RESULT OF THE LAUNCH OF CAMPAIGN
“GREEN GENERATION JOINS ECO-HANPRINTS”

More than 200 youths from environment clubs and universities/colleges in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, Hai Phong, Da Nang participated in the launch of the campaign “Green Generation joins Eco-Handprints” last weekend (5th and 6th June 2010).

Vietnam Green Generation Network would like to share the event results as follows:

- Number of participating clubs: 16 (Hanoi), 2 (Hai Phong), 8 (Da Nang), 6 (Ho Chi Minh) from 19 universities and colleges
- And 17 representatives from government agencies, local and international NGOs
- Total number of initiatives: over 70

In Hanoi, the 5-hour event was both exciting and lively right up to the last minute. The youths engaged in learning scientific and practical knowledge from environmental experts, and interacting with representatives from local and international organizations. They enjoyed biodiversity quizzes, video clips and most importantly, discussed and initiated environmental actions for the campaign.

One key speaker, Prof. Dr. Truong Quang Hoc presented the overall view about biodiversity challenges the human faces and provided clear explanations to the youths. Another speaker, MSc. Le Khac Quyet, who is doing research and conservation of Tonkin snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus avunculus*), said that this Vietnam's endemic and critically endangered primate is on the edge of extinction due to small population size, restricted distribution range, and threatened by hunting and habitat loss. "In order to save this species, let's join our eco-handprints to protect the Tonkin snub-nosed monkey as well as Vietnam's biodiversity" highlighted Quyet.

With his enthusiasm, Hoang Duc Minh – one Vietnamese youth participant of COP 15 introduced the 350 movement and called for young people's engagement in the campaign. Minh said “Big change starts from joining small and specific actions”. The campaign plans to mobilise young people, groups and individuals from all over Vietnam to connect positive actions toward the celebration of 1000 years of Thang Long-Hanoi and the International Day of Climate Action on 10th October 2010. It intends to facilitate and support green change agents to disseminate green changes through the upcoming national youth summit, regional forum and events on 7th July, 8th August, 9th September and draw young people and society’s attention toward the United Nation climate change conference COP 16 in December 2010.

The highlight of the event was the discussion of ideas and plans of Eco-handprint actions initiated by individuals, clubs and organizations. Many initiatives were raised, such as, one thousand pedestrians, a music night for energy saving, going vegetarian, supporting tree planting in the highlands, and ‘one student one plant’ upon graduation…

Sharing with youths about his reflection, Mr. Tran Phong – Director of Centre for Environmental Training and Communication, summed up: “Today, your voice echoes not only in Hanoi, but also in Ho Chi Minh, Da nang, Hai phong, which means that you are not alone”.

This event officially started the campaign “Green Generation joins Eco-Handprints” from 6th June to 12th December 2010. Green Generation would like to call for partnership with like-minded organizations, individuals to share enthusiasm and facilitate the campaign together.
The Green Generation's upcoming activities

1. On 19th June 2010: The competition "Green Generation and Hanoi Environment". The competition is designed for volunteer clubs, student and pupil groups who love and care for Hanoi environment. To register, please visit www.thehexanh.org

2. On 19th -20th June 2010 in Hanoi and 29th-30th June 2010 in Ho Chi Minh City, the training course “Capacity building towards sustainable lifestyle” organized by Centre for Development of Community Initiative and Environment is to connect Vietnam Green Generation and Vietnamese youths with international youths through the Youth Exchange Programme initiated by UNEP. For more information, please visit www.sef.org.vn

3. On 24th and 25th June 2010: The exhibition “Youths act for Hanoi environment”, where environment clubs can share their photos and materials on environment activities in Hanoi. The activities (1) and (3) are organized on the celebration of 35 years of Vietnam-Germany relationship and 1000 years of Thang Long-Hanoi corporated by Vietnam Environment Administration and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS). To register, please visit www.thehexanh.org.

Organization and Partnership


Green Generation welcomes organizations, individuals who wish to be our partners in the campaign.

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The He Xanh (Vietnam Green Generation Network): is a network of youth organizations and individuals who share concerns and are willing to learn and make a difference for a sustainable life. With motivation and enthusiasm, The He Xanh promotes youths and community to be Aware of and Act to address climate change. The He Xanh is supported and coordinated by Live&Learn for Community and Environment in cooperation with Oxfam, British Council and like-minded organizations and individuals.

The Campaign “Green Generation joins Eco-handprints”: We do not only need to reduce our impact on the environment, but also need to engage in proactive actions towards sustainability. It means that apart from reducing our “eco-footprints”, we need to increase our “eco-handprints” at the same time. Eco-handprints are stronger and more powerful when joined together. The concept of “Eco - Footprint” and “Eco - Handprint” help to measure what we produce negative impacts and our proactive action on the Earth.