

📍 Da Nang, Vietnam; Quang Nam Province, Vietnam

ement!

Empowering urban regions for cooperative, synergistic and practical implementation of sustainability and resilience strategies considering the urban-rural nexus

Rapid growth poses major challenges to cities and surrounding regions in Vietnam. To address these, the ement! project aims to enable stakeholders in the city of Da Nang and the neighbouring province of Quang Nam to transfer relevant strategies and plans into practical, sustainable or resilient measures. Suitable methods, instruments and the necessary capacities are being developed for this purpose.

Project Objectives

The overall goal of ement! is to support urban regions in their implementation processes of sustainability and resilience strategies. The ement! approach develops and provides applicable and transferable methods and instruments for this purpose. Spatial, actor-, policy-, technology- and process-related components are integrated. Through the intensive cooperation in the context of urban-rural regions, the aspects of sustainability and climate protection are anchored in the project. Moreover, the resilience against drought, flooding, saltwater intrusion, among others, is taken into account and strengthened. The project activities focus on the four fields tourism, agriculture/forestry, industry, and the built environment – with an emphasis on implementation processes associated with supply and disposal infrastructure. This includes environmentally friendly technologies and methods for water supply, sewage, energy, waste and »safe food«.

Challenges

As early as 2050, a clear majority of the world's population – about 70% – will live in cities. Most of this growth will take place in Asia. The institutions, infrastructures and information networks in Vietnam can hardly keep up with this rapidly advancing urbanisation and the rapidly changing demands that come with it. Resource scarcity, emissions, environmental degradation and declining biodiversity are just as much a consequence as increased vulnerability to natural disasters. Due to the strong interdependence between the city and the surrounding area, these vulnerabilities have an impact not only locally, but throughout the entire region. This results in a need for action that must be addressed at the urban-regional level. In order to avoid conflicts, the scarcity of energy and water resources and the increasing use of the natural environment also require sustainable and socially compatible infrastructure and land use concepts.

Addressed Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations





Da Nang City Vietnam. Image provided by emplement! AT-Verband

Research Approach and Methods

The development, adaptation and application of methods and instruments to support implementation processes take place on three research levels: At the system level, strategies and plans are analysed with regard to their feasibility and corresponding methods are developed for this purpose. At the technology level, suitable technology set-ups are developed and decision-making aids are provided, and at the implementation level, implementation processes – including those of our own emplement! pilot projects – are scientifically accompanied. Synergy and conflict potentials between the four fields of action as well as between the city of Da Nang and the neighbouring province of Quang Nam are examined. Specific expertise and technical know-how are fundamental prerequisites for the successful implementation of measures. »Capacity development« and the »empowerment« of the actors involved are central elements at the planning level as well as at the practical level of emplement!.

Focus Topics

- Sustainable supply and waste infrastructure
- Social and environmentally sustainable technologies
- Conceptual and technical synergies
- Resource-efficiency
- Urban-regional cooperation
- Sustainable urban-rural development
- Implementation processes

»IMPLEMENTATION, IMPLEMENTATION, IMPLEMENTATION!«

Dr. Quang. UN-Habitat VN



emplement! Summer School 2019. Image provided by emplement! (AT-Verband)

Expected Solutions and Innovations

In order to strengthen resilience and to counteract sustainability problems resulting from the rapid urbanisation, transferable methods to support implementation processes will be developed. The structured implementation research and the scientific results of emplement! will enable stakeholders to sharpen their view on the urban-regional level and thus to use technological and procedural synergy potentials in the implementation of measures in the future. With the systemic-synergetic approach on both technology and cooperation level in the urban-regional nexus, resource-efficient and low-emission technology setups are developed that are at the same time functional and financially sustainable in the long term. The approach helps to avoid isolated measures and produces conceptual and technical synergies between the four fields of action and in the urban-regional context Da Nang – Quang Nam Province.

»Most strategies, including those for promoting sustainability or strengthening resilience, in general, describe »what« is to be done, but they contain few concrete approaches to answering the question of »how« it is to be done. That means that they usually do not describe the technical-practical implementation and the necessary prerequisites in detail, e.g. with regard to suitable technologies, financial requirements, know-how or organisational structures.«

AT-association

Cooperation Partners

German Partners

- AT-Verband – Association for the promotion of adapted, socially and environmentally sound technologies
- IZES gGmbH – Institut für ZukunftsEnergie- und Stoffstromsysteme
- Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences
- University of Hohenheim
- Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences
- University of Tübingen

Vietnamese Partners

- UN Habitat
- Da Nang City
- Da Nang University of Architecture
- Da Nang University of Science and Technology
- Quang Nam Province
- Da Nang Institute for Socio-Economic Development



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