focus on *LEADS actions and the opportunities in the region for transformational change through implementation of NDCs*.

I hope that the Forum will stimulate an exchange of ideas and harness a lot of experience and lessons on actions in different sub-sectors and localities.

I end by wishing you every success in developing good practices to mobilize finance for implementation of priority actions to address climate change.

Your presence at this year's Asia LEDS Forum is a positive contribution to Vietnam. I do hope that through this event we will have the opportunity to exchange, to learn and to share knowledge, and

On behalf of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, I sincerely thank you for your attention to the socio-economic development of Vietnam as well as your contributions to achieve low-emission development in Asia.

Wish you good health and a successful Forum.