

INFORMATION OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**The Launching Ceremony of the Joint Website Featuring Archive Photos from École Française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO) and the Institute of Social Sciences Information and Photography Exhibition**

On February 15, 2023, at the French Embassy in Hanoi, École Française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO) and the Institute of Social Sciences Information (ISSI), under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) jointly organized the official launching ceremony of the joint website featuring photo archive of EFEO and ISSI and the photo exhibition “A century of scientific photo archive: The joint legacy of EFEO and ISSI”.

Attending the ceremony were the Ambassador of the Republic of France to Vietnam, the Director of EFEO Paris, the Chief Representative of EFEO Offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, experts in charge of the photo archive at EFEO Paris, the Management Board of the Institute of Social Sciences Information, leading representatives of the International Cooperation Department and research institutes under the VASS, representative of the Library Department (Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism), Chairman of the Vietnam Library Association, and several scholars, experts, researchers, staff of the French Embassy and EFEO Office in Hanoi and media agencies.

The website integrates the promotion of the EFEO photo archive of nearly 70,000 photos (more than 10,000 photos archived

at EFEO Paris and 57,000 photos archived at the Library of Social Sciences, under the Institute of Social Sciences Information) with rich content on various aspects of cultural life, history, people, architecture and landscape in Indochina in the early twentieth century.

The EFEO Director assessed this joint photo collection as a special source of information about Vietnam in the first half of the twentieth century, the richest and oldest collection of scientific photos in Vietnam. This library is accessible online using Webmuseo software through the EFEO/ISSI joint publishing platform, accessible from both the ISSI and EFEO websites, and directly on the joint website: <https://collection.efeo.fr/ws/issi/app/report/index.html>. Initiated in 2019, the website is the result of a cooperation project between ISSI and EFEO, wishing to bring the EFEO Photo Archive to life and serve for research. Experts from EFEO Paris and ISSI's technical staff and librarians have made a great effort to overcome difficulties and seek a unified technical solution for the project to be officially completed in early February 2023, on the right occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and France (1973-2023).

Within the framework of the Website Launching Ceremony, a Photo Exhibition was opened, displaying 40 selected photos from the Joint Photo Collection, which is currently on display at the headquarters

of the Institute of Social Sciences Information. Speaking at the ceremony, the Director of the Institute of Social Sciences Information hoped that the comparisons and especially the complementarity between the collections and the EFEO photo database are being archived at the Library of Social Sciences, at EFEO Paris, as well as at EFEO centers in some Asian countries will open up opportunities for international cooperation to help enrich the collection and joint photo archive best for research.

The ceremony was a meaningful event for readers, scholars, and researchers at home and abroad; it is also an affirmation of the effective and substantial cooperation results between EFEO and ISSI, contributing to promoting the long-term friendly relationship between Vietnam and France.

MAI DIEN

Scientific Workshop “Socio-economic Recovery and Development Program: The First Year of Implementation and Initial Evaluations”

On December 22, 2022, in Hanoi, the Vietnam Institute of Economics (under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences) held a scientific workshop “Socio-economic Recovery and Development Program: The First Year of Implementation and Initial Assessments” funded by the Australian Embassy in Vietnam. Attending the workshop were representatives of the Australian Embassy in Vietnam and a large number of scholars and researchers. To support the economic recovery during and after the Covid-19 epidemic, the National Assembly passed Resolution No. 43/2022/

QH15 dated January 11, 2022, on several fiscal and monetary policies to implement the Socio-Economic Development and Recovery Program. The Government issued Resolution No. 11/NQ-CP dated January 30, 2022, on the Socio-economic Recovery and Development Program to implement Resolution 43 of the National Assembly, with a budget of VND 347 trillion, or about 4% of GDP.

These crucial policies and resources help to revive the economy and support those severely affected by the Covid-19 epidemic, including enterprises, cooperatives, households, and workers.

The workshop announced the initial research results of a research team of the Vietnam Institute of Economics related to the Program implementation progress, exploring its relevant advantages and disadvantages in localities and central agencies. They also made an initial assessment in the first year of Program implementation based on surveys in 4 provinces/cities, namely, Binh Duong, Ho Chi Minh City, Hai Phong, and Bac Giang, thereby proposing solutions to further improve and adjust the Program in the new development context.

The program was developed into 5 groups of solutions: enhancing capacity in health, disease prevention and control; ensuring social security and employment support; promoting the recovery of enterprises, cooperatives, and business households; investing in infrastructure development; institutional and administrative reforms, and improving the business investment environment. The research team assessed that the Program was of great significance

in backing economic recovery during the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the Program implementation is basically behind schedule and expectations about its timely impacts on the process of economic recovery and development. The current international and domestic context is different from the situation and prediction at the time of the Program building. Difficulties and problems arising during the implementation also hinder its impacts as expected.

Take Ho Chi Minh City as an example. So far, the city's socio-economy has partially recovered through highly positive signals in the industrial and agricultural sectors. The service sector has also shown signs of improvement. Therefore, some Program contents in this locality are no longer relevant to reality. Since then, the Program is required to be adjusted into a shortened version to improve its feasibility and efficiency in the coming time.

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