

Dear Participants,

Welcome to the Asia LEDS Partnership Forum 2017 and the 3rd Asia-Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation.

It is our great pleasure to co-host these important regional fora in Ho Chi Minh City, an economic hub and a pioneer in dealing with climate change agenda and green growth.

Over the last decade, The Ministry of Planning and Investment has together with other line ministries, been exploring options for combining development with mitigation ambitions and adaptations necessities. The lessons from implementation of Vietnam's National Strategy on Green Growth for the period of 2011-2020 with vision to 2050, together with SDG 2030 vision, clearly show that any achievement of dealing with climate change requires integrated planning.

Responses to climate change will be effective only if they are well integrated into relevant planning and budgeting processes and if they are based on proper evaluation of costs and benefits of different implementation measures and selection of measures that provide most benefits and lead to no regret choices.

We are happy to facilitate an exchange of experience and learning between countries in our region on these matters, especially encouraging the active participation of the private sector and international organizations.

We wish you productive discussions during both events.

Dr. Pham Hoang Mai

Director General,

Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources and Environment,

Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI),

Government of Vietnam