

# **FINANCING POLICY IN DOING BUSINESSES AND ECOTOURISM SERVICES IN THE VIETNAM'S PROTECTED AREAS: EMERGING ISSUES**

**Tran Quang Bao, Dao Lan Phuong,  
Bui Thi Minh Nguyet, Nguyen Minh Dao, Nguyen Thi Hong Thanh**

## **Summary**

Vietnam owns a widely distributed system of protected areas (PAs) throughout the country, where its natural resources are significantly reflected by three main values, including maintaining ecological function (environmental protection), economic supplies, and socio-cultural engagement. In order to operate the organizational and conservation functions effectively and efficiently, PAs need stable, long-term and sustainable financing. Recently, businesses and ecotourism services in the PAs have been chosen as alternative funding sources by many conservation units in the context of easing the burden on State Budget, and the decrease of ODA funding. However, the implementation of those has been facing with many challenges related to PA financial mechanisms and policies. In this paper, we analysed and pointed out inadequacies of financial mechanisms and policies for businesses and ecotourism services in the PAs. Some recommendations, for the policy amendment and improvement in the context of validity of the new Law on Forest (since 01/01/2019), were also introduced in this paper.

**Keywords:** *Business, ecotourism service, financing, mechanism, national park, nature reserve policy, protected areas.*