

Observations on Group Papers

1. More thought is needed to make the title informative, focused and interesting

Titles that are too short and too general. The reader has no idea what the paper will discuss beyond the sector and country. Current titles:

- Transportation in Vietnam
- Vietnam's Health and Education since Doi Moi reformation
- Vietnam's Economy and U.S. Trade
- Road and Transportation Development in Vietnam
- Healthcare in Laos
- Poverty in Vietnam
- Laos Agriculture
- Impacts of Industrial Development on Climate Change and Adaptation in Myanmar

Example 1: Transportation in Vietnam

Road and Transportation Development in Vietnam

- **Overview:**
- *Specify transportation mode:* Will the paper focus on road transportation, railways, sea transportation or air transportation, or all? If only one mode is selected, make sure that all data, charts and graphs relate to the specific transportation mode.
- **Common issues:** Some issues will apply to all transportation modes, some will need to be those specific to the transportation mode. For example:
 - Railways: signal systems, track and car maintenance, limited network
 - Road Transportation: traffic safety, traffic congestion, expansion of road networks road maintenance, traffic signs and markings
 - Sea Transportation: port and facilities maintenance; storage and handling; passenger handling
 - Air transportation: airport management; flight scheduling; facilities maintenance; passenger and cargo handling
- **Several options for title revision:** Once the issues are identified and the key elements of the paper are determined, the title could be revised. For example:

Enhancing Vietnam's road transportation through improved road network and safety

Impacts of improved airport services on tourist arrivals in Vietnam

Development of seaports and supporting networks in Vietnam's Central Region

- **Some references:**

https://openjicareport.jica.go.jp/pdf/11596749_02.pdf

<https://www.iata.org/en/iata-repository/publications/economic-reports/vietnam--value-of-aviation/>

Example 2: Healthcare in Laos

- **Overview:** country context and important timelines of health care development in Lao PDR; for example any important laws or laws or regulations issued? Importance of health: to improve general well-being and productivity
- **Common issues:**
 - Accessibility to health care and services
 - Quality of health care services; quality of doctors, nurses and paramedical staff
 - Equity in the distribution of health services particularly the majority vs ethnic minorities in remote areas and urban vs rural areas
 - Limited funding/budget for health facilities and services
 - Malnutrition and stunting
- **Government policies and strategies:**
- **Several options for title revision:**
 - *Improving Quality of and Access to Lao PDR's Health Care System*
 - *Impacts of Improved Health Services in Rural Areas in Lao PDR*
- **Some references:**

<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/274721/9789290618621-eng.pdf?>

https://data.opendevlopmentmekong.net/dataset/3dce18e0-2d3c-40c1-9584-a31161629a06/resource/4abc9ed7-a060-4f4b-b0a9-241ae5a43843/download/lao_hsr_strategy_and_framework_2025_english_final_201702.pdf

Example 3: **Poverty in Vietnam**

- **Overview:** country context and economic performance (1-2 paragraphs); trends in poverty reduction (provide comparisons, say from Year 2000-2020), whether poverty has increased or decreased; the current poverty level (% poor) and what poverty measure is used; mention geographical or special disparities (for example between lowlands and mountainous regions, or between urban and rural areas). External shocks/crises affecting Vietnam's poverty reduction efforts. Key development sectors that have contributed to poverty reduction in Vietnam.
- **Common issues:**
 - Low education and skills; underresourced schools
 - Dependency on agriculture and subsistence farming; inadequate nutrition and food insecurity,
 - Remoteness in rural mountainous areas; lack of access to health care
 - Disparities in gender: school enrollment, attainment
 - Lack of supporting infrastructure: roads, irrigation, electricity, water supply and sanitation and educational and health facilities
- **Government strategies and policies:**
 - Laws/regulations on education, health and education
- **Several options for title revision:**
 - *Impacts of Improved Community Infrastructure on Rural Productivity in Vietnam*
 - *Effectiveness of Government Policy Reduction Strategies Poverty Reduction Outcomes in Vietnam*
- **Some references:**

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2019/03/Reducing-rural-poverty-in-Vietnam-Issues-Policies-Challenges.pdf>

<https://www.ifpri.org/publication/poverty-and-inequality-vietnam>

Example 4: Laos Agriculture

- **Overview:** country context and economic performance (1-2 paragraphs); shift in share of agriculture to GDP (provide time frame, say from Year 1995-2015) and indicate reasons why. Discuss the situation of subsistence, small holder and commercial farmers; discuss the main agriculture products for domestic consumption and exports; increase/decrease in productivity; important milestones in agriculture in Laos (laws, regulations issued); external shocks/crises affecting Laos' agricultural performance.
- **Common issues:**
 - Low productivity and quality of agricultural products
 - Weak market for agriculture products
 - Agriculture was unable to meet the needs of the growing population and produce surplus for export and animal feed.
 - Poor on-farm crop storage, which leads to high levels of wastage and spoilage
 - Significant disparities of production across provinces
 - Poor rural/agricultural infrastructure
- **Option for title revision:**
 - *Drivers of Agricultural Productivity Increase in Lao PDR*
- **Some references:**

https://openjicareport.jica.go.jp/pdf/11666518_03.pdf

https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/5.%20LaoPDR_strategy.pdf

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Example 5: Impacts of industrial development on climate change and adaptation in Myanmar

- **Overview:** country context and economic performance (1-2 paragraphs); share of industry to GDP (example: from Year 2000-2015); changing patterns of climate change and occurrences of natural disasters; mitigation and adaptation measures taken by government; effects of climate change on coastal areas, inland areas, mountainous areas; gas emissions data/statistics and key polluting industries.
- **Common issues:**
 - Vulnerability to extreme weather and natural disasters
 - Climate change impacts on: agriculture production, habitability of low lying and coastal areas, the availability of potable water, and the prevalence and spread of vector-borne disease
 - Concerns of public security and adaptation measures
 - Lack of measures to control Water and air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions
- **Options for revision:**
 - Implications of industrial development on climate change in Myanmar
 - Addressing effects of industrial development through climate change mitigation
- **Some references:**

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/36736804.pdf>

<https://policy.asiapacificenergy.org/sites/default/files/MCCSAP-Feb-Version.pdf>

Example 6: Vietnam's Health and Education since Doi Moi reformation

- **Overview:** country context and economic performance (1-2 paragraphs); health and education progress as well as improvements in skills and productivity (for example, from Year 1990-2015); indicators and progress of education and health sectors. What were the causes/drivers of improved education and health? What role did Doi Moi reforms have on health and education?
- **One question:** do we analyze education and health separately or do we combine both and talk about development of human capital?
- **Common issues:**
 - Access to education and health facilities
 - Gender disparities in terms of educational enrolment/attainment, access to health and educational facilities
 - Funding for health/educational infrastructure
 - Quality of educational and health providers
 - Public health and education systems
- **Some references:**

https://m-repo.lib.meiji.ac.jp/dspace/bitstream/10291/21088/1/senmonshokukenkyu_8_27.pdf

https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_PHSSR_Vietnam_Report.pdf

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/105601498481351222/pdf/WPS8112.pdf>

2. Overview

Too much information distracts the reader

Information needs to be selective: exclude unnecessary information

Limit discussion on country context and sector context to 2-3 paragraphs

Lack of focus; topic is unclear

Explain the topic: what it is

Provide a balance of achievements and some constraints

Provide supporting arguments

Include some special or unique features

No timelines

Provide timeline of events

Absence of flow to next section

Provide a transition sentence or paragraph

Overview : Structure

Overview

Vietnam agriculture contributes toward a significant part of Vietnam's economy. Whereby the sector accounts for 14.85% of total GDP, or 934.73 trillion Vietnam Dong. Approximately 39.5 percent of land is used for agriculture purposes. Consequently, the agriculture sector accounts for around 39% of the total employment rate which is calculated as 20.5 million workers.

Brief country and sector context, economic performance

In terms of GDP growth, even though current real GDP growth rate is approximately 3.8% most of the growth from the last 20 years is due to the addition of land, labour and fertilizer, which now seems to be reaching their limits in terms of growth.

Hence, currently, Vietnam's agriculture tends to face many challenges, both short-term and long-term. In the short term, due to the current pandemic situation that causes the world's economy to stop ; consequently, Vietnam's economy struggles since part of its GDP relies on agriculture exports. Moreover, not only Covid-19 causes temporary hardships; in Vietnam, shocks such as natural disasters have huge negative impacts on the agriculture sector.

Introduction to the topic; main arguments (achievements and constraints



Use of graph (could also be table, chart, or other visual

Nonetheless, putting aside the coming of Covid-19 pandemic and temporary shocks, Vietnam's agriculture sector is still facing many challenges which seem to be chronic. For example, the structure of the agriculture system needs to be improved in order to find solutions for long term problems and create sustainability of agriculture in Vietnam. Due to the gap between agricultural sector employees wages and non-agriculture employees wages, the workers who work in other sectors get higher income. Thus, it encourages people, especially the new generation who have just recently entered the labor market to work in other sectors such as manufacturing. Not only the income gap within the rural area but also the gap between the agriculture sector and non-agriculture sector has caused the urban migration. The main reason for the low income in the agriculture sector is due to the fluctuation of agriculture prices, some of them tend to be oversupplied when compared to world demand for the product.

Supporting arguments; unique features

Also, the high cost of production is due to low innovation and inefficient resources used. Furthermore, according to what we have learned in class, one of the crucial points that are needed to improve is the growth of the agriculture sector in Vietnam, which is new innovation and technology, which is required in order to create the needed economies of scale and also value added to the product in the production process.

To sum up, the agriculture sector in Vietnam has played an essential role in Vietnam's economy. Hence, we aim to point out the key issues and challenges in both short term and long term with the policies action from the government sector. In addition, this research will also provide our group point of view based on the key issues mentioned.

Transition sentence/paragraph

Examples: Country context

Example 1.

Vietnam is a long stretched country along the eastern coast of the Indochinese Peninsula and borders China in the north, Laos and Cambodia in the west. The nation is bordering the South China Sea in the east. The country shares maritime borders with Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand. Capital city of Vietnam is Hanoi. In 2016, Vietnam had a population of around 92.6 million people which is the 13th most populous country in the world. Spoken language is Vietnamese.

Example 2.

Union of Myanmar, also known as Union of Burma before 1989, is a country in Southeast Asia located in the western part bordered by PR China, Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh, and India as well as Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea. Myanmar also geographically links Greater Mekong Subregion with Southeast Asia. The total area covered is approximately 677,000 square kilometres with a population density of 82 people per square kilometre

Examples: transition sentence

Example 1:

To conclude, transportation in Hanoi including urban transportation is gradually developing, becoming more urbanized and achieving higher standards to meet world standards. Since transportation is still one of the most important factors that is inevitable to enhance standard of living

Example 2:

Overall, the joining WTO of Vietnam has made the overall economic situation of Vietnam better off. The details of the effect will be discussed in the following section.

Example 3:

While in the last two decades, the government of the Lao PDR has made significant investments in urban areas with the help of development partners and many small cities have seen changes and improvements their urban settings and living situations, the urban sector faces challenges, which will be discussed in the next section.

3. Flow

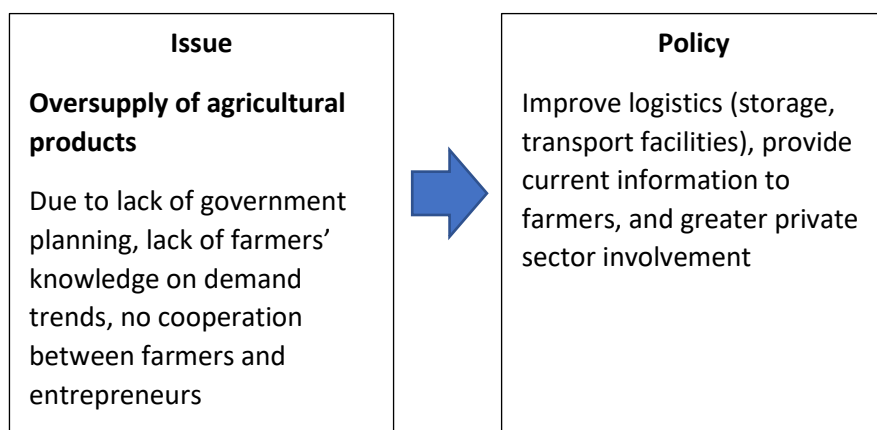
There is no link between issues and government policies

Identify key issues

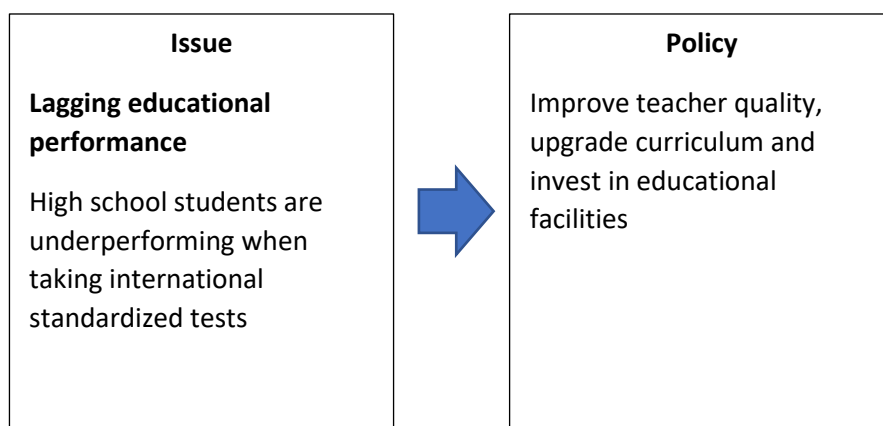
Identify government policies top address the issues

Link issues and policy

Example1

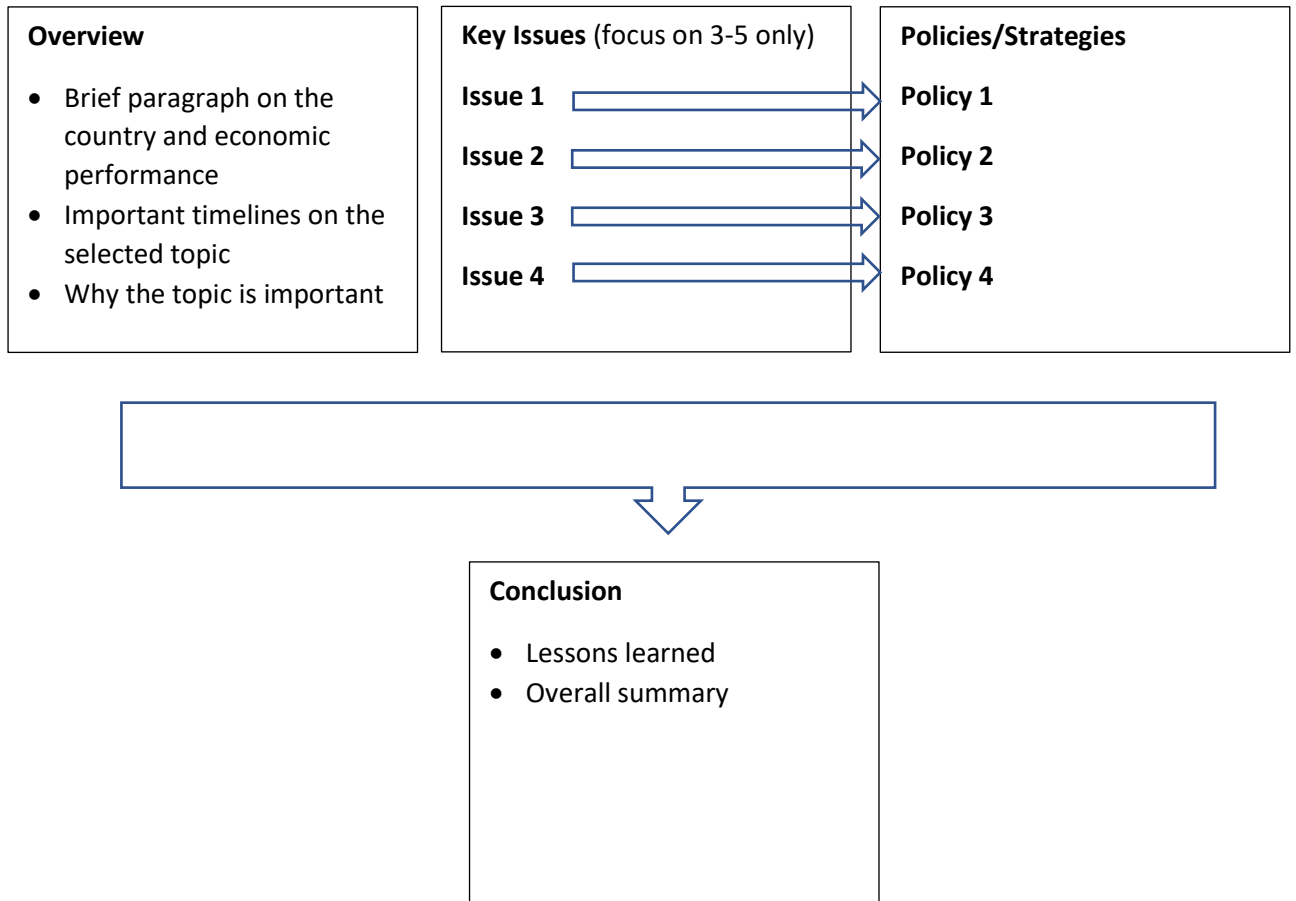


Example 2



Ensuring Good Flow and Structure

- Focus on what “story” you want to tell; do not include any unnecessary information/data
- Use simple sentences



4. Format

The report does not follow the paper format as required in the guidelines. The accepted format:

- Typed in Arial 11 point with left and right justifications
- Line spacing at 1.5
- Length of writeup minimum 6 pages, maximum 10 pages
- Margins: 1.00" (left, right, up, down)
- Provide page numbering

EE361 ECONOMIES OF CLMV COUNTRIES
Semester 2/2021

[Title of Presentation]

GROUP #

Members

[Name]

[Name]

[Name]

[Name]

[Name]

[Name]

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

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5. Content

Overview (2-3 pages).

A brief background/history of the overall country, the sector/thematic area and overall economic performance. Please indicate why the topic is important; include data/graphs/tables/maps as needed, economic and social indicators as well as sector indicators to provide an idea of the progress status of the sector within the overall country context.

Key Issues and Challenges (2-3 pages).

This will require several literature sources and cross checking of information/data since there may be differences depending on the source. The group will highlight and focus on 3-4 issues.

Government/State Strategies, Policies and Legislation (0.5-1 page).

Identify several key instruments (policies, strategies) taken by the government that is relevant to the sector and discuss why these were pursued.

Conclusion (1 page).

Summarize the key findings. Distill some lessons learned and discuss what experiences tell us and indicate what worked and what did not work and why.

6. Evaluation

Report

60 points

- Relevance with course lectures 15 points
- Overall presentation 20 points
- Analysis of context, issues and lessons learned 25 points

Powerpoint Presentation

40 points

- PPT materials 25 points
- Class presentation 15 points

Submission of Final Draft + Powerpoint

7 Apr Nov 2022 - - -

- No late submission will be accepted

