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| **BAC GIANG PROVINCE****PEOPLE’S COMMITTEE** | **SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM Independence – Freedom – Happiness** |
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No.: 476/KH-UBND *Bac Giang, February 03, 2021*

# **PLAN**

To strengthen international cooperation in support of the socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas in Bac Giang province until 2025

Pursuant to the Decision No.2152/QD-TTg dated December 18, 2020 of the Prime Minister approving the Project on the implementation extension of the Decision No.2214/QD-TTg dated November 14, 2013 of the Prime Minister approving the Project "Strengthening international cooperation to support the socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas" until 2025; The Provincial People's Committee promulgates the Plan on strengthening international cooperation to support the socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas in Bac Giang province until 2025 with the following contents:

## I. OBJECTIVE

## 1. General Objective

To continuously strengthen mobilization and cooperation to attract investment capital, science and technology, and experience of international organizations, foreign collectives and individuals, focusing on resolving urgent issues in the National Target Program for socio-economic development for ethnic minorities and mountainous areas until 2025; bring into full play the advantages of geographical location, pay attention to efficiency, and ensure the management and use of resources with the right purposes and the right target audience, contributing to fast and sustainable poverty reduction, shortening the development among ethnic groups, and between ethnic minority areas and other regions in the province.

**2. Specific Aims**

To maximize potential of international resources, especially non-refundable aid, official development assistance (ODA), and support from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to invest socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas; in which, focusing on developing education, training for people's health care, scientific research, technology transfer, infrastructure investment, production support, and speeding up poverty reduction; ensuring clean water, environmental sanitation and coping with climate change; minimizing child marriage, and conserving and developing ethnic cultures, etc.

- To mobilize and attract international investment to provide support for the socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas based on needs and practices, and potentials and advantages of specific region and ethnic group on the principle of preserving and developing good traditional cultural values ​​and identities of all ethnic groups, protecting the environment. To enhance the initiative of sectors and localities in attracting appropriate resources in support of promoting socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas in the province.

- To mobilize technical support of international organizations and individuals for capacity building for people from ethnic minority and mountainous areas; civil servants and public employees working in ethnic affairs at all levels. Training and retraining to improve knowledge about international integration and developing, managing and using foreign aid capital sources for officers in charge of investment cooperation in ethnic minority areas.

**II. CONTENTS**

1. **Beneficiary and scope of implementation**

Communes and villages in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2021 - 2025 in Bac Giang province, with priority given to the extremely under-resourced communes and villages; needy households and households closer to the poverty line, ethnic minorities with under-resourced and typically under-resourced circumstances in the period of 2021-2025.

1. **Implementation capital**

2.1. Non-refundable aid and concessional loans from governments, bilateral and multilateral international organizations; NGOs, and foreign individuals and businesses.

2.2. Counterpart fund: Budget source; communities, collectives, individuals and domestic businesses.

1. **Priority areas to resources attraction and aid mobilization**

3.1. Solving the shortage of residential land, housing, arable land, and domestic water for ethnic minority households: Attracting and mobilizing effectively financial resources to provide support for needy ethnic minority households having no land to live in, to stabilize their lives and needy ethnic minority households in ethnic minority and mountainous areas without housing or with temporary or dilapidated housing to be supported for building houses to ensure 3 firm compartments (Reinforced concrete foundation and frame - wall, and solid roof), and equipping with water tanks for domestic use.

3.2. Rearranging, planning, arranging and stabilizing population in necessary places: Providing support for communities to arrange mixed population, and direct support for households to settle or resettle on the spot.

3.3. Developing agricultural and forestry production, bringing into full play the potentials and strengths of localities for commodity value chain development: Assisting in forest protection for forests planned for protection forests and natural forests allocated to households; Assisting in zoning for regeneration with additional afforestation; Assisting in replanting production forests and developing non-timber forest products; providing support for the application of science, technology, techniques, and seedlings, etc.; Supporting to develop sustainable livelihoods for needy households, and start-up models.

3.4. Investing in essential infrastructure serving for production and life in ethnic minority areas, boarding and semi-boarding schools, housing for semi-boarding students, and rural transport works for production, business and people's living; power supply works for daily life and production, and business, etc.

3.5. Investing in education development and training in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, improving the manpower quality of ethnic minorities; providing support for ethnic minority laborers to have convenient access to labor market, job search and job connection services; Providing support for ethnic minority youth in finding jobs suitable to their training levels, abilities and aspirations.

3.6. Preserving and promoting good traditional cultural values ​​of ethnic minorities in association with tourism development: Preserving traditional festivals in localities, establishing products for tourism development; Support for researching, restoring, conserving and developing intangible cultures of ethnic minorities in danger of extinction; Developing traditional cultural models of ethnic minorities; Setting up folklore clubs in the ethnic minority and mountainous areas; Supporting investment in developing typical tourist destinations for ethnic minority and mountainous areas; Having a hand in developing programs to widely propagate and popularize typical traditional cultural values ​​of ethnic minorities; Providing support in building community bookcases for ethnic minority communes; Equipment support for cultural and sport institutions, etc.

3.7. Taking care of people's health, increasing the stature and status of ethnic minorities; preventing child malnutrition: supporting for constructing and developing grassroots health care in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; Increasing the population quality in ethnic minority areas; Maternal and child nutrition care; giving support for technical transfer, improving facilities and purchasing essential equipment for commune health stations.

3.8. Implementing gender equality and handling urgent issues for women and children: giving support for propaganda and advocacy to improve knowledge in all aspects to change "ways of thinking and doing" among ethnic minorities according to the method of instruction, hands-on approach; enhancing economic power to change gender roles towards the elimination of gender stereotypes; Focusing on preventing and combating a number of issues-related women and children i.e. unsafe birth, domestic violence, human trafficking, unsafe labor migration and cultural practices harmful to women and children; Increasing women's participation in self-governance and community development.

3.9. Development investment for ethnic minority groups in under-resourced and typically under-resourced circumstances: for the improvement of the population status of ethnic minorities, reduction of malnutrition among children under 6 years old, contributing to improving the population quality, and ensuring the balance and equal development among ethnic groups.

3.10. Propaganda and advocacy in ethnic minority areas: Praising and honoring typical examples, promoting the role of reputable people; law dissemination and education, propaganda and advocacy; Facilitating ethnic minorities to apply information technology for socio-economic development and ensuring security and order in ethnic minority and mountainous areas.

**III. KEY MEASURES**

1. Perfecting mechanisms and policies on the attraction, mobilization and use of aid sources

- Concretize the mechanisms and policies of the Central Government; supplement and amend the system of legal documents on the management and use of official development assistance (ODA) and foreign non-governmental aid; and manage foreign NGOs to ensure synchronization, consistency, clarity, simplicity, and ease of implementation to facilitate their operation and implementation in Bac Giang by simple and quick procedures.

- Ensure legitimate rights and benefits of technology transferors, including technology financing to implement projects in Vietnam in accordance with the law on intellectual property and technology transfer.

- Encourage receiving advanced science and technology and experience transfer from foreign donors to ethnic minority areas to ensure environmental protection, prevent natural disasters and climate change, and improve production efficiency.

1. **Manpower management and training**

- Consolidate and strengthen the capacity of agencies involved in the mobilization, management and use of aid to have full-time officers with basic and appropriate training. Arrange facilities to effectively mobilize, manage and use aid.

- Strengthen training and retraining to improve the quality of full-time officials working in the management of programs and projects with foreign aid.

- The state budget supports vocational training for workers in investment projects from non-refundable aid and concessional loans in ethnic minority areas. Encourage the use of laborers in ethnic minority areas for the project implementation; give priority to vocational training, on-site training and arranging qualified ethnic minority officials to be assistant teachers in training manpower for the investment projects in ethnic minority areas.

1. **Capacity building for investment attraction, mobilization and use of foreign capital**

- Formulate a working group led by the Head of the Committee for Ethnic Minorities to mobilize and attract investment capital for socio-economic development in ethnic minority areas. The working group develops a detailed plan of international resource mobilization tasks for the period of 2021 - 2025 in association with the content of the National Target Program for socio-economic development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2021 - 2030.

- Strengthen coordination between project investors and foreign donors to promptly overcome difficulties and problems arising in the project implementation in ethnic minority areas.

- Annually allocate budget sources for the project preparation to attract and mobilize foreign non-governmental aid; at the same time, prioritize the arrangement of reciprocal capital to implement the projects.

- Renovate and diversify mobilization modes; convert the mode of general advocacy to the specific advocacy for the specific project. Clearly determine priority fields and areas, avoid duplication in aid. Facilitate agencies to participate in the mobilization, attraction and use of foreign non-governmental aid. Strengthen coordination in mobilizing foreign non-governmental aid through Vietnamese Diplomatic Missions abroad.

1. **Information collaboration, provision and sharing**

- Continue to strengthen and expand cooperative relationships with international organizations and NGOs, introduce the province's needs to foreign NGOs, and direct aid to the priority fields and areas.

- Provide regularly, completely and timely information on objects and contents of the projects under the National Target Program for Socio-Economic Development of Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in the period of 2021 - 2030 to facilitate the attraction of investment and activities of foreign donors.

- Construct an information system to ensure fast and accurate supply of local needs. Diversify communication and propaganda forms, including: providing information via Internet and newsletters; organizing appropriate and practical conferences and seminars to strengthen cooperation.

- Strengthen cooperation and coordination with foreign NGOs in developing long-term action plans, propaganda, advocacy, project planning skills, information sharing of these organizations in the province.

1. **Strengthening monitoring and evaluation to improve the efficient use of foreign capital**

- Ensure the openness, transparency, responsibility and supervision of the parties and the community throughout the project planning, implementation and completion. Develop a monitoring system, and regularly evaluate foreign non-governmental programs and projects to promptly draw experiences, replicate or reorganize activities and results of programs and projects in the entire province.

- Promote the participatory monitoring model for foreign non-governmental aid projects of the Fatherland Front, its member organizations and communities; provide information and propaganda about the effectiveness of foreign non-governmental aid, effective project models, lessons learnt and practical experience for donor organizations as well as agencies and localities in the province.

- Proactively organize and mobilize resources in the localy to implement the Plan, promote people's ownership, mobilize and organize for the community of ethnic minorities to actively participate in production development programs, construction and use of community works.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

**1. The Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs**

As a standing agency assisting the Provincial People's Committee to direct, manage, implement, monitor and evaluate the project implementation results; coordinate with relevant agencies and units to advise the Provincial People's Committee to issue guiding documents to strengthen resources in support of the implementation of the National Target Program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas up to 2025.

Lead and coordinate with sectors and People's Committees of districts to provide information to foreign partners interested in aid and support for ethnic minorities and mountainous areas; periodically, organize conferences, exchange programs and investment promotion in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; synthesize difficulties and problems in the Project implementation and submit them to competent authorities for solving.

**2. Department of Planning and Investment**

Be the focal point in the appraisal, advising and submitting to the Provincial People's Committee for approval of projects using ODA, and allocating reciprocal capital for programs and projects. Mobilize, attract, manage and use ODA and loans to ethnic minority areas in the province.

**3. Department of Foreign Affairs**

Act as the focal point for the mobilization of foreign non-governmental aid; mobilize and direct projects of foreign NGOs to ethnic minority and mountainous areas. Guide agencies, units and localities to strengthen cooperation with foreign NGOs and promote the mobilization of investment aid in ethnic minority and mountainous areas according to regulations.

Strengthen external communication and propaganda on ethnic minority and mountainous areas to international agencies, organizations, foreign NGOs, and foreign individuals including overseas Vietnamese to promote the mobilization and attraction of foreign capital for socio-economic development of ethnic minority areas.

Give feedbacks on aid of foreign agencies, organizations and individuals according to regulations; Regularly provide information on activities of foreign NGOs registered to operate in the locality to strengthen cooperation and aid mobilization for ethnic minority areas.

**4. Department of Finance**

Annually, based on the local budget situation, advise the Provincial People's Committee to allocate counterpart funds to implement projects, sponsorship programs, and international support to implement contact, mobilize foreign non-governmental programs and projects; conduct propaganda and external information on local ethnic affairs.

Advise the Provincial People's Committee to manage finance for non-project aid sponsored by foreign NGOs to administrative and non-business units, socio-political organizations, social organizations according to the State regulations.

Give guidance on the implementation of accounting and reporting regimes on the aid use and management according to the regulations on public financial and property management. Coordinate in the receipt and appraisal of applications for approval related to non-project grants and emergency relief.

**5. Relevant provincial agencies and units, People's Committees of districts and cities**

From the Plan contents, concretize priorities in attracting investment capital resources, science and technology, and experiences of countries, foreign organizations, collectives and individuals, and mobilize foreign non-governmental aid based on the actual situation of their localities or agencies.

Direct and supervise the aid mobilization, reception, management and use of affiliated units according to regulations; periodically, report on the Plan implementation status and results to the Committee for Ethnic Minorities before 10 November every year to synthesize and report to the Provincial People's Committee and the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs.

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| ***Recipients:***- Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs;- Standing Provincial Party Committee, Standing Provincial People's Council;- Chairman, Vice-chairmen of PPCs;- Committee of the Vietnamese Fatherland Front and the provincial socio-political organizations;- Departments and agencies of the PPC;- District People's Committees: Son Dong, Luc Ngan, Luc Nam, and Yen The;- Provincial People's Committee Office: leaders of the office, specialized departments;- Archived: Archiver; Science, Education, Culture and Social Affairs. Cong | ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE’S COMMITTEEFOR THE CHAIRMANVICE CHAIRMAN(Signed and sealed)Mai Son |