

Paper Abstract for the Sixth Euroviet Conference

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Title:

Industrialization and Urbanization in Vietnam: How Appropriation of Agricultural Land Transformed Farmers' Livelihoods in A Peri-Urban Hanoi Village.

Abstract:

Since the past over ten years, Vietnam witnesses a high pace of industrialization and urbanization. As a result, a large area of agricultural land has been appropriated, and this makes thousands of farmer households losing their agricultural land use rights, a key source of their livelihoods, and this forces them to change their livelihoods and even their lives. Using the lens of a sustainable livelihoods framework, my paper analyzes and explains the questions of how, in what ways and to what extent conversions of agricultural land use rights have affected farmer livelihoods in a peri-Hanoi village. I argue that the appropriation of agricultural land use rights has created great socio-economic and cultural impacts on the farmers whose agricultural land have been appropriated. In coping with the new situation, for many farmers in my case study, natural capital in the form of residential land use rights contains very important value and meaning, which help them to not only escape poverty, but also enable them to form a new livelihood strategy although this transformation process consist of a high level of differentiation and diversification of livelihood strategies among farmer households in the community.

Key words: Industrialization, Urbanisation, Farmers, Land Tenure, Agricultural Land Appropriation, Livelihoods.