

TRANSPARENCY OF INFORMATION PROMOTION FROM GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OPPORTUNITY CREATION FOR PEOPLE’S ACCESS TO INFORMATION VIA THE MEDIA

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Institution for Research on Development Communication (RED Communication) is an organization in development communications.

Year founded: 2011

Predecessor: Research Center for Development Communication, member of Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA)

Currently: Institute for Research on Development Communication

Also known as: RED Communication

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Field of operation: Development Communication

II. PROGRAMS:

1. Journalists’ Rights Protection Program
2. Connecting Journalists with Social Organizations Program
3. Community Engagement in Policies via the Media Program
4. Media participating in Vietnam’s Sustainable Development Program 2030 (VSDG 2030) Encouragement Program
5. Development Communications Track-building Program
6. Development Communications Promotion Initiatives: “Journalist Award for Sustainable Development”

RED Communication’s contribution to the UPR Report is about the role of governmental agencies’ transparent-information-making and the people’s rights to access information in order to have feedback on the policy-making process, via the following case study:

Case study: Workshop “PROPERTY TAX- SOME POLICY RECOMMEDATION”

Time : 26/6/2018

Venue: Hòa Bình hotel, Hà Nội

Participant : 70 (journalists, VN and NGOs experts, enterprizes , rechearches...)

Moderator/panelsts: RED, MoF, Canadian Embassy, policy experts..

Organizer: RED Communication

I. Background:

In the preparation for the Property Tax Policy project scheduled to be proposed to the Government as an addition to the Law-building Program 2018, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) had done policy research and drafted recommendation to build the Property Tax project. On May 2018, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) released Draft project of property Tax to get feedback from community before submitting it for Government and National Assembly's approval as an addition in the Law-building Program and National Assembly's Ordinances. MoF received feedback from other Ministries, agencies, provinces, experts, organizations and individuals on the project. Even though this was only the first step in the draft, the MoF's initiative received many multi-dimensional feedbacks and comments from the media, experts, Social Organizations and social media. As this project affects individuals, organizations, for-profit and non-for-profit alike, the fact that MoF researched, evaluated, and collected comments on a detailed proposal before submitting it to the Government is greatly welcomed. It has created social consensus, made policy-making process transparent, and attracted the public's participation. The announcement of policy initiatives regarding Property Tax has attracted the public's attention, thus increasing predictability regarding their effects on the real estate market.

Multi-dimensional feedback/comments also represent:

1. Pros: Via the media, the public had early access to information on the Property Tax Policy proposal. The MoF actively makes information transparent right from the idea-formulating on Property Tax Policy period. The public's comments on the ideas regarding the Property Tax Policy on the newspapers and social media represent the public's rights of access to information in their participation in policy feedback.
2. Limitations: Limited information selection and provision ability leads to information dilution, thus leading to the public's inability to recognize the true nature of the issue.

II. RED communication's initiatives:

With transparent and balanced information regarding the aforementioned case, RED coordinated with agencies with the Ministry of Financial to host the "Property Tax – Some Policy recommendations for Vietnam" conference in order to clarify some parts of the Ministry of Finance's proposal to the Government via the comparisons of other countries' Property Tax Law regarding issues that the MoF researched and made recommendations on. This conference aims to provide more objective and balanced outlook on MoF's tax policies. This is also an activity under the "Quality of building and implementing economic policies in

Viet Nam improved by effective participation of the media and Social Organizations” project funded by Global Affairs Canada.

The conference’s goal is to provide information to the media, strengthening constructive cooperation between the media and MoF for responsible communication in Property Tax policy in order to ensure that the policy is realistic. The conference is a forum for representatives of MoF, international experts, business, the public, and the media. Here, the media’s role is to provide information so that the public have better understanding of the Property Tax Law under multidimensional lens, thus leading to responsible comments on the policy.

III. Recommendations:

Currently in Viet Nam, there are only a few Social Organizations focusing on communications. Therefore, resources for social feedback promotion of the media are still limited. Meanwhile, reality shows that the media has a very important role in promoting the participation of involved in parties in social observation and feedback.

As a Social Organization focusing on communications, RED Communication recommends that:

1. Strengthen the capability of Social Organizations in development communications to support the media more realistically.
2. Promote the transparent-information-making of governmental agencies right from the policy-formulating process, creating opportunities for the public to participate in giving feedbacks in the policy-building process, and avoiding creating unrealistic policies.
3. Promote the role the media in encouraging involved parties to contribute and give feedbacks responsibly in policy issues, as well as contribute to the completion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
4. Create mechanisms so that the public have better access to information to have more responsible feedbacks.

IV. Appendix: Newspaper articles on the conference

1. VTC1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_oANSvVYIQ
2. TH Hà Nội <http://hanoitv.vn/ban-tin-thoi-su-15h-ngay-01072018-v93746.html>
3. Dân trí: <http://dantri.com.vn/kinh-doanh/thue-tai-san-nha-dat-de-xuat-danh-gap-100-lan-voi-nguoi-giau-20180626200323693.htm>
4. Tiền phong : <https://www.tienphong.vn/kinh-te/thue-tai-san-phai-danh-vaو-nguoi-giau-co-nguon-thu-1291845.tpo>



5. VNeconomy : <http://vneconomy.vn/du-luat-danh-thue-tai-san-luy-tien-mien-thue-cho-nguoi-ngheo-20180627093224858.htm>
6. Thanh niên: <https://thanhvien.vn/tai-chinh-kinh-doanh/danh-thue-tai-san-gap-10-lan-voi-nguoi-giau-977325.html>
7. VOV: <https://vov.vn/kinh-te/thue-tai-san-khong-the-cao-bang-nha-giau-voi-nha-ngheo-779685.vov>
8. Pháp luật TPHCM: <http://plo.vn/kinh-te/quan-ly/nha-700-trieu-dong-het-lo-bi-danh-thue-tai-san-779054.html>
9. Zing news: <https://news.zing.vn/bo-nguong-danh-thue-nha-o-muc-700-trieu-dong-post855354.html>
10. Diễn đàn doanh nghiệp: <http://enternews.vn/danh-thue-tai-san-la-phu-hop-voi-thong-le-quoc-te-131573.html>
11. Đầu tàu: <http://baodauthau.vn/tai-chinh/thue-tai-san-chi-ap-dung-voi-nha-dat-73140.html>
12. Nhịp cầu đầu tư: <http://nhipcaudautu.vn/thuong-truong/goi-y-chinh-sach-cho-thue-tai-san-nhin-tu-canada-3324638/>
13. BĐT Tổ quốc: <http://toquoc.vn/doi-song/hoi-thao-thue-tai-san-va-mot-so-go-y-chinh-sach-cho-viet-nam-346563.html>
14. Kinh tế Đô thị: <http://kinhtedothi.vn/danh-thue-tai-san-nen-hay-khong-319534.html>
15. Lao động Thủ đô: <http://laodongthudo.vn/thue-tai-san-chi-nen-huong-va-oi-tuong-co-kha-nang-nop-thue-75514.html>
16. Báo Giao thông: <http://www.baogiaothong.vn/thue-tai-san-thu-the-nao-tao-su-dong-thuan-d261978.html>
17. Hà Nội mới: <http://hanoimoi.com.vn/Tin-tuc/Bat-dong-san/905833/thue-tai-san-nen-danh-luy-tien->
18. Infonet: <http://infonet.vn/de-xuat-danh-thue-tai-san-gia-tri-tu-5-ty-dong-tro-len-post266600.info>
19. Vietnam Finance: <http://vietnamfinance.vn/thue-tai-san-nen-danh-luy-tien-de-tranh-bat-cong-20180504224208726.htm>
20. Báo Xây dựng: <http://www.baoxaydung.com.vn/news/vn/kinh-te/thu-thue-tai-san-de-trang-trai-dich-vu-do-chinh-quyen-do-thi-cung-cap.html>
21. Thời báo Tài chính: <http://thoibaotaichinhvietnam.vn/pages/thue-voi-cuoc-song/2018-06-27/thue-tai-san-nang-cao-tinh-tu-chu-cho-chinh-quyen-dia-phuong-59161.aspx>
22. Đại đoàn kết: <http://daidoanket.vn/tai-chinh/cong-bang-trong-danh-thue-tai-san-tintuc408320>
23. An ninh tiền tệ: <http://antt.vn/thue-tai-san-hay-thue-bat-dong-san-243833.htm>
24. Thế giới và VN: <http://baoquocte.vn/thu-thap-y-kien-cong-chung-de-xay-dung-chinh-sach-thue-tai-san-73324.html>



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VIỆN NGHIÊN CỨU TRUYỀN THÔNG PHÁT TRIỂN

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25. An ninh thủ đô: <http://anninhthudo.vn/kinh-doanh/den-so-nha-con-chua-quan-ly-duoc-thi-lam-sao-quan-ly-duoc-tai-san-de-danh-thue/772743.antd>
26. Đầu tư chứng khoán: <http://tinnhanhchungkhoan.vn/bds-phap-luat/thue-tai-san-nen-lay-ten-goi-la-thue-bat-dong-san-vi-chi-ap-dung-doi-voi-nha-dat-233629.html>
27. CaféF: <http://cafef.vn/neu-danh-thue-tai-san-nguoi-giau-co-the-bi-danh-thue-10-2018070107341764.chn>
28. Người đồng hành: <http://ndh.vn/nguoi-ngheo-nop-thue-tai-san-the-nao--20180626044618313p145c174.news>
29. Báo đầu tư (bài tiếp) : <http://tinnhanhchungkhoan.vn/bds-phap-luat/thue-tai-san-con-do-nhung-ban-khoan-234085.html>
30. Báo đầu tư chứng khoán (bài 2) : <http://tinnhanhchungkhoan.vn/bds-phap-luat/thue-tai-san-con-do-nhung-ban-khoan-234085.html>