

# Participant Information Sheet

## 1. Research Project Title

Valuing the benefits of blue/green infrastructure for flood resilience, natural capital and urban development in Viet Nam (ValBGI)

## 2. Background, aims of project

We invite you to participate in a focus group discussion that aims to find better ways to manage Can Tho's natural environment. This study aims to explore your views on developing infrastructure to tackle flooding that can also make the city greener. This focus group is part of a collaborative research project between Hue and Can Tho University, as well as the University of Stirling in the UK. Information from research like this can be used to inform local policymakers.

## 3. Why have I been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part because you are a Can Tho resident aged 18 or over.

## 4. Do I have to take part?

Participation is voluntary, and you don't need to be an expert on the topic to participate. If you do decide to take part, you can withdraw your participation at any time without needing to explain and without penalty by advising the researcher of this decision. If you withdraw, we will not collect any more data from you. However, any data collected up until the point that you withdraw will be kept and used in the data analysis. You will be given this information sheet to keep, and we will request your oral consent to participate.

## 5. What will happen if I take part?

During this meeting, we will present plans for a household survey in Can Tho. We will show our questionnaire for this survey and ask you for your thoughts on it. We will discuss different aspects of the questionnaire. You will be asked to actively take part in this discussion and share your views on the survey questionnaire and our planned survey study. This focus group meeting will take about 90 minutes.

## 6. Are there any potential risks in taking part?

There are no foreseeable risks in taking part.

## 7. Are there any benefits in taking part?

You will receive a cash incentive for taking part.

## 8. Legal basis for processing personal data

As part of the project, we will be recording personal data relating to you. This will be processed in accordance with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Under GDPR the legal basis for processing your personal data will be public interest/the official authority of the University of Stirling. All responses will be treated confidentially, and all data collected anonymised.

## 9. What happens to the data I provide?

The research data will be anonymised by removing any personal identifiers such as names or addresses, so nothing about you will be identifiable. Your personal data will be kept for 10 years after the last publication or access of the data in accordance with the University of Stirling's research data policy. It will be kept on Research Drive – a secure data centre on the Stirling campus and then will be lodged in DataSTORRE.

## 10. Future use of the data I provide?

Due to the nature of this research, it is likely that other researchers may find the data to be useful in answering other research questions. We will ask for your consent for your data to be shared in this way and, if you agree, we will ensure that the data collected is untraceable back to you before letting others use it.

**11. Will the research be published?**

The research may be presented at conferences and published in academic journals, project reports or policy briefs. You will not be identifiable in any publication. The University of Stirling is committed to making the outputs of research publically accessible and supports this commitment through our online open access repository STORRE. Unless funder/publisher requirements prevent us, this research will be publicly disseminated through our open access repository.

**12. Who is organising and funding the research?**

The project is co-funded by the National Foundation for Science and Technology Development (NAFOSTED) in Vietnam and the Newton Fund in the UK.

**13. Who has reviewed this research project?**

The ethical approaches of this project have been approved via The University of Stirling General University Ethics Panel. Can Tho local authorities also have approved this research.

**14. Your rights**

You have the right to request to see a copy of the information we hold about you. You also have the right to withdraw from this project at any time without giving reasons and without consequences to you. However, any data you have provided up to the point of withdrawal may be used for analysis. Please note that once the data are being analysed and/or results published, it may not be possible to remove your data from the study.

**15. Who do I contact if I have concerns about this study or I wish to complain?**

If you would like to discuss the research with someone, please e-mail \_\_\_\_\_. If you would like to contact someone at the University of Stirling who is not directly involved with the project, please email \_\_\_\_\_. You have the right to lodge a complaint against the University regarding data protection issues with the Information Commissioner's Office (<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>).

The University's Data Protection Officer is \_\_\_\_\_. If you have any questions relating to data protection, these can be addressed to [data.protection@stir.ac.uk](mailto:data.protection@stir.ac.uk) in the first instance.

You will be given a copy of this information sheet to keep. If you would like to know more about the project, please visit the website: <https://valbgi.stir.ac.uk/>.

**Thank you very much for your participation.**