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SUMMARY OF COURSE PILOT

Course 5: Sustainability alliance of urban networks in Asian cities

The dry run for Course 5 saw 14 HCMUNRE students and 3 to 5 students from each partner university partake in the course over a two-day period in Ho Chi Minh City University of Natural Resources and Environment.

Led by Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Thi Ha (VNU HUS), and assisted by Dr. Nguyen Thi Thanh Van, the following topics were covered over the two-day period:

- Topic 1: Module introduction;
- Topic 2: Urban sustainability;
- Topic 3: Project design and preparation;
- Topic 4: Project implementation and management; *and*
Group discussion/assignment and presentation.

The two-day dry run included lectures, Q&A sessions, group work discussions, course evaluation, assignments, course implementation, and a course report. As the course is student led, the dry run for Course 5 is unique in that it extends to November 15 2018, allowing the course and student projects to be fully tested.

Following the two-day dry run of the course introduction, participants provided feedback on the course. Overall, they found that the course is well prepared and set up for online lectures, and student involvement is high, with effective participation. However, the participants note that the facilities, such as internet and microphones, should be improved, as this resulted in some partner universities starting the lectures a little late. In addition, they recommend that contact and response between students and facilitators/lectures should be improved via email. Finally, the participants raise the question as to whether facilitators or lecturers in partner universities are required.

Since then, students have been working on the projects linked to the course. Under the first assignment, students are tasked with identifying and discussing five micro and five macro issues/challenges that each city has faced in its sustainable development. For the second assignment, students must discuss and prepare for the Project Design, which includes the development of project objectives; scope and target; contents; expected outcomes and beneficiaries; methods and activities; required resources; and a detailed plan.

Students have until November 15 2018 to work on their final project proposal and detailed implementation plan, under the supervision of three key lecturers: Assoc Prof. Nguyen Thi Ha (VNU

HUS); Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Thi Van Ha (HCMUNRE) and Dr. Duong Van Hieu (HUS), together with the support of partner universities' lecturers.

Group photo at the end of Course 5 lectures in HCMUNRE

