



# State of Oceans and Coasts VIET NAM



Viet Nam's National SOC Report (publication pending) provides information on the status of seas and coasts of Viet Nam, including the national ocean economy; quantity and quality of resources the coastal areas; and the existing and potential uses of such resources. The report also aims to contribute to the blue

economy assessment and monitoring progress on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA), the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), other international agreements subscribed to by Viet Nam, and related national laws and policies on oceans and coasts.

## Viet Nam's Ocean Economy in Context

Indicator	Available Information (as of 2017)
Land area <sup>1</sup> (square kilometres or km <sup>2</sup> )	310,070 km <sup>2</sup>
Coastline <sup>2</sup>	3,444 km (excluding islands)
Sea area <sup>2</sup>	21,140 km <sup>2</sup>
Population <sup>1</sup>	95,540,800
Coastal population	>50%
Ocean economy <sup>3</sup> (Gross value added or GVA, in constant prices)	US\$ 38.23 billion or 21% of GDP (in 2015)
Employment in ocean economy	
Estimated value of coastal and marine ecosystem services	
Percentage of coastline with ICM <sup>3</sup>	40.3%
Marine protected area <sup>1</sup> (percentage of territorial waters)	1.8%
Ocean health index (OHI) <sup>4</sup>	63 – Viet Nam ranks #150 among 221 countries and territories.
Gross domestic product <sup>1</sup> (GDP, in constant 2010 US\$ prices)	US\$ 175.3 billion
Human development index (HDI) <sup>5</sup>	0.694 – medium human development category—positioning Viet Nam at 116 out of 189 countries and territories.
Gross national income (GNI) per capita <sup>5</sup> (at 2011 PPP prices)	US\$ 5,859
Access to safely managed water supply <sup>4</sup>	No data
Access to safely managed sanitation <sup>4</sup>	No data

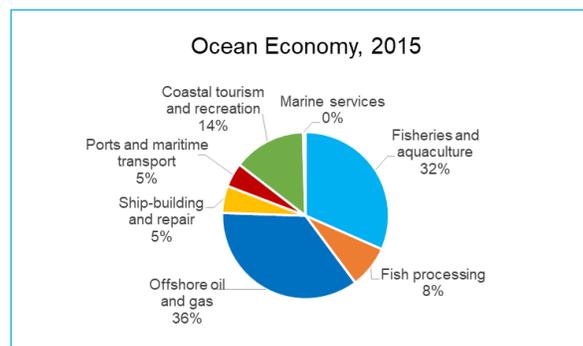
<sup>1</sup> World Bank Open Data. <https://data.worldbank.org/country/vietnam>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/vn.html>

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Planning and Investment 2017.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/region-scores/scores/vietnam>

<sup>5</sup> [http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr\\_theme/country-notes/VNM.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/VNM.pdf)



## Transitioning to Blue Economy

Ocean economy	Blue Economy Initiatives
<p><b>Fisheries and aquaculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>total production of 6.33 million tonnes in 2015.</li> <li>This sector contributed 32% of the ocean economy.</li> <li>There were 530,000 fishers in 2014.</li> <li>Volume of export of seafood has increased rapidly, from 5.0 billion of USD in 2010 up to 7.8 billion of USD in 2014.</li> <li>Pressures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small-scale operations, overfishing, and use of destructive fishing methods have resulted in decline of marine resources and marine environmental quality</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate-smart aquaculture: Advanced science and technological application will be one of the key means to help the local aquaculture sector in Viet Nam to reach targets for blue aquaculture development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Thanh Hoa province, an integrated system is being piloted to cope with climate change through introduction of tilapia in brackish water shrimp ponds. In this integrated system, tilapia can utilize natural food, and make use of feed residues from shrimp crop. This will result in clean shrimp ponds, reduction of feed conversion ratio (FCR) for farmed tilapia, and reduction of production costs.</li> <li>Brackish water shrimp-rice rotation and forest-shrimp systems are being applied in the Mekong delta to also reduce FCR, fertilizer use, and greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>The hard clam aquaculture in Ben Tre, which resulted in increasing both mangrove areas and local incomes, has received certification from the Marine Stewardship Council.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Clam collection in Xuan Thuy National Park (Ramsar site) with co-management arrangement between park authorities and Women's Fishing Group (clam collectors): regulations and licensing determining what can be collected, in which areas, at what times, and using what methods; peer-based monitoring of compliance; Livelihood Improvement Fund to help women diversify their income base</li> </ul>
<p><b>Coastal and marine tourism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributed 14% of the ocean economy</li> <li>Pressures: habitat and biodiversity loss; pollution; inadequate management ecotourism sites</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable tourism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecotourism in Nha Trang</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ports and shipping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributed 5% of the ocean economy</li> <li>Vietnam has 127 ports, of which 37 are ocean cargo ships. The major ports are Hai Phong, Danang, Qui Nhon, and Ho Chi Minh City.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ship-building and repair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributed 5% of the ocean economy</li> <li>Vietnam has about 20 major domestic shipyards, as well as major foreign-owned shipyards.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable ports and shipping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saigon Port: implementing the "Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region" project, designed to help selected ports comply with international environment and safety standards while improving their efficiency.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Oil and gas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vietnam has emerged as an important oil and natural gas producer in Southeast Asia. In 2007-14, Vietnam produced 128.2 million tonnes of crude oil and 70 m<sup>3</sup> of natural gas. It contributed 16.4% of state budget in that period.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pressures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urbanization and rapid industrial zone development</li> <li>Water quality in coastal area still falls the permitted limits, except for some estuary areas.</li> <li>Sea port and transport development</li> <li>Oil spills incidents</li> <li>Use of chemicals in fishing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pollution reduction and waste management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased investments in wastewater and drainage systems (in Ho Chi Minh City, Thanh Hoa City, Da Nang, etc.)</li> <li>Thanh Hoa: construction of stormwater drainage and flood control works, as well as infrastructure facilities for the management of solid waste and wastewater. Households were also encouraged to construct toilets and septic tank through a Household Sanitation Credit Scheme (HSCS) managed by the Women Union.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pressures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Habitat conversion</li> <li>Illegal fishing</li> <li>Pollution</li> <li>Coastal development</li> </ul>	<p><b>Habitat restoration and management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marine protected area</li> <li>Mangrove restoration in Ca Mau and Tien Giang province (GCF)</li> <li>Biodiversity conservation to respond to climate change (UNDP)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Climate resiliency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green growth for 28 coastal provinces in Vietnam (UNEP)</li> <li>Cities and climate changes (UN-Habitat)</li> </ul>