

# Internship at the Center for Sustainable Development Studies

## Hanoi, Vietnam



Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg



# The Why



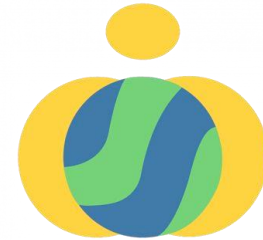
- Personal connection to Vietnam
- Academic interest in civil society studies & sustainable development
- Interest in the region of South East Asia
- Complement academic development with practical experience
- NGOs as interesting political actors and possible future employer
- Improve Vietnamese language skills



- Planning process started 6 months prior to start
  - Application to several NGOs (6 months prior)
  - Application for Credit recognition (8 weeks prior)
  - Bibliography:
    - What is the role of NGO's in global politics?
    - Which role can empowering the Vietnamese youth play in furthering sustainable development?
  - Application for DAAD Promos Traveling Expenses Scholarship (6 weeks prior)



- The Center for Sustainable Development Studies (CSDS) is a local community-based NGO in Hanoi.
- It aims to develop the capacity of young people to effect change in society. Together with the young generation, it seeks to create a vision for sustainable development in Vietnam .



[www.csds.vn](http://www.csds.vn)

*“We are young in spirit. We believe in the young people of Vietnam”*

# The What



- Project planning and implementation
- SOCI Hub office



# The What – Primary Education Project



- **Problem:** Children in small villages in remote areas in the North have little access to primary education
- **Development Goal:** To foster the development of the remote areas by reducing the number of children that cannot go to school and increasing the overall quality of education.
- **Outcome:** Build two strongly constructed classrooms and a playground for children 6-11 years old from La Hu ethnic minority

# The What – Eco Hub Project



- **Problem:**
  - Vietnam's agricultural sector has utilized practices which have caused a serious environmental crisis in Vietnam. (esp. Pesticides)
  - Environmental education among youth is lacking
  - The gap between rural and urban communities is widening
- **Development Goal**

The ECO Hub project aims to promote youth involvement in environmental protection and safe food production, and enhance education for sustainable development among youth.
- **Outcomes:**
  - Organic demonstration farm in Hoa Binh (rural area; ECO Hub) as live-learning facility
  - Environmental Education Program for youth in Hanoi and Hoa Binh
  - Community Learning Center in Hoa Binh




# So What?



- **Practical experience** in project planning
- **Reflection:**  
Several problems that hinder local NGOs in the Global South from being fully accountable to their community and the society
  - As their financial means are limited, they need to be flexible for funding opportunities by international donor agencies.
  - In order to do so, they use vague community specific language in developing their goals e.g. “sustainable development”
  - This leads to lack of common direction and expertise
- **Future studies:**  
Local focus: My semesterlong stay in Singapore will give me the chance to study issues that come with the rapid development of SEA.





Dieses Folienlayout bitte nur verwenden, um großformatige Abbildungen wie in diesem Beispiel zu zeigen.

Es ist nicht für Texte etc. vorgesehen.