
RESEARCH/NGHIÊN CỨU

Some Issues on the Studies Relating to Researches, Analysis and Evaluations of Decision No. 79/2005/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister on the Development of the Northwest¹

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Abstract: The Northwest is a strategic region which plays an important role in economy, society, and national security of the country. Over the years, the Party and government have had a deep concern for the North West with many preferential policies for economic-social development, poverty eradication, and assurance of social security. From the achieved results and to overcome general barriers in implementing development policies in specific areas, the policy documents on "Regional Development" of the Northwest have created the connections and overall interaction; helped mobilize resources for implementing the development goals in Northwest provinces generally and in all areas of economic-social life particularly. This will require the close guidance and coordinated deployment from central government to ministries and local departments and between government agencies in each locality. From the approach to regional development and policy making, this article focuses on analyzing the implementation of the philosophy of objectives in policy document system for the Northwest, associated with the implementation of Decision No. 79 of the Prime Minister.

Keywords: Regional development, policy making of regional development, policy assessment, philosophy of objectives.

1. The importance of implementing the philosophy of objectives in policy making for regional development

Regional development approach is a popular approach that promotes the potential of each territory/economic in the common development strategy of the countries nowadays. The reason is that regional development is the basis to accelerate the common development of each country, take full

advantage of the potentials/strengths in the development of the regions and help reduce disparities on the development gap between regions. With self-identified advantages and disadvantages, the regions will promote their

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own creative and innovative capacities. This approach is extremely important in policy analysis and assessment of each country and territory. In Vietnam, the overall planning of socio-economic development of the region is currently attached special importance through the policy documents system on the development of key economic regions, implementing the objective of sustainable development within the region and throughout the territory.

Stemming from the territories' development needs, policy making of regional development has the important role in rallying the resources, in order to create positive impacts for the process of socio-economic development of the local in all aspects (fields, sectors and localities of the region) [1]. The deployment of regional development policy could lead to new social formations, to a new paradigm of the society and change old policy paradigm by a policy paradigm which carries different philosophy of objectives. This requires policy makers to determine the goals and means of regional development policies in line with the specific conditions of each region, creating positive impacts to promote policy development process of the local and exploit development potential of the region [2].

According to Vu Cao Dam (2011), each policy has two component contents: policy goals and the means to achieve these goals. A regional policy paradigm will include 4 layers: philosophy, perspective system, standard system and concept system. In which, philosophy of regional development is the ideological range and the most important range of the policy that plays a dominant role of all lower layers. Philosophy of objectives is the core ideology on the development objectives of the system [3]. Based on the above approach, this article will further analyze the transition on the implementation of philosophy of objectives on Northwest development, through a

systematic analysis of key programs and the related policy documents, especially the case studies in documents system on agriculture development to deploy Decision No. 79 of the Prime Minister.

2. Philosophy of objectives in the development policy system of the Northwest

With the abundant potential and important geopolitical location, Northwest region has received the attention to invest of the State through various programs and policies. Within the scope of the article, we are pleased to offer a few comments on the philosophy of objectives and the implementation of key programs and policies on the Northwest development:

Philosophy of objective 1: Programs and policies are made out based on the development needs of the local, with the goal: building infrastructure, resolving the shortcomings issues of the local (resettlement, price subsidies in agricultural production, and so on), contributing to improve the living standard of people and exploiting the development potentials of the local. In this stage, policies are used to resolve the “happened” problems and aim to fix and build, attract resources for development on the basic areas of life.

Philosophy of objective 2: Programs and policies are implemented with the objective: continue to overcome the shortcomings in the development of fields and sectors in the Northwest and improve the quality of infrastructure systems and life service for local people, closely combine socio-economic development with ensuring national defense and security. During this stage, policies began moving towards the regional approach in planning of key areas, fields, and industries, but meeting inadequacies due to lack of resources to implement policy (human resources, financial resources, and information resources).

Philosophy of objective 3: Programs and policies towards the goal of sustainable development in the Northwest with deployment

of a number of measures to *strengthen resources* with a broader scope (spatial extent, duration and content of implementation); continuing to implement the goal of socio-economic development and insurance of national defense and security; identifying key development and focusing on promoting potentials of the Northwest in the sustainable development strategy of the country.

** Some main state-level programs on the Northwest:*

To serve Philosophy of Objective 1, there are many key programs on the field of Northwest development such as Program 135, Program 143, projects/policies related to forests and forest land, education policy, health policy, price subsidies policy on goods and travel, telecommunications and information policy².

Table 1. Summary of main policy programs on mountainous areas²

Programs	Objectives	Target group	Implementing agencies	Total budget (billion VND)	Period	Annual budget
Program 143	Poverty reduction and job creation	All over the country	The Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Health Portal, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, State Bank of Vietnam	8,387	2001 – 2005	1677.4
Program 135	Infrastructure improvement	Firstly, focusing on the poorest	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs	6,331.6	1999 – 2005	904.5
	Construction of infrastructure for center communes	1,000 communes, after that		1,671	1999 – 2005	238.7
	Resettlement program	increasing the number of communes to		73.6	1999 – 2005	10.5
	Production and marketing of agriculture and forestry	2,410 by 2005, then reducing to 1,800 communes by 2006		60	2002 – 2005	15
	Training			284	2001 – 2005	56.8
Sedentarization program	Resettlement, poverty reduction and sedentarization program	Ethnic minorities, mountainous areas and areas under afforestation program	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs, The Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	735	2000 – 2004	147

² Institute for Studies of Society, Economy and Environment, Summary of programs and policies related to ethnic minorities from 1998 to now.

Supporting policy for households with special difficulties	Poverty reduction	Poor households and individuals in ethnic groups that have fewer than 10,000 people	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs	18	2001 – 2006	30.3
Program 134	Land for production and settlement, house and clean water for ethnic minorities	Poor households and ethnic villages	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs	1,723	2004 – 2006	574.3
Program 327	Afforestation and forest protection	Areas under afforestation program	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1,082.4	1996 – 1998	360.8
Program 139	Increasing access to health services	Poor people, ethnic minorities	Ministry of Health Portal, Social insurance	2304	2002 – 2006	460.8
Subsidy and travel support program	Subsidy for remote region	Poor households in the third region's communes	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Government Committee for Pricing	512	2004 - 2005	256

Source: Institute for Studies of Society, Economy and Environment, Summary of programs and policies related to ethnic minorities between 1998 and 2005

In May 2010, at the Conference on Transfer and Application of Science and Technology (S&T) for promoting the development of agriculture and rural economy in the Northwest, according to reports from 14 provinces in the Northwest, in the last 2 years, 42 state-level Science and Technology projects, 461 provincial schemes, projects and over 1,000 models, schemes and projects at grassroots level have been implemented. Most of the projects focus on researching and experimental cultivation of plant varieties and animal breeds, intensive farming techniques, crop restructuring, plant protection measures to improve productivity, product quality and production efficiency. Many works have been applied; promoted formation of specialized

farming focused on goods production, increase farmers' income, practically reduce poverty, contributing to socio-economic development in each Northwest province. But because these activities are limited so the potentials of forest economy, specialty tree development has yet to be fully exploited; there are not many specialized cultivation areas, the competitiveness of products and goods is not high, the work of preservation and product processing after the harvest is still much confusion.

Implementing philosophy of objectives 2&3, a series of key programs are deployed, such as:

- *The cooperation program to develop tourism in the wide-open Northwest* was signed

in Sa Pa (November 2008), Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Phu Tho, Hoa Binh, Son La, Dien Bien, Lai Chau, Ha Giang under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, in order to rationally exploit the tourism potential of each locality, promote growth of regional tourism.

- *The state-level key Science and Technology program in the 2013 – 2018 period titled "Science and Technology for the Sustainable Development of the Northwest Region"* aims to provide scientific foundations and practicality for solving the basic and hot problems that are posing in reality, contributing to unleash the potentials, overcome difficulties, promote the resources to a high degree, create conditions for the sustainable development process of the Northwest.

In which, a series of studies on the development of the Northwest are implemented with the key contents such as research aimed at building and perfecting the database, scientific base, sustainable development model in the Northwest; research natural conditions, natural resources, economic, socio-cultural, human resources and environment; research solutions in adjusting the strategy, planning, development plans, sub-regional, inter-regional and the entire Northwest region; model of socio-economic development which suitable for sub-regional and inter-regional in the Northwest; research to apply scientific and technology for economic development, transportation infrastructure, information, cultural, social, rational use of natural resources and environmental protection, prevention and disaster reduction in the Northwest; environmental issues and specific natural calamities (inter-regional and transnational) in the Northwest; research on human resources for the development of socio-economic sectors in the Northwest; research and training for human resources in social management, economic management serving Northwest sustainable development.

Some specific research such as: *"Research to improve efficiency resource use agricultural land northwest mountainous areas of Vietnam"*

by Soils and Fertilizers Research Institute; Phan Si Man Research (2008) on *"Sustainable Development of the Northwest: Poverty alleviation, protection of water resources"*; Study on *"Rural Economic in the Northwest"* by Tay Bac University, *"Overall study of the Northwest Regional Development"* National Institute of Agricultural Planning and Projection (NIAPP); Nguyen Huu La (2013), *"Applied research some scientific and technological solutions for sustainable development of agriculture and forestry in the northern mountainous area"*; Le Quoc Doanh, *"Research on integrated solutions for sustainable development for corn on steep land in the northern mountainous area"*... The works mentioned above have confirmed the views, goals and tasks for socio-economic development in the Northwest which set out by Politburo Committee was completely correct and appropriate.

In general, the programs on Northwest development were given the objectives associated with natural, socio-economic characteristics of the region which focus on the fields: economic fields; social and cultural fields; science and technology fields; ethnic fields and national defense and security; but were deployed separately in the overall development of the region. The implementation of regional development policy faced many shortcomings because of there was no resources to implement. The policy objectives are not came into reality.

* *The importance of policy making of Northwest regional development*

On July 01, 2004, Politburo Committee has promulgated Resolution No 37-NQ/TW on the direction of socio-economic development and ensuring national defense, security in the northern midlands and mountainous region to the year 2010 [4]. The implementation of Resolution 37-NQ/TW of the Politburo Committee (IX) on orientations of socio-economic development and assurance of national defense, security in the Northern midlands and mountainous region to the year

2010, education work, vocational training, human resources development has been developed. The system of schools, classes in the uplands is concerned for investment, construction, and upgrade. The number of schools and classrooms increased significantly; Ethnic boarding schools was built more and more fully done, spacious, covered the districts has many ethnic minorities; type of ethnic boarding schools is concerned to invest; network of training facilities is developing fast. The structure of the region economy has gradually shifted towards industrialization and modernization, promoting the comparative advantages of each sector; each province in the region increases the efficiency and quality of development. The infrastructure of transport, electricity, telecommunications, water conservancy has improved one step, promoted the ability of socio-economic development and improve people's life. Education - Training has had positive changes, knowledge standard was raised, completed the illiteracy eradication and universalization of primary education in all areas, facilities for the development of education, training development have been *enhanced. The social side has many advances and the people's lives have been improved. [5].*

On April 15, 2005 the Government has promulgated Decision No 79/2005/QĐ-TTg on action program of the Government to implement Resolution No 37 for the direction and operation of management activities and development investment of agriculture, rural areas in the northern midlands and mountainous region, as a basis for the units, localities, enterprises, economic sectors oriented activities. The decision is evaluated as to be promulgated promptly and properly assess the characteristics, important position, potential and advantages, difficulties, challenges and determine clearly the orientation of regional development. The government direct to the agencies and functional units collaboration with the ministries, branches and localities to promptly handle the difficulties and problems of the mechanism, capital investment as well as

guidance and support to address the problems of expertise, technical. The assignment and organizing the implementation focused on the following key tasks:

- Review, adjust and supplement planning for agricultural and rural development in association with the 5-year plan 2006-2010.

- Manage the implementation of irrigation projects which use the capital of government bonds according to plan to 2010.

- Implement the programs, projects to develop plants and animals have advantages and consumer markets, forming the commodity production in association with processing facilities.

- Improve the policy mechanisms.

It can be said that, the results from the implementation the programs on Northwest development and other studies has provided the foundation for the implementation of Decision No. 79. However, derived from specific goals of the program, implementation process and studies on Northwest development for philosophy of objectives 1 and 2 primarily go into the detail of specific fields such as land use, poverty alleviation, application of science and technology in the sustainable development of agriculture and forestry, plant food, but have not yet analyzed and evaluated the policy, namely Decision No. 79 of the Prime Minister. Compared with the objectives set out by Decision No. 79, the works also pointed out the socio-economic development of the whole region still exist some shortcomings such as economic growth is not commensurate with the enormous potential of the region, economic structure shifts slowly and not achieve its objectives. Analysis the specific causes on the shortcomings and weaknesses in each research fields, above works all indicated the mainly task is focus to invest in infrastructure rational, focus and concentration in order to form an infrastructure frame which is modern, durable, meet the requirements of socio-economic development and ensuring national defense and security; basically completed the Settled

agriculture, settled, stability, development and raise the living standards of the resettlement people at Son La hydropower, Lai Chau hydropower Lai and other hydropower works; preservation and promotion of national culture identity, ensuring national defense and security, political stability, and firmly protect the national sovereignty. There are also many programs, seminars and conferences within the framework of the Northwest development activities held regularly at the local level under the chairmanship of the ministries, government departments in order to assess and propose development solutions like the conference on investment promotion in the Northwest as the conference "Investment promotion and social security in the Northwest" is held annually, in Tuyen Quang (2013), the seminar on the promotion and development of tourism in the Northwest. These are practical activities helped the Northwest attracted the attention and investment of enterprises to invest in the infrastructure of the region, contributing to expand production and structure transfer.

Besides, due to the practical demands and the implementation of research programs, several agencies, organizations, and institutes, researching on the development of the Northwest has been formed such as:

The Institute of Northwest Science and Research aims for basic research, basic investigation, and research on technology development in the field of natural science and training of high-skilled human resources in the Northwest;

The Northwest Center of Agriculture and Forest Research and Development that is under the Northern Mountainous Agriculture and Forestry Science Institute with a focus on scientific research and advanced technology transfer for the development of agriculture and forestry in the region; *The Northwest Center of Forest Science and Production* that is under the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences; The Northwest University, colleges and vocational schools in the region are established for training

of human resources for the development of the Northwest.

From 2005 to December 2008, there were 14 kinds of capital investment projects for forestry development in the Northwest, including all kinds of businesses. By 2013, at the Conference of Investment Promotion and Social Security for the Northwest, the Northwest province granted investment certificates to 26 projects with a total registered capital of over 10,623 billion VND.³

However, the main obstacles in implementing the Philosophy of Objectives in the system of policy documents on the development of the Northwest have not yet been overcome, as follows:

1. The Philosophies of Objectives and Means of the policy are inappropriate, lack of resources for implementing policies.

2. Most development policies are divided by sector and field; in which they were carried out separately, without links between each other.

3. The inconsistent deployment of policies among provinces and different levels of the deployment.

4. The reviewing tasks of the policy have not been focused, leading to negative peripheral impacts and negative impacts on the policy; consequently, the policy has no or little effect.

3. The implementation of the philosophy of objectives for the Northwest development in Decision No. 79

Decision No. 79 was issued by the Prime Minister on April 15, 2005 in the Action Plan to implement Resolution No.37-NQ/TW dated on July 01, 2004 of the Politburo on orientations for socio-economic development and assurance of defense and security in the Northern midland and mountainous region up to 2010. The

³<http://taybac.vnu.edu.vn/?language=vi&option=newsdetails&page=1&cid=19&sid=37&id=159&%C4%90%E1%BB%83-V%C3%B9ng-T%C3%A2y-B%E1%BA%AFc-ph%C3%A1t-tri%E1%BB%83n-b%E1%BB%81n-v%E1%BB%AFng.htm>

philosophy that covers the entire Decision No. 79 is "Developing all sectors of the Northwest region", including implementing Philosophy of Objective 3 as mentioned in section 2.

* *Scope*: The Northern midland and mountainous areas consists of the provinces of Ha Giang, Tuyen Quang, Lang Son, Bac Giang, Hoa Binh, Son La, Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Phu Tho , Thai Nguyen, Bac Kan, Cao Bang, Lai Chau, Dien Bien and Western mountainous districts of Thanh Hoa and Nghe An.

* *Objectives*:

- *Overall objectives*: Accelerating the pace of economic-social development in the Northwest higher than the growth rate of the country; markedly improved the economic-social infrastructure to meet the requirements of economic development and ensuring national and regional security; exploiting the potential of the resources, land, climate, mineral, hydropower, and advantages of border gate to develop economic sector; finishing the fixed cultivation and sedentarization program in the border region; tackling free migration to the South and other areas; preserving and promoting the cultural identity of ethnic groups; improving the material and spiritual life of ethnic minority people; linking economic-social development with environmental protection; ensuring national defense and security, political stability, and firmly protecting the national sovereignty.

- *Specific objectives*:

+ Reach GDP per capita of 2000 USD in 2020.

+ The rate of trained laborers increases to 65%.

+ More than 80% of communes have doctors, 100% of communes meet the national standards for health care.

+ The number of poor households in the region fell by an average of 3-4% per year.

+ Reduce the proportion of smuggling, violence, and social problems in the area to below 5%.

+ Ensure border security; maintain the friendship and cooperative relationships with Laos and China⁴.

- *Implicit objectives*:

+ Political stability, limiting the impact of China on the Northern border region

+ Ensure the homogeneous economic - social development of the Northern midlands and mountainous region with other regions across the country.

+ Improve the living standard and quality of life of the people in the region to prevent the enemy forces from taking advantages against us.

Decision No. 79 has four main tasks: (1) reviewing and adjusting the planning of economic development - 39 planning tasks, mainly by the central departments. There are three criteria for the planning of the central and locality; (2) developing investment projects for the construction of social infrastructures for the Northwest - 172 projects; (3) developing manufacturing projects for main products. In this task, 96 projects are formulated and deployed, (4) completing the policy mechanism with 76 new policies or guidelines that should be issued.

To implement Decision No. 79, the Government and Ministries have issued a number of important related documents:

- **Decision No. 49/2008/QĐ-TTg** dated April 22, 2008 of the Prime Minister approving the master plan on settlement of inhabitants of Vietnam-Laos border communes in the Northern mountainous midland region up to 2015 with the aims:

(i) To arrange settlement for 35,384 poor households of border communes in their own localities; to arrange settlement for 6,847 households, including settlement for 1.951

⁴ Solution of the Politburo on the continuous implementation of Resolution No. 37-NQ/TW dated July 01, 2004 on promoting socio-economic development and ensuring national security and defense in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2020.

households in existing villages and resettlement for 4,896 households in new residential areas;

(ii) To reclaim 14,300 ha of land for agricultural production, containing 1,740 ha of wet rice fields and terrace fields;

(iii) To invest on building synchronous infrastructure, including roads, irrigation, electricity, daily life water and public works, in order to stabilize the life and develop production for villagers;

(iv) People's life: The average grain output will reach over 330kg/person; the rate of poor households will reduce from 53% to 20%; 60-80% of households will have clean water; 60% of households will have electricity; 100% of communes will be covered with radio and television broadcasting; 100% of villages will have community cultural centers; and 100% of inhabitants will have healthcare services.

- **Decision No 106/2007/QD-TTg** dated July 13, 2007, approving the scheme on *"Some measures to enhance the training, fostering and staff formation of the grassroots political system in the Northwest for the period from 2007 to 2010"* with the contents of innovation and improving the quality of the political system of communes, wards and towns in the province northwest.

- **Decision No. 91/2008/QD-BVHTTDL** dated December 30, 2008 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism approving the master plan on tourism development in the Northern midland and mountainous region up to 2020 with specific objectives are: (i) To strive for some 1.6 million international tourist arrivals and around 12.5 million domestic tourist arrivals by 2020. (ii) To strive for about USD 1.3 trillion by 2020.

Based on the orientations and specific tasks assigned by the Government in Decision No. 79/2005/QD-TTg, the ministries and departments have had specific policy documents and detailed guidelines to implement at localities on different areas of development.

*Case study of the implementation plan for agricultural and rural development in the Northwest, following the philosophy of objectives in Decision No. 79

Agriculture is a focus area of development in the North West to ensure food security of the area. There have been a lot of relevant policy documents aiming at boosting production and agricultural development planning of the region. To implement Decision No. 79 on the development of agriculture, there have been lots of policy documents in terms of implementation. The ministries and departments have completed the review report, added and adjusted the planning of industry sectors. Among them, seven reports are built in accordance with Decision No. 79/2005/QD-TTg; 02 reports as assigned by the Northwest Steering Committee, the rest are reports that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural have actively directed the implementation.

(1) *In the field of agriculture, localities have directed the construction and approved five reports as follows:*

+ Development plan of focused areas specializing in the production of goods and cattle farming in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2020 (Decision No.376/QD-BNN-TT dated January 28, 2008)

+ Restructuring crop production in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2020 (Decision No.1287/QD-BNN-TT dated May 04, 2009)

+ Application of Science and Technology in the development of specialty plants and animals, primary products in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2010, with a vision to 2020 (Decision No.3698/QD-BNN-KHCN December 29, 2009)

+ Development of processing industry for agricultural and forestry products, agricultural mechanical engineering and rural industries in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2010 and 2020.

+ Implementation guidance of migration policy in Vietnam-China border by Decision

No.60/2005/QD-TTg (Circular No.11/2006/TT-BNN);

+ Submit to the Prime Minister, issuing Decision No. 60/2005/QD-TTg dated March 24, 2005 on the policy to implement the of the population distribution program in Vietnam-China border ..

+ Planning of inhabitant stabilization in Vietnamese-Laos up to 2015.

(2) In the field of forestry, there are 5 planning reports:

+ Development plan of protection forest in Vietnam-China border for the period from 2008 to 2015 (approved in Decision 4165/QD-BNN-LN dated December 28, 2007)

+ Protection and development of the Northwest forest up to 2010 and with a vision to 2020 (Decision 4183/QD-BNN-LN)

+ Development plan of forestry industry in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2010 and 2020 (Decision 1196/QD-BNN-LN dated April 22, 2008)

+ Protection and restoration of protection forest in Da River Basin (Decision 3008/QD-BNN-LN dated October 3, 2008)

+ Protection and development of forests in four communes of Ha Giang uplands region that were approved by Prime Minister in Decision 119/QD-TTg dated January 01, 2009.

(3) In the field of irrigation, there are nine reports:

Development plan for small and medium irrigation in the Northwest and Western regions of Thanh Hoa-Nghe An;

+ Development plan of irrigation combining with hydropower in the Northern midlands and mountainous areas up to 2020.

+ Irrigation planning to prevent riverbank erosion along the Northern border, provide documents for the negotiation of delimitation or demarcation of land borders between Vietnam-China.

+ Planning on the use of water resources in the downstream and basin of Da River

(Decision No.869/QD-BNN-LN dated March 30, 2007)

+ Planning on the synthetic use and protection of the water resources in Ma River;

+ Planning on water supply for 4 mountainous districts of Yen Minh, Quan Ba, Dong Van; Meo Vac, Ha Giang provinces.

+ Advanced planning on Irrigation to serve the resettlement of Son La hydropower project.

+ Planning on irrigation in Vietnam-Laos border communes to serve residential stability, and maintain national security.

+ Planning on flood control planning, disaster mitigation in mountainous regions.

With long-term orientation of construction and regional development, many documents concerning the philosophy of objectives in Decision No. 79 have been studied, developed and promulgated to guide the implementation of suitable mechanisms and policies for Northwest conditions, such as:

- Decision No. 2855/QD-BNN-LN announced the identification of rubber tree as a multi-purpose tree, which can be used for agricultural and forestry purposes.

- Document No. 2855/BNN-HTX guided Northwestern provinces to implement the requirements of the Prime Minister at Directive 39-CT-TTg, in which focusing on the measures to understand the situation changes; choosing urgent areas to implement the population stabilization first; and conducting synchronized with propaganda, mobilization, administration, demographic management and integrated mobilization of investment capital sources.

- Circular No. 1/2007/TT-BNN and No. 79/2007/TT-BNN guiding the project implementation to support the development of production under Program 135, from provincial to commune levels.

- Circular No. 11/2006/TT-BNN guiding the implementation of migration policy in Vietnam-China border by Decision No. 60/2005/QD-TTg.

- Submit to the Prime Minister issuing Decision No. 78/2008/QĐ-TTg on policies to implement population distribution in Vietnam-China border.

- Document No. 3405/BNN-KTHT guiding the implementation of supporting policies for households that move to villages and communes in Vietnam-Laos border in accordance with the mechanisms and policies stipulated in Decision No. 49/2008/QĐ-TTg and Decision No. 1178/2009/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister.

- Circular No. 06/2009/TT-BNN dated February 10, 2009 guiding the planning of agricultural and forestry production, fisheries, population distribution in 61 poor districts (programs 30a-Northwest 44 districts).

- Circular No. 80/2007/TT-BNN dated September 24, 2007 guiding the planning of agricultural and forestry production, together with processing and consumption of products and procedures for production support in resettlement areas of Son La; Circular No. 34/2008/TT-BNN dated February 14, 2008 (amended and supplemented by Circular 80/2007/TT-BNN).

- Submit to the Prime Minister issuing Decision No. 162/2008/QĐ-TTg on policies to promote agriculture and fisheries in difficult areas.

- Submit to the Prime Minister issuing Decision No. 113/2009/QĐ-TTg on incentives, support and encouragement for investment projects on construction of water supply facilities (including construction projects or renovation and upgrading) and management and exploitation of water supply facilities to serve people's living and other purposes.

The implementation scope of Decision No. 79 took place in many areas, but the process of implementing the philosophy of objectives, specifically the implementation of Decision No. 79 meets the main barriers as follows:

- The guidance documents were issued slowly, not in time; lack of resources.

- There are no guidelines on the budget, until the documents expired, some localities have not been able to implement yet. Some decisions lack of funds.

- Policies have been issued but there are many management agencies so it was difficult to implement and sometimes wasteful.

In the localities, the implementation of policy documents of relevant departments has not met the positive goals of sustainable development for the Northwest.

4. Conclusion

Decision No. 79/2005/QĐ-TTg on socio-economic development, security and defense of the Northwest plays an important role in the development of the region as well as socio-economic development of whole the country. The promulgation of this decision showed the transformation of three philosophies of development in the Northwest, in which the philosophy of sustainable development in the Northwest have been actively implemented through related document and policy system, including Decision No. 79. With the objectives of promoting regional economic-social development to achieve a higher growth rate; markedly improving and coordinating socio-economic infrastructure; promoting effectively the exploitation of potentials and advantages of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, hydropower, minerals, tourism and economic border; linking economic-social development with environmental protection, ensuring national defense and security, political stability, and firmly protecting the national sovereignty; meeting the new situation and new tasks, the implementation and deployment of Decision No. 79 can create positive changes in the economic-social-cultural life of the Northwest.

However, after 10 years of implementation, the management institutions in the entire system as well as the shortcomings in policy implementation have made the philosophy of objectives unable to implement or overlapped with the detailed targets of ministries and departments' policies. Then, in order to develop

the region, it is necessary to (i) assess the implementation of Decision No. 79 and enhance the role of managers and policy-makers to improve the resources; (ii) use the instruments that are consistent with the development conditions of the Northwest to make adjustments on the implementation of this Decision, aims to effective objective of sustainable development in the Northwest region in the future.

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Vài nét về chính sách liên quan đến nghiên cứu, phân tích và đánh giá việc triển khai Quyết Định 79/2005/QĐ-TTg của Thủ tướng Chính phủ trong phát triển vùng Tây Bắc

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Tóm tắt: Tây Bắc là địa bàn chiến lược đặc biệt quan trọng về quốc phòng, an ninh và kinh tế-xã hội của đất nước. Nhiều năm qua, Đảng và Nhà nước đã dành cho Tây Bắc sự quan tâm sâu sắc với nhiều chính sách ưu đãi về phát triển kinh tế-xã hội, xoá đói giảm nghèo, bảo đảm an sinh xã hội. Từ những kết quả đã đạt được và nhằm khắc phục các rào cản chung trong việc triển khai chính sách phát triển trên các lĩnh vực cụ thể, các văn bản chính sách về "phát triển vùng" Tây Bắc đã tạo sự kết nối và tương tác tổng thể, giúp huy động nguồn lực thực hiện mục tiêu phát triển trên địa bàn các tỉnh Tây Bắc nói chung và trên mọi lĩnh vực đời sống kinh tế xã hội nói riêng. Điều này đòi hỏi sự chỉ đạo sát sao và phối hợp triển khai của các cơ quan chính quyền từ trung ương đến các Bộ, các Sở ban ngành địa phương và giữa các cơ quan chính quyền tại từng địa phương. Từ tiếp cận về phát triển vùng và hoạch định chính sách, bài báo tập trung phân tích sự chuyển đổi việc thực hiện triết lý mục tiêu của hệ thống các văn bản chính sách phát triển vùng Tây Bắc, gắn với việc thực hiện Quyết Định 79 của Thủ tướng Chính phủ.

Từ khóa: Phát triển vùng, hoạch định chính sách phát triển vùng, đánh giá chính sách, triết lý mục tiêu.