



Essay Form

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Country:

Vietnam

Theme: The roles of my country and of Asia in the future.

Length: Maximum of 1,000 words

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Nowadays, there are many things that we can do for the future. But what I want to focus on is environment. We are living in a fast-changing world, in which many issues are arising, for example, population growth and economic development is leading to increase in energy consumption that causes a considerable pressure on the natural environment and biological carrying capacity of our planet. So what can we do for the future as the citizens of Vietnam and as people live in Asia?

The world is facing strong growing demand of energy harnessing activities in the social-economic development, and also prepare and adapt to the effect of climate change due to the use of fossil fuel. Basic solution for these problems is using renewable energy. Renewable energy is generally any energy resource that is naturally regenerated over a short time scale and derived directly from the sun, indirectly from the sun or from other natural movements and mechanisms of the environment. Renewable energy does not included energy resources derived from fossil fuels, waste products from fossil sources, or waste product from inorganic sources. Compare to a lot of countries, Vietnam has high potential in producing renewable energy and includes many types. Such as solar energy, Vietnam has abundant solar energy source with average 2000 to 2500 hours of sunshine per year. Appropriately, this can provide 3 to 4.5 kWh/m² a day in winter and up to 4.5 to 6.5 kWh/m² a day in summer. According to the program of Energy evaluation in Asia of World Bank, the greatest potential of areas of wind energy are in South Central, Mekong Delta, Central Highlands and islands regions with total potential reach 513.360 MW. And over 20 wind energy projects are deploying with a projected capacity of 20,000 MW. Other than solar and wind energy, Vietnam has great potential of hydropower. However, it's negligible potential of small hydropower with the capacity of less than 30 MW. About 120,000 small hydropower stations have been installed with a total capacity estimated at 300 MW. Also with a massive coastlines of 3,260 km, we can make the most of power of wave, tidal and temperature to produce renewable energy. Being limited in high-tech systems at the moment, Vietnam still manage to push renewable energy with focus on solar power. Along with the need to decrease the reliance on fossil fuels, Vietnam needs to build an energy sector more focused on renewable energy, particularly solar energy. Vietnam is aiming to generate enough energy to power almost every home by 2020 and increase residential solar power usage to 50 percent of households nationwide by 2050. With that being said, we are going to success to achieve this goal, and we encourage other countries do the same thing as well to reduce emissions and the use of fossil fuel.

Another way to protect the environment is using Green Technology. The term "Green Technology" is fairly new. It only has been adopted just over the last couple of decades.

Green Technology is the technology which is environment friendly, developed and used in such a way so that it doesn't disturb our environment and conserves natural resources. Green technology is the decisive factor for the sustainable development of Vietnam and a lot of countries.

Not only Vietnam is the country to develop these kind of technology but also many other countries in Asia, because using green technology has become imperative today. By using green technology, we will march a step ahead in saving the environment and make the earth free from any danger. I surely believe that Asia should be the one to take the lead in developing Green technology and innovation. Asia's urban growth rate is one of the highest in the world. From 1980 to 2010, Asia added more than a billion people to its cities. With more people to be housed, additional urban housing is needed to cater to the increasing population growth. Sustainable design in the region has placed interest for green homes to be built, which can be of benefit to both residence and environment. Although, creating a sustainable urban living comes with required components and challenges. Green building materials, passive solar design, energy efficient technologies, water conservation and waste management, among others, are essential to meet sustainable housing development. But in Singapore, housing programmes to promote green homes have succeed thank to the cooperation between government agencies, which have worked together to the investment in infrastructure and allocate funds to sustainable and affordable housing. This is a prime example in Asia that a lot of nations should take it as a lesson. We should create not only healthy homes but also create office buildings that have the potential to provide comfortable and healthy work spaces. A happy workforce becomes a vital component for a productive, successful business in the long term. It is really important to build sustainable commercial buildings and green public spaces as well. This would create green open spaces for everyone to hang out and fun together in healthy way. Sooner or later, these are what Asia needs to achieve in order to make this world become a better world for humanity.

Overall, the role of Vietnam is as essential as role of Asia. Being a part of Asia, we must spend time to develop our people, individually, and give everyone a sense of opportunity if they work hard in their careers, no matter where they start from. We must also develop a less hierarchical culture – one that empowers every individual, and helps them to see how their ideas, their experiments and their efforts to do the job well contribute to the whole enterprise. And I want us to step further and take the lead to develop renewable energy systems and green technology to protect the environment and to raise the standard of living of people.