

## Australian Alumni Grants Fund (AAGF) Project

# Promoting dialogical social and gender impact assessment for sustainable hydropower development in the Central and Central Highlands regions of Vietnam



### Alumni grantees:

- **Nguyen Ngoc Khanh Van:** Master- Queensland University; Director - Center for Knowledge Co-creation and Development Research
- **Pham Thi Dieu My:** Master- National University of Australia; Director - Centre for Social Research and Development
- **Pham Thi Thuy Dung:** Master - Queensland University; Director - UCI International Educational Investment and Development Joint-Stock Company

### Implementation period

2018 - 2019



## Issue

Communities in the Central and Central Highlands regions of Vietnam who have been forced to relocate due to hydropower plant project development often face challenges in sustaining their livelihoods after being relocated.

## Action

A dialogue amongst representatives from Government agencies, companies, NGOs and hydropower-affected communities was organised by a group of alumni to promote policies which contribute to sustainable hydropower project development.

A book, 'Hydropower dialogues: Open mind, open heart, open will', was produced following the dialogue and circulated to stakeholders as a reference guide for future hydropower projects.

## Achievements

1. 40 representatives from Government agencies and institutions, businesses, NGOs, and communities from Dak Lak, Quang Nam, Thua Thien Hue and Quang Binh provinces who have been relocated attended the dialogue.
2. 310 copies of the publication "Hydropower dialogues: Open mind, open heart, open will" in English and Vietnamese were distributed to participants and other stakeholders after the event.
3. Local NGOs' efforts to support affected communities were enhanced through their participation in the project.
4. A participatory approach to conducting social and gender impact assessments was discussed during the dialogue as a means of enhancing sustainability of livelihoods following relocation.

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*Bringing Government agencies, institutions, companies and communities together in this dialogue is a great effort to advocate for the local people, as they are hardly heard in the project development process.*  
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Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ho Viet Hanh,  
Director of Institute of Social  
Science in the Central Region