



## STRENGTHENING NBS TO RESTORE ECOSYSTEMS, AND CONSERVE AND ENHANCE BLUE CARBON STOCKS AND BIODIVERSITY IN VIETNAM

Client: UNDP  
Year: 2025 ~2026  
Service: Sustainable Financing

Viet Nam is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, particularly in its coastal zones and low-lying river deltas. According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021, the country ranked thirteenth globally in terms of exposure to climate-related loss events between 2000 and 2019. With a coastline of over 3,260 kilometres, Viet Nam faces increasing risks from saline intrusion, drought, coastal erosion, storm surges, typhoons, and flooding. These climate hazards, combined with rapid socio-economic development, population growth, and expanding agriculture, fisheries, and industry, are placing significant pressure on coastal ecosystems and the livelihoods of vulnerable communities. Without effective adaptation measures, it is estimated that between six and twelve million people could be affected by coastal flooding between 2070 and 2100.

At the same time, Viet Nam is one of the world's most biodiverse countries, hosting more than 11,000 marine species and ranking among the global biodiversity hotspots. However, climate change, unsustainable resource use, and fragmented development planning have accelerated ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss. While the country has made progress in strengthening its environmental policy framework, the integration of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into development planning and investment remains limited. In response, the Government of Viet Nam, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), is developing the project "Strengthening Nature-based Solutions to Restore Ecosystems, and Conserve and Enhance Blue Carbon Stocks and Biodiversity in Viet Nam." The project aims to promote climate-resilient and low-carbon development pathways by restoring coastal ecosystems, strengthening blue carbon stocks, and mobilising public, private, and community participation in the implementation of NbS.

In this project, Symmetry as the International Project Development Specialist (PPG Team leader) worked with a team of seven technical experts, UNDP, and the Department of Climate Change (MAE) as the implementing Partner, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to develop the full Project Document and supporting annexes and documents with the following responsibilities.

- Management of the GEF PPG Team
- Preparatory Technical Studies and Reviews
- Formulation of the Project Document, GEF CEO Approval (2-steps), and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes.