

VIETNAM

HOUSING SECTOR PROFILE



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FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the housing profile report of Viet Nam. The report provides us with an in-depth analysis of the various dimensions of housing and highlights some constraints that require the attention of public policy.

The report is timely as we are currently preparing for the Third United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, known as Habitat III, which focuses on housing and sustainable urbanisation. The conference will be an opportunity for the international community to take stock of the achievements of the Habitat Agenda and the progress achieved during the last twenty years in urban and housing policies. The Housing Profile report of Viet Nam will certainly contribute to the effort of the government of Viet Nam to review and advance the urban agenda in the context of the sustainable urbanisation paradigm and to provide wider accessibility to adequate housing, as outlined in the Habitat Agenda (1996).

The achievement of this goal in Viet Nam is part and parcel of the country's current urbanisation strategies and the urban policies currently being designed and implemented by the government of Viet Nam. The Housing Profile report reveals that Viet Nam has achieved significant improvements in these fields.

UN-Habitat brings the findings and recommendations to a wider public that will also help the government and its partners to formulate evidence-based policies and implement well-informed decisions. It will also reveal areas where further research and in-depth market studies are needed.

The report shows unequivocally that the housing sector touches many aspects of the economy of Viet Nam. The functioning, structure as well as policies to regulate the housing sector will definitely have direct impacts on the future of Vietnamese cities. This makes the report an excellent companion for policy makers, housing and urban practitioners and relevant organizations working in this field.

I congratulate the government of Viet Nam for the bold step to undertake this study that reveals aspects of availability and affordability of housing and its inter-linkage with city growth, and unfold show the key elements of land, basic services, housing finance, building materials, construction technology, and labour are governed and linked to other urban policy dimensions.

The rapid changes undergoing the economy and society of Viet Nam call for preparedness and forethought and this report is just one of these stepping stones in preparing the country for a sustainable urban future. UN-Habitat stands firmly as a development partner committed to this goal.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joan Clos', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Joan Clos
Under-Secretary-General, United Nations
Executive Director, UN-Habitat

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