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"THE STATE OF WATER ENVIRONMENT IN 3 RIVER BASINS OF CAU, NHUE - DAY AND DONG NAI RIVER SYSTEM"

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ACCRONYMS and ABBREVIATIONS

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<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADB</td>
<td>Asian Development Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOD&lt;sub&gt;5&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>Biological Oxygen Demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COD</td>
<td>Chemical Oxygen Demand</td>
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<tr>
<td>DO</td>
<td>Dissolved Oxygen</td>
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<tr>
<td>DONRE</td>
<td>Department of Natural Resources and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIA</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDI</td>
<td>Foreign Direct Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IER</td>
<td>Institute for Environment and Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INHEN</td>
<td>National Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARD</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOC</td>
<td>Ministry of Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOI</td>
<td>Ministry of Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONRE</td>
<td>Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPI</td>
<td>Ministry of Planning and Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODA</td>
<td>Official Development Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>People's Committee</td>
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<td>SEA</td>
<td>Strategic Environmental Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Suspended Solids</td>
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<td>TCVN</td>
<td>Vietnam’s National Standard</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>VEPA</td>
<td>Vietnam Environmental Protection Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>WB</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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Dong Nai river basin system - In this Report, Dong Nai river basin system refers to the system of Dong Nai, Sai Gon rivers and coastal tributary areas
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Our country has a dense river system with large river basins. In recent years, the rapid socio-economic development has significantly affected the environment of river basins. The water quality of rivers has been polluted in general and, in some river sections has been severely polluted.

According to the Law on Environmental Protection 2005, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall prepare an annual thematic report on the state of the environment. In 2006, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has compiled the thematic report on the Water quality of the three river basins of Cau, Nhue-Day and Dong Nai river system. These are three basins which are most severely polluted in the whole country, compared to other river basins. Within these three river basins there are two focal economic regions, and these are also the most densely populated areas in the country. The Northern Economic Region comprising a part of Cau and Nhue-Day river basins, and the Southern Economic Region located in Dong Nai river system basin are two regions with rapid economic development, playing a very important role in the general development of the whole country. At the moment, harmonizing between environmental concerns and economic development towards sustainable growth is a hot issue within the three river basins.

In order to provide adequate information on the current state of the water environment in the three river basins, the Report focuses on the three main issues:

- The current state of the surface water of each river basin, based on monitoring results and other related data and information together with analysis to reveal the river sections which are polluted, pollution levels and pollution features;

- Identification of main pollution sources, which are attributed to waste water from industrial production activities, domestic activities and craft villages.

- Current situation of the management of water environment in the river basins and proposals of priority solutions for the three river basins, including the urgent development of river basin protection schemes and establishment of committees on the protection of river basin environment; strictly handling sources of severe pollution to the river water; identification of areas for which strict pollution control is required; enhancement of resources and technical measures to protect the water environment of the river basins.

Contributing to this Report were scientists from research institutes, universities, environmental management officers, international experts and staff of the World Bank. Especially, the Report would not have been completed without the great attention, valuable participation and
comments from related ministries, agencies and localities in the three river basins. During the compilation of the Report, consultative meetings have been organized to receive comments on the outline, structure and content of the Report. The information and data contained in the Report are up-dated as at December 2005, and for some issues of high importance - to September 2006.

This Report has been developed using the model analytical method: “Dynamics - Pressures - State - Impacts - Responses (DPSIR)”. The Report has prepared with technical and financial assistance of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the World Bank. This, indeed, has been a collective effort of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and the World Bank targeting a wider readership who care about the problem of environmental protection for sustainable development.

Hopefully, this document will be used to help decision making on environmental protection in the selected three river basins, and also used as a reference document in the development of economic development plans and planning for related provinces in the three river basins. The Report should also be used to encourage the approach of integrated management of river basins for all other localities in Vietnam.

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