

Fulbright

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Newsletter FSPPM Summer 2022

Inside this issue

1. From Editorial Board
2. Highlights
3. News and Updates
4. Upcoming Events

From the Editorial Board

Dear cherished friends,

As summer months unfold, Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management has been vibrant with an array of academic activities inside and outside campus. Apart from theoretical analysis from faculty members, FSPPM always strive to expose our students to practitioners' perspectives. Indeed, Fulbright School has become a hub of knowledge where innovative flows of ideas come across each other. In the quarter, we welcomed multitude of guest speakers who are aspiring professionals in their respective fields, come and share with our students their expertise on diverse topics ranging from cryptocurrencies, fintech to public governance for urban development projects.

Furthermore, we have reached remarkable milestones on our outreach projects. Most notably, the Natural Capital Management Project (NCMP) has successfully organized its first field trip with donors and important stakeholders. NCMP researchers have toured prominent localities in Mekong River Delta, met with local leaders, business leaders, and farmers, listening to stories during their struggle with climate change. The trip has provided first-hand input for researchers to shape their inquiries to address grand challenges in the region.

More interesting academic activities and events can be found in the issue. Please read along and share the newsletter with your friends, colleagues, or anyone of interest!

Sincerely yours,

Editorial Board

Highlights

The most highlighted event in this quarter was **Executive Program** on legal and financial aspects of public-private partnerships (PPP) in infrastructure. This new PPP course was conducted in 24-26 June 2022 opened for public registration. The Course has equipped participants with knowledge and skills in legal and financial aspects so that they can analyze, then assess the problems in the implementation of PPP. The faculty members along with the diversity of 29 participants from different working sectors have brought a wide range of perspectives of PPP via case studies approach.



In this quarter, **Academic Seminar** jointly organized by FSPPM and World Bank to present the 2022 Vietnam Poverty & Equity Assessment report – *From the Last Mile to the Next Mile*. The first part is the discussion about recent poverty and inequality trends throughout the last decade as well as impacts from COVID-19, as well as remaining Last Mile chronic challenges to poverty reduction. In addition, Vietnam's aspirations to reach high-income status by 2045 requires higher productivity and achievements to build a prosperous middle-class. The second part to discuss the Next Mile, which is the road to upper-middle and high-income standards of living. In particular, continuing improvements in higher education and human resources development will be critical for Vietnam's growth trajectory to high-income status.



The quarter is also highlighted by the series of MPP22 thesis defenses. 56 students in both PA and LM concentration have successfully defended their master theses and qualified for graduation in 2022. The commencement ceremony is expected to be organized in the first week of August.

New and Updates

Guest Speakers

As part of the Financial Analysis course, in April, two guest speakers were invited to talk with MPP22 students in following topics:

■ On 7 Apr, Mr. Nguyen Quoc Toan – Co-founder, Chairman cum CEO of EQuest Group, gave a lecture on *Mergers, Acquisitions, and Corporate Restructurings in Education in Vietnam*. Through his talk, the speaker shared about some restructuring experiences on cutting costs, generating revenue, and the important as well as necessary skills in decisions making.

■ On 8 Apr, Mr. Nguyen Anh Tuan – Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of TRAPHACO, was invited to share his expert opinions on *State Capital Management and State-owned enterprise Restructuring* through the case study of TRAPHACO's restructuring. In his talk, Mr. Tuan described process of implementing the restructuring is based on legal and practical principles, as well as shareholders' expectations. Also, the speaker emphasized the needs in planning, the budget close to reality, and in issuing functions and tasks of departments and units according to the new model.



At the invitation of Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, lecturer of *Public Management*, two guest speakers had sharing with MPP23 students on following topics:

■ On 14 Apr, Dr. Nguyen Si Dung, former Deputy Chairman of the Office of Vietnam National Assembly, was invited to talk as a guest speaker with MPP23-LM students and faculty on "Politics, Institutions and Culture: The long march in reforming Public Management and Public Administration in Vietnam"

■ On 9 May, Mr. Nguyen Duong Anh – Vice Director of Thua Thien Hue Center for Information and Technology, gave his talk about the experience in digital transformation at Thua Thien Hue province.



Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh, lecturer of *Leadership in the public sector* course has invited the two speakers from Public and Private sector to share about their leadership experiences in their working sectors:

■ On 24 May, Economist Le Dang Doanh, former head of the Central Institute for Economic Management, talked about the difficulties and challenges in the stage of drafting and presenting the Business Law 1999 for approval as well as the way to put the policy into implementation.

■ On 25 May, Mr. Nguyen Quoc Ky, Chairman of Vietravel Holdings, discussed with the class his leadership role throughout each stage of Vietravel's development.

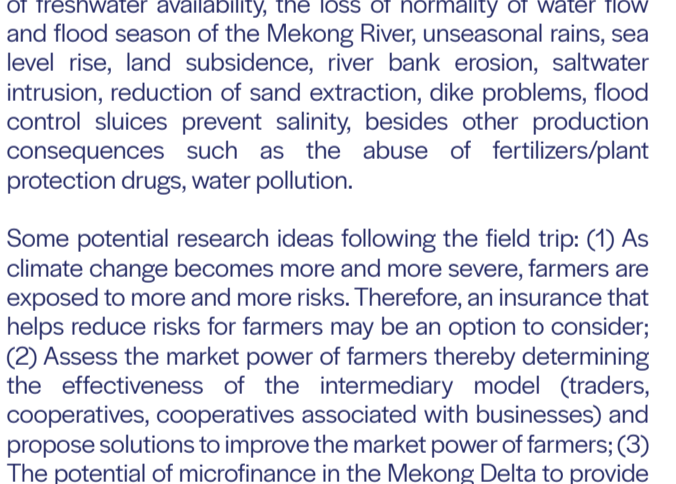


In Development Finance course, with the participation of guest lecturers from academy, private enterprise and government body, FSPPM students could listen to a wide range of perspectives on development finance:

■ On 23&26 May, Dr. Ho Quoc Tuan – Senior Lecturer in Accounting & Finance at University of Bristol, England, delivered lectures on (i) Fintech Ecosystem and new financial products, and (ii) Blockchain and Cryptocurrency.

■ On 29 May, Dr. Le Hong Giang – Director Investment Strategies, Tactical Global Management Fund (Brisbane, Australia) shared about *Central Bank's friction of digital currencies*.

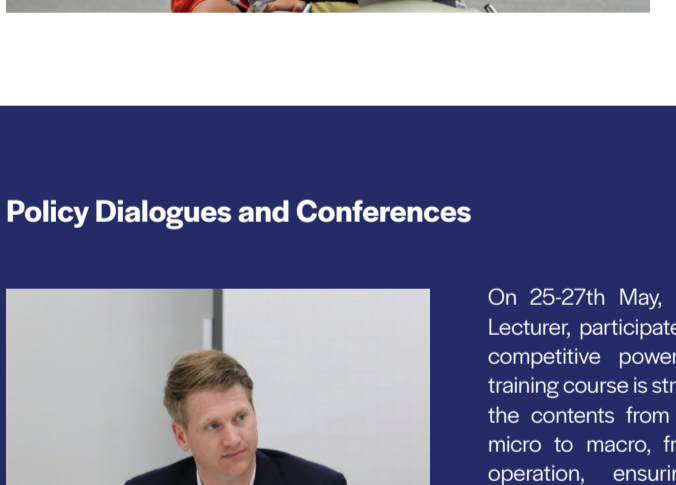
■ On 29 May, Mr. Doan Thai Son, Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, gave a talk on *Financial Regulations and Supervision in the new context*



Under the curriculum of *Comparative Public Policy* course, two inviting lecturers had lectured sessions:

■ On 22 May, David Dapice - Senior Economist, Vietnam and Myanmar Program, Harvard Kennedy School, conducted lecturing on (i) The history of development thinking and policy (ii) The development strategies of successful Asian countries, and (iii) Import substitution industrialization with export-oriented industrialization.

■ On 28 May, Yooil Bae - Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration, Dong-A University, delivered (i) The distinctive geopolitical condition around Korean peninsula, (ii) Korea's foreign policy as well as Korea's strategies for economic development, and (iii) Implementations for Vietnam's development.



In Q2/2022 the project team has continued the analysis of travel patterns of households in HCMC. In particular, their analysis aims to (i) cluster HCMC households based on their travel diary on a representative day and (ii) identify the demographic attributes most characterizing households in the same cluster. The analysis methodology combines unsupervised and supervised machine learning techniques that is novel in the research area of transportation science. The outcome of this exercise allows for a more methodologically sound approach to scaling of the information in a household travel survey for estimating of the travel demand of the whole population.



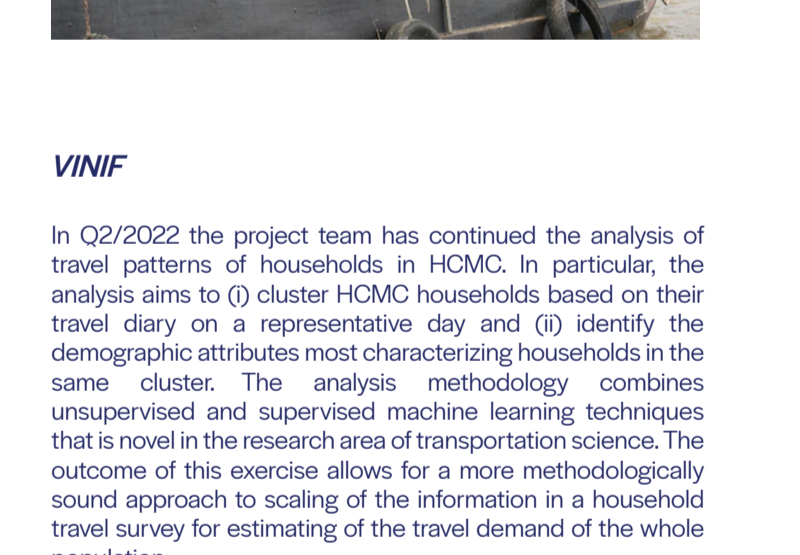
On 5th June, at the high-level dialogue of the 4th Vietnam Economic Forum themed "Building up a resilient, independent and deeply integrated economy in the new landscape" that organized by the Central Economic Committee, Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Dean of FSPPM, delivered his remarks on the challenges for Vietnam's economy in 2022 due to the influence of the global economic downturn. This workshop is a high-level dialogue with the participation of Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, senior officials, economic experts from Asian Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and local institutions.



Dr. Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Dean of FSPPM, was invited as a moderator at Ho Chi Minh City Economic Forum 2022 (HEF) themed "Digital Economy: Driving force for growth and development of Ho Chi Minh City" held by the People's Committee of HCMC on 15th April.



Assoc. Prof. Pham Duy Nghia on 26th May attended the Meeting of Supreme Court advisors on case law and contribute to the selection of case law in commercial disputes.



On 14th April, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thanh, FSPPM Senior lecturer had hosted a meeting with US Congressional Staff Delegation to Fulbright University Vietnam. The Delegation was led by Ms. Katie Sutton, Professional Staff Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) and would like to learn more about FUV's work on cyber education initiatives, including developing a program aimed at advancing defensive cybersecurity in Vietnam and the region.



On 25-27th May, Dr. Le Viet Phu, FSPPM Lecturer, participated in a training course on competitive power market in Hanoi. The training course is structured in 3 days, covering the contents from basic to advanced, from micro to macro, from regulations to actual operation, ensuring to provide useful knowledge for trainees to improve their capacity in management, operation and participation in the retail electricity market in Vietnam, as well as understand the overall picture of the competitive electricity market in Vietnam as well as its orientations, future development plans.



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Upcoming events

- **Commencement Ceremony for MPP2022**
- **The recruitment campaign of new cohort MPP2024 continues with Information Day and Demo Classes in HCMC & Hanoi**

