

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY

## IN VIEW OF LOCAL ARCHITECTURE WITH LIFESTYLE

(A SUMMARY)



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**A**s the urbanization continues to proceed at a high speed world-wide, the construction activities are carried out in every corner of the economy, changing the spatial patterns of urban and rural areas, thus inevitably exerting impacts to the natural settings. The consequences are depletion of natural resources, overburdens on natural carrying capacity (through green house gas emission, pollution on air, soil and water...), imbalance of the bio-system, lower quality of life of the people...

Circular economy is emerging as the rational response to the issues above, when it tries to establish a closed loop of material lifecycle, with utmost little or none wastes, efficient use of energy, resources, thus reduces burdens to the natural environment.

The circular economy in the construction sector, specifically in the building construction is understood as the loop of the lifecycle of a building, which consists of rationalized phases that utilize the most availability of the local natural advantages, ensure the minimal impacts to the natural environment while providing best services to people and enrich the local cultural values. The phases are: Manufacturing of Building Materials, Design, Construction, Operation and Use, Renovation, Demolition.

Three examples of the building development in Viet Nam have been taken to illustrate the concept of the circular economy in the construction sector, being: (1) the Lung Luong Primary School in Thai Nguyen province; (2) Jackfruit Village, a home stay village in the outskirts of Ha Noi; (3) Bat Trang Ceramic Village Museum in Ha Noi.

The concept of the circular economy in the construction sector and the 3 examples would help to draw important implications for the different management and actor levels in Viet Nam.

The GET matrix with its 3 dimensions (governance, education and technology) is rooted in all level of government (global, national and local) and in all types of actors (government/public, business/industry and NGO/civil society).

The most important role is of **the government**. It plays the enabling role in setting up the legal framework starting from environmental commitments to the laws and regulations down to standards and guidelines in all processes related to construction (including governance, education and technology).

Not less important is the role of **business/industry** who help provide efficient governance, good education for schools and the public, appropriate technologies for the construction sector

Equally important is the role of **NGO/civil society**, who are close to the community and can support effectively the local awareness raising, capacity building, mobilization of community participation, preservation of cultural values, dissemination of best practices.

