
ChangE - NGO Presentation

Vuong Binh*¹

¹ChangE NGO – Vietnam

Abstract

ChangE is a local NGO who focuses in employing innovative communications, community engagement and policy advocacy to campaign for sustainable changes regarding urgent environmental and developmental issues in Vietnam. since its official registration under VUSTA (Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Association) in 2013, ChangE has partnered with WildAid to protect endangered species like rhinos and pangolins; and with 350.org to organize climate change action.

Identifying energy as a priority issue in its climate change campaign, in the past 3 years ChangE has organized youth-led campaigns to raise awareness on the connections between energy and climate change, to push for fossil fuel divestment, and to lobby the government in choosing sustainable energy options for a low-carbon economy.

A condensed list of ChangE's campaigns is as follows :

- In 2013, the key campaign was Vietnam Power Shift, which comprised of the national climate leadership workshop I am a Climate Citizen, the National Day of Action for Energy and Climate, and the video art project "Pink and Black", all of which raised awareness on climate impacts and introduced to locals the sustainable energy solutions through exciting creative activities and arts.

- In 2014, the key campaign was People's Climate March, which comprised the photographic campaign "I Can't..." and the Day of Action "Black Day", both sending strong images of coal effects on the daily lives of people. The Sun in a Bottle proved much needed solutions for families lacking electricity to generate adequate lighting. The Climate Camp brought corporations to rural areas heavily affected by climate change to brainstorm mitigation solutions.

- In 2015, ChangE targeted universities and banks for the Global Divestment Day, calling for divestment from coal altogether. The EACLIC gathered participants from five East Asian countries and trained them on regional issues induced by climate change. The POWER UP festival in November does not only celebrate the Vietnamese message to COP 21, but also launches a year-long campaign well into 2016 with solutions encouraging renewable energy.

*Speaker