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Title of the Abstract	Current Laws, Policies and Practices on Older Persons in Viet Nam - from A Human Rights and Gender Perspective
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Abstract

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The main objective of this paper is to provide a situation analysis of Viet Nam's current national laws, policies and practices on the elderly population, from a human rights and gender perspective for improvement, with recommendations for future actions to increase the protection and promotion of their human rights.

The paper is divided into four chapters. Chapter One is about the national socio-economic context and factors that affect older persons, international and regional commitments, related national laws, policies and national actors, and the role of international organizations and development partners in providing support and services.

Chapter Two presents the main features of older persons and their circumstances, including demographic characteristics, poverty, economic conditions and the economic contribution of older persons, health conditions and healthcare services, disabilities, education, care services, social security and social protection, participation in policymaking, political and cultural life, ageism, violence and abuse, access to justice and gender roles in older age.

Chapter Three provides an analysis of multigenerational relationships of the older persons in Viet Nam, including family support and living arrangements, significance of co-residential living arrangements, outside the family and community participation.

Finally, Chapter Four included with recommendations.

Older persons represent a large and growing segment of the population and they face particular and urgent human rights challenges. As the present paper argues, these challenges relate equally to civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights as it considers the human rights situation of older persons, including through an analysis of existing laws, policies and gaps in their practices. In addition, this paper would be the first ever research paper in Viet Nam so far that deals with this subject from a human rights perspective and gender lens.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Vu Ngoc Binh has been a leading human rights expert in Viet Nam for several decades now. He has published and lectured extensively on human rights, focusing on marginalized groups of populations, especially children, older persons, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women, etc in his country and at international forums.

He has also provided training on human rights and rights-based approach to programming to parliamentarians in their legislative and oversight processes, government officials, policy makers, journalists, researchers, community leaders, prosecutors, judges, NGOs, university students, bilateral donors, and UN agencies for application in their daily operation.

From a human rights and gender perspective, Mr. Vu Ngoc Binh has provided substantive advisory and technical inputs to the National Assembly and government ministries on development or amendment of related laws such as the Law on Older Persons, the Law on Protection, Care and Education of Children, the Law on Gender Equality, the Labour Code, the Civil Code, the Law on Vocational Training, the Law on Employment, the Law on Prevention and Control of Domestic Violence, the Law on Marriage and Family, the Penal Code, the Law on Social Assurance, etc and their guidelines for implementation.

Mr. Vu Ngoc Binh was a senior researcher for many years in government research institutions, United Nations agencies, and international NGOs in Viet Nam since then until 2011. At present, he is Senior Adviser in the Institute for Population, Family and Children Studies (IPFCS) which is a national research institution in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. He has participated as a guest speaker/lecturer in the Master Programme on Human Rights Law (LL.M) in Ha Noi National University School of Law, focusing issues related to children, older persons, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women, etc.

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