



Centre de Prospective  
et d'Études Urbaines



PADDI - 216 Nguyen Dinh Chiêu - Quận 3 - HCMV - Việt-Nam

email : [paddi.direction@gmail.com](mailto:paddi.direction@gmail.com) / tél : +84 8 39 30 54 77 / site internet : [paddi.vn](http://paddi.vn)

## ARCHITECTURE

***Vo Trong Nghia Is Building a Leafy Green LEED Housing Development in Saigon – Saigoneer 05 /11/ 2015***

<http://saigoneer.com/saigon-development/5613-vo-trong-nghia-is-building-a-leafy-green-leed-housing-development-in-saigon>

Vo Trong Nghia is no stranger to high-profile, cost-effective and environmentally friendly buildings. In the last few years, the Saigon-based architect and his firm have garnered to international recognition thanks to their innovative and eco-friendly designs.

For their next project, Vo Trong Nghia is keeping to this theme with Diamond Lotus, a trio of sky-high apartment towers, reports ArchDaily.

The development's three bamboo-covered towers will feature a 5,000-square-meter sky park and be among the first LEED-certified buildings buildings in the country.

While the housing development's initial plans gave an overview of the project, the details of Diamond Lotus come through in its most recent batch of renderings, which include both the interior and exterior of the building.

Once complete, Diamond Lotus will occupy the riverside in District 8, housing 720 families with a total floor space of 67,240 square meters across its three towers. Each building's facade will be covered in planters, as will its roof, helping to reduce heat gain and combat the effects of storms on these 22-storey structures. For this project, Vo Trong Nghia has also elected to use bamboo in the planters, adding an extra burst of green to the urban development.

## INONDATIONS

***Ho Chi Minh City plans to spend \$439mn on flood control works – TuoiTre 11/11/2015***

<http://tuoitrenews.vn/society/31528/ho-chi-minh-city-plans-to-spend-439mn-on-flood-control-works>

Ho Chi Minh City has plans to carry out a multimillion-dollar project which will help control flooding in many areas.

The project has an estimated capital expenditure of VND9.850 trillion (US\$439.7 million), 18.1 percent of which will be spent on compensation for site clearance.

According to the plan, six new sluices for tide control, 6.97 kilometers of dam and 68 small drains will be installed in District 1, District 4, District 7, District 8, Binh Tan District, Nha Be District, and Binh Chanh District.

The project was designed with consideration for changing weather conditions and has been submitted to the prime minister by the local People's Committee.

The proposed forms of investment include public-private partnership (PPP) and build-transfer contracts which will be supported by the city's land bank and budget.

### ***Attack of the Monsoons: Part 2 – Saigoneer, 03/11/2015***

<http://saigoneer.com/vietnam-news/5595-attack-of-the-monsoons-part-2>

In the final installment of his two-part series, cultural and environmental anthropologist Jacob Weger explains why rainy season is getting more unpredictable and what the future of Southeast Asia' monsoons might be. [...]

Both from year to year and decade to decade, the Asian monsoons vary significantly. This is, for the most part, due to the monsoon systems' interactions with other climate phenomena, such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon. Below-average Indian summer monsoon rainfall is often associated with El Niño events, for instance, while above-average rainfall accompanies La Niña ones.

As we discussed in 'Attack of the Monsoons: Part 1', Asian monsoons are the result of a difference in temperature between the Eurasian landmass and the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Because of this, any changes in land or ocean temperatures have a significant impact on the region's monsoons. [...]

With Asia's monsoon systems being temperamental as they are, climate change is sure to produce changes as a result of increased heat in the atmosphere and overall changes in moisture transport.

According to the 2013 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report, the entire global monsoon system is expected to increase in both area and intensity over the coming years. Heavy precipitation may arrive sooner and leave later, resulting in a longer rainy season than you remember in years past.

For Southeast Asia in particular, the extremes are likely to get worse, while year-to-year variability will increase at the same time. In the end, this all means that some years will be wetter and some drier, but both rainstorms and droughts are expected to become more severe across the region. [...]

## **POLLUTIONS**

### ***Saigon's prettiest canal defaced by huge refuse volume – Tuoi Tre 09/11/2015***

<http://tuoitrenews.vn/society/31483/saigons-prettiest-canal-defaced-by-huge-refuse-volume>

Once considered the most beautiful channel in Ho Chi Minh City, the Nhieu Loc-Thi Nghe Canal has grown unsightly in recent years, weighed down with up to 13 metric tons of garbage each day.

The 10km-long waterway snakes through District 1, District 3, Phu Nhuan District, Binh Thanh District and Tan Binh District in the southern Vietnamese metropolis.

It was given a facelift to transform it from a murky, dead waterway into a clean, green one with lush greenery along its sides.

The sides have become new playgrounds for local residents to unwind and exercise, and a rich habitat for fish to thrive in, if they are lucky enough to avoid getting caught by opportunistic, illegal anglers.

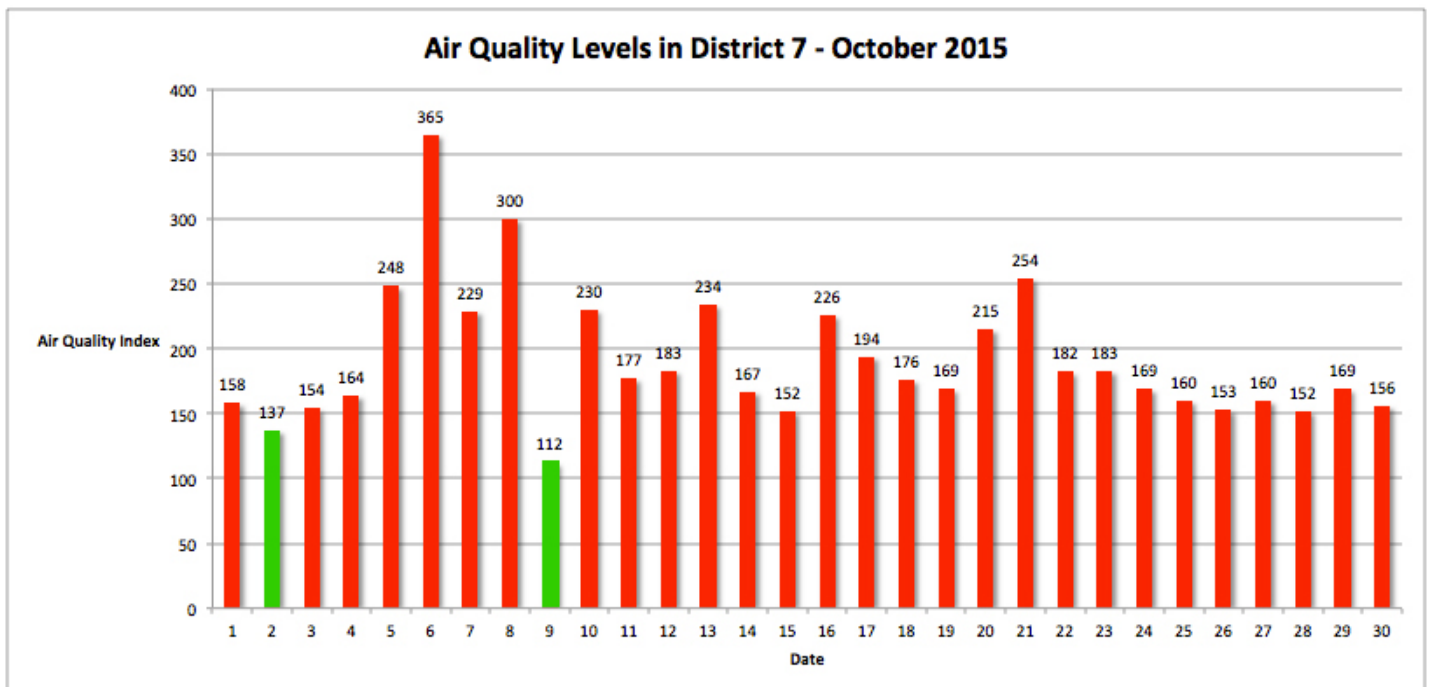
However, locals' relief has been short-lived, as shortly after its facelift, the first phase of which ended in 2012, the canal has been topped with all kinds of refuse dumped by mindless residents, creating ghastly scenes and posing a grave pollution threat.

### Saigon's Air Quality Report Just Came Out and It's Not Good – Saigoneer 05 November 2015

<http://saigoneer.com/saigon-health/5614-saigon-s-air-quality-report-just-came-out-and-it-s-not-good>

A recent report by the Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis, part of the city's Department of Environment and Natural Resources, proves this point, as new research regarding the city's air quality shows ever-increasing levels of dust concentration in the air, reports [TUOI TRE](#).

Vietnam's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment caps the safe level of dust concentration at 300 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), a level which is already considered unhealthy by the US-based Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index (AQI). Typically, a reading of 100 or higher is no longer considered fresh air.



In Go Vap District alone, dust concentrations averaged  $496.08\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in the first six months of 2015, up from  $446.75\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  the previous year. Elsewhere in the city, District 7's Nguyen Van Linh and Huynh Tan Phat intersection recorded an average dust concentration of  $613.83\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , well above the  $486.67\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  average in 2014.

Though air quality monitoring is near nonexistent in the city and public access to this information is limited, Saigoneer managed to acquire a more recent set of figures from local company [IQAir](#), which sells air purifiers and air quality equipment.

The readings, taken over the month of October, are less than optimistic. While District 7, where the measurements were taken, has a reputation for being a little cleaner and greener than downtown Saigon, IQAir's figures only managed to clear the 'Unhealthy' bracket on two days last month, with its best AQI coming in at 112. Its worst number sat comfortably in the 'Hazardous' range at 365. [...]

### ***Air pollution in HCM City worsens – VietnamNet Bridge 04/11/2015***

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/environment/145387/air-pollution-in-hcm-city-worsens.html>

In a report by the Center for Environmental Monitoring and Analysis of the HCM City Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the index of toxic gas CO (carbon monoxide), noise and dust in the air in the city exceeded the figures for 2010-2014.

Air pollution is mainly due to suspended dust and noise from transport activities. [...]

The concentration of dust in the air at the measurement stations was beyond Vietnam standards 1.2 to 2.2 times. Nearly 50% of the monitoring values failed to meet Vietnam standards.

The quality of water also worsened. The indexes of pH (a numeric scale used to specify the acidity or alkalinity of an aqueous solution); COD (chemical oxygen demand) test is commonly used to indirectly measure the amount of organic compounds in water; BOD (Biochemical oxygen demand is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by aerobic biological organisms in a body of water to break down organic material present in a given water sample at certain temperature over a specific time period). All of these, including salinity, have increased by 50-83% at monitoring points compared to 2014.

The index of DO (dissolved oxygen in the water needed for the respiration of aquatic organisms) decreased 83% at monitoring points. [...]

Most canals in the city are polluted with microorganisms and high coliform levels, exceeding Vietnam standards.

## **TRANSPORT**

### ***Metro Line Contractor Seeks Compensation for Delays – Saigoneer, 12/11/2015***

<http://saigoneer.com/saigon-development/5655-metro-line-contractor-seeks-compensation-for-delays>

While Saigon Metro's Line 1 has made considerable downtown progress over the last year or so and parts of 19.7-kilometer line are beginning to take shape in District 2, the city's massive public transportation project remains over two years behind schedule in some places, according to contractors.

As such, Saigon Metro's developers are seeking over US\$90 million in compensation from the city, claiming that the slow pace of site clearance has stalled their own efforts to complete the job, reports Thanh Nien.

In a written request to the city, Japanese company Sumitomo and state-owned builder Cienco 6 demanded VND2.5 billion (US\$111,000) per day for the 27-month delay.

### ***Changing face of transport in HCM City – VietnamNet Bridge, 11/11/2015***

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/145969/changing-face-of-transport-in-hcm-city.html>

An exhibition entitled "Ho Chi Minh City's Transport Sector - 40 Years of Development and Towards the Future" featuring hundreds of photos showing the development of the city's traffic network is being held along Nguyen Hue Boulevard in District 1 from November 3 to 12.

Prior to 1975 public transport in the City was mostly small Lambrettas with no official stops, allowing passengers to jump on and off wherever they could. Since 2002 public transport has been revived with eight bus routes and the first 50 buses coming into service. The City now has more than 3,000 buses traveling on nearly 200 routes, serving hundreds of millions of passengers each year.

### ***\$23 million HCMC tunnel to ease traffic woes – VN Economic Times, 08/11/2015***

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/145722/-23-million-hcmc-tunnel-to-ease-traffic-woes.html>

The VND514 billion (\$23.03 million) An Suong Tunnel project in District 12 and Hoc Mon district in Ho Chi Minh City has received approval and is expected to ease traffic congestion at the An Suong intersection and allow for greater traffic flows to and from National Highway No. 1A, National Highway No. 22, and Truong Chinh Road.

The project includes a double tunnel from Truong Chinh Road to National Highway No. 22, at a total length of 850 meters with two lanes in each direction. Nearby roads and drainage systems will be renovated and lighting systems and traffic signs, etc., installed.

### ***Plan proposes construction of north-south road - VNS 4/11/2015***

<http://www.talkvietnam.com/2015/11/plan-proposes-construction-of-north-south-road/>

A project proposal has been sent to the hcm city people's committee regarding the construction of a north-south road for an estimated vnd8.5 trillion (us\$377.7 million).

The plan proposes the construction of a 7.5km-long, six-lane road connecting nguyen van linh street and ba chiem bridge in south hcm city.

The land clearance costs have been included in the proposal, vietnamese enterprises hoa phong and moc an, the investors, said.

The proposed road will be part of the north-south connecting route, extending from highway 22 in district 12 to the suburban hiep phuoc industrial park in nha be district. [...]

## **LOGEMENT**

### ***HCM City prepares to resettle 40,000 households – Vietnam Net Bridge 10/11/2015***

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/145866/hcm-city-prepares-to-resettle-40-000-households.html>

More than 40,000 apartments will be needed over the next five years to resettle residents who have had to move for public works or real estate projects, according to the city's Department of Construction.

Speaking at a meeting held last week, Tran Trong Tuan, director of the department, said the estimated demand was based on the city's development plan to 2025.

A programme that will relocate households now living along rivers and canals will need about 20,000 apartments.

From now to 2020, the city will implement 462 major transport and public works and demolish dilapidated apartment buildings.

The city will also need 28,168 resettlement apartments to relocate households affected by the projects and demolished buildings.

Over the past 20 years, the city has relocated about 36,000 households in order to implement urban improvement projects, including sanitation environmental projects of Nhieu Loc – Thi Nghe Canal and Tan Hoa – Lo Gom and Tau Hu – Ben Nghe canals.

Money from the city's resettlement housing fund was used to build about 41,700 resettlement apartments and housing foundations.

### ***Vietnam needs more houses for low-income earners –Vietnam Net Bridge 08/11/2015***

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/145763/vietnam-needs-more-houses-for-low-income-earners.html>

The labour confederation's statistics revealed at a Thursday conference that only 20 per cent of workers had stable accommodation. A large number of workers now live in rented accommodation in the slums which has an effect on their health as well as the efficiency levels.

Vu Hong Quang from the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour, said that during the development of industrial zones adequate attention had not been paid to developing houses, schools and recreational parks for low-income earners.

Although the government had already raised policies for housing development for low-income earners, many proved to be inappropriate in reality and needed to be amended. This was in addition to complicated procedures, which resulted in stagnant implementation. [...]

### ***House owners to benefit from HCM City proposal – VNS 04/11/ 2015***

<http://vietnamnews.vn/society/278058/house-owners-to-benefit-from-hcm-city-proposal.html>

The HCM City people's committee has proposed that land-use certificates should be granted to people who bought houses without signing valid contracts between July 2004 and January 2008.

About 40,000 house owners in the city will benefit if the proposal, sent to the government and the environment and natural resources ministry, is approved.

In order to get the certificates, the house owners must fulfill their financial obligations to the government such as paying taxes and ensuring that the land/ house is not under dispute and facing any complaints.

The move was expected to ensure the rights of the house owners, the city authorities said.

More than 92 per cent of the 1.52 million house owners in the city have been granted land-use right certificates and house ownership certificates as of last year.

More than 116,600 land and house owners have not received their certificates, with 23,000 of them not wanting the documents and the rest having failed to meet the requirements.

## **ENERGIE**

### ***Ho Chi Minh City offers financial support to solar power producers – Tuoi Tre, 13/11/2015***

<http://tuoitrenews.vn/society/31580/ho-chi-minh-city-offers-financial-support-to-solar-power-producers>

A pilot program dedicated to electricity generation by using solar energy is being carried out in Ho Chi Minh City, under which participants will be provided by the local government with US\$0.09 for every kilowatt they produce.

This program is implemented by the Department of Science and Technology as a step in the building of a mechanism on assistance to households, businesses, and agencies that invest in the production of electricity from solar energy.

Accordingly, participants in the pilot program will be assisted in installing their solar energy systems and connecting them with the public power lines, in addition to VND2,000 (\$0.09) in support for every kilowatt of power produced.