



CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ECOLOGICAL STUDIES
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INTRODUCTION

Center for Agricultural Research and Ecological Studies (CARES) is a public, non-profit educational and research institution within Hanoi University of Agriculture (HUA).

Established by the Ministry of Education and Training in 2000, the CARES mandate is to help farmers enhance their knowledge and increase agricultural productivity, environmental protection and sustainable development in rural and peri-urban areas. The first priority of the activities is to serve poor people, especially disadvantaged groups and women.



The HUA's Administrative Building where CARES is located

Areas of Study

CARES conducts studies in the areas of agricultural ecology, rural sociology, natural resources management, environmental planning, farming system R&D, economics, marketing, and policy analysis.

Operational Approach

CARES is a scientific-technological organization that applies inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approaches to research, training, education, and technological transfer, based on innovative and initiative concepts, ideas of its own staffs, the local people to whom they work with, and other scholars and scientists from Vietnamese and international organizations.

Cooperative Relationships

CARES cooperates with local and foreign individuals, institutions and organizations relevant to its areas of work. Its cooperative activities are conducted in accordance with the Vietnamese law and accepted recognized international practices.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

CARES has six professional departments, a unit of administration, and an editorial and scientific advisory board, as shown below.



PERSONNEL

CARES currently has about thirty permanent full-time and seven part-time staff members. Most of the Center’s staffs have obtained their post-graduate degrees from well-known universities in foreign countries such as Denmark, Japan, Netherlands, Philippines, Thailand, United States, etc.

| Name | Status | Education level | Profession | Email |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Tran Duc Vien | Director | Ph.D. | Human ecology | tdvien@cares.org.vn |
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PARTNERSHIPS, COLLABORATORS AND VISITING SCHOLARS

CARES’s partners range from farmers and local officials to scientists and organizations within and outside Vietnam that are working on and interested in the same research areas of the Center. Within the country, CARES collaborates with a number of Provincial People’s Committees (PPC) nationwide, where it conducts researches, trainings, and technology transfers. A number of national academic and research institutions are also partners of CARES.

CARES also cooperates with numerous foreign organizations. These organizations financially assist and jointly do research with CARES. Scientists and visiting scholars from some of these organizations have come to CARES as well.

Local Partners

| Type | Name |
|--------------|--|
| PPC | Dak lak, Hanoi, Hoa Binh, Nghe An, Phu Tho, Son La, etc |
| Institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Giang University - Da Lat University - Hue University - Nong Lam University - Tay Nguyen University - Thai Nguyen University - University of Forestry - Vinh University - Center for Natural Resource and Environmental Studies (CRES) - Forest Science Institute of Vietnam (FSIV) - Information Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (ICARD) - Institute of Sociology (IOS) - Vietnam Agricultural Science Institute (VASI) - Institute for Medicinal Plants |

Foreign Partners

| Countries of Origin | Names of Organizations |
|----------------------------|--|
| Cambodia | - Royal University of Phnom Penh |
| China | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nanjing Agricultural University - Sichuan Agricultural University |
| Denmark | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) - Institute of Geography, University of Copenhagen - Roskilde University Center |
| Germany | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aachen University - University of Hohenheim |
| Japan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Toyota Foundation - Chiba University - Keio University - Kyoto University - Kyushu University |
| Lao PDR | - National University of Laos |
| The Netherlands | - Wageningen University and Research Center (Wageningen UR) |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| The Philippines | - Ateneo de Manila University |
| Sweden | - Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) |
| Thailand | - Chiang Mai University - Kasetsart University - Khon Kaen University - Asian Institute of Technology |
| The USA | - The Ford Foundation - East-West Center - The Rockefeller Foundation - Auburn University - Indochina Study Institute of George Mason University - Purdue University - University of Arkansas - University of California at Berkeley |
| International | - The European Union (EU) - World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) - World Resources Institute (WRI) |

MAJOR COMPLETED AND ONGOING PROJECTS

The Upland Working Group-the resource persons for the latter CARES-has conducted a number of research activities following various funded research projects before the Centre being officially established in 2000. Below, however, is a list of research projects that CARES has had since 2000. For more information of those projects, please visit the provided links or see below.

[Diverseeds Project](#), [Totepam Project](#), [Usepam Project](#), [Agrofolio Project](#), [Mapet Project](#), [Pro-Poor Project](#), [Searusyn Project](#), [Vietnam Uplands Forum](#), [PHE](#).....

| | Project titles | Sources of funding | Collaborating partners | Duration |
|----|------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------|
| 1. | Competing for Water | Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) | Nghe An Province | 04/2007-03/2010 |
| 2. | Pathways to higher education (PHE) | The Ford Foundation | - The University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ĐH Hue • ĐH Tay Nguyen • ĐH SP Dong Thap • ĐH Da Lat • ĐH Thai Nguyen • ĐH An Giang - Ten High Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MuongBi, LungVan, TanLac, DoanKet (Tan Lac, Hoa Binh) • DaBac (DaBac, HoaBinh) • ThanhChan (Dien Bien) • MuongCha(DienBien) • TanSon (Lucngan, Bacgiang) | 2001-2010 |

| | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|-----------------|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No2 Sapa (Sapa, Laocai) | |
| 3. | TOTEPAM | DANIDA | Ha Nam, Thai Nguyen, Phu Tho, Nghe An, Quang Nam and Ben Tre, provinces | 07/2008-12/2009 |
| 4. | Agrofolio | Organisation for International Dialogue and Conflict Management | | 09/2006-08/2007 |
| 5. | Diverseeds | Organisation for International Dialogue and Conflict Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences Vienna (Austria) University of Birmingham (UK) Institute of Crop Science, University of Kassel (Germany) Israeli Gene Bank for Agricultural Crops, Volcani center, Bet-Dagan (Israel) Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, (P.R China) Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (P.R China) KhonKaen University (Thai Land) Bioversity (formerly: International Plant Genetic Resource Institute)- International Org Hanoi University of Agriculture., Faculty of Land Resources and Environment (HUA) | 12/2006-11/2008 |
| 6. | SEARUSYN | European Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Economic Institute (LEI), Wageningen University, the Netherlands Alterra, Wageningen University, the Netherlands Institute of Sociology (IOS), Vietnam | 01/2004-12/2006 |
| 7. | Composite swiddening agroecosystem R&D | The Ford Foundation | Hoa Binh province | 03/2003-12/2006 |
| 8. | MAPET | European Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil and Fertility Institute, Sichuan, China AIT, Thailand | 11/2003- |

| | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| | | | - Stirling University, Scotland | 11/2005 |
| 9. | VUF | The Ford Foundation | Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development | 2003, 2007, 2008 |
| 10. | Pro-Poor Horticulture | Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI) | The Countries of Southeast Asia and Africa | 01/2004- 12/2004 |
| 11. | VEGSYS | European Commission | - Agricultural Economic Institute (LEI), Wageningen University, the Netherlands | 01/2002- 12/2005 |
| 12. | USEPAM | The Danish International Development Agency | Hanoi University of Agriculture, Lao National University, Phnompenh Royal University | 15/11/2002- 15/11/2006 |
| 13. | Ca River Research | The World Resources Institute (WRI) | Copenhagen of University | 01/2003- 09/2004 |

TRAINING COURSES IN VIETNAM

A number of training courses have been held by CARES itself or by collaboration between CARES and its partners.

1. Proposed training program for module1 TOTEPAM project:
 - Training 1: Basic skills for environmental education (CARES)
 - Training 2: Basic skills applied for Environmental Technology and Management (IESE)
 - Training 3: Basic skills in Environmental Monitoring (INEST)
2. GIS/RS-based Environmental Information System (EIS), 2005.
3. Teaching Skills for English Teachers Who are working with Disadvantaged Students, 2004.
4. Project Monitoring and Evaluation Methods, 2004.
5. Tools for Inter-disciplinary Uplands Development, 2004.
6. Advanced Training in Spatial Analysis – GIS and RS Applications, 2004.
7. Field Research on the Human Dimensions of Upland Agricultural Systems, 2004.
8. Introduction to GIS for Spatial Analysis of Agriculture and Livelihoods Systems, 2003 (for new staff).
9. Spatial Analysis in Research – Applications to Agricultural, Environmental and Household Economic Research, 2002.
10. Student's Capacity Building for Development of Mountainous Region in Vietnam, 2002.
11. Social Sciences Field Research Methods, 2002.
12. Human Dimensions of Sustainable Upland Resources Management, 1999-2000.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

In terms of educational attainment, quite a large number of CARES's staffs have obtained Ph.D. and Master degrees since being established in 2000. All of them obtained the degree in a foreign well-known university of Japan, Luxemburg, Philippines, Thailand, the Netherlands, the U.S. Besides, its personnel also attended a lot of short training courses and exchange programs in or/and outside of the country. Many researchers who are from collaborating partners of CARES were also participated in the courses and programs.

Ph.D. programs:

- Land Resources & Environment: 01
- Food Science and Technology: 01
- Ecology: 01
- Environmental Sociology: 01
- Agronomy: 01
- Forestry Policy: 01

Master programs:

- Sociology: 06
- Economics: 07
- Policy Analyses: 01
- Agronomy – Land Management: 02
- Environmental Sciences & Natural Resources Management (including GIS/RS): 05
- Number of scholarships 2006-2007: 05

Short training course:

- 112 overseas training
- 04 students join the exchanges with foreign students



The HUA's students during an exchange program at the Mahidol University, Thailand.

| Education | Persons | Rate (%) |
|-----------------|---------|----------|
| Total | 140 | 100 |
| Ph.D. | 5 | 3.57 |
| M.Sc. | 23 | 16.43 |
| Training course | 112 | 80 |
| Female | 48 | 34.29 |
| Male | 92 | 65.71 |
| Staff of CARES | 14 | 10.00 |
| Outside CARES | 126 | 90 |