

**HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS**

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**STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI**

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION**

**FIELD OF STUDY: ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT**

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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Reasons for choosing the topic

In the process of socio-economic development, poverty reduction (PR) is a goal that any country in the world must strive for. The history of PR activities by modern states shows that policies have shifted from "*solely giving aids*" to creating conditions for the poor to achieve sustainable livelihoods in order to escape income poverty. Moreover, as the average living standards of society continue to rise, the poor today no longer primarily suffer from a lack of food and clothing, but mainly from a lack of basic social services. As a result, PR policies in many countries have shifted towards a multidimensional poverty reduction (MPR) approach, which considers addressing poverty from the perspective of meeting the comprehensive needs of the poor.

Vietnam has made significant efforts in PR. In respect of the whole country, the government of Hanoi has worked hard to implement MPR; however, the PR activities of the Hanoi government still have some shortcomings. For instance, the identification of multidimensional poor households in the area is not entirely accurate; in practice, programs and plans for PR sometimes face shortcomings; coordination between units and agencies in the field of PR is not yet tight; social protection policies are still implemented in a scattered manner; inspection and monitoring in the PR sector are not comprehensive or thorough; a shortage of staff in the PR sector, with some lacking qualifications. To address these mentioned shortcomings and create a new momentum for PR in the 2026-2030 period, it is necessary to conduct a deeper study of the PR activities of the Hanoi government. With the desire to contribute to this effort, the doctoral candidate has chosen the topic "*State management of Multidimensional Poverty Reduction in Hanoi*" as the subject of research for their doctoral dissertation.

### 2. Research questions

- What is the theoretical basis for state management (SM) of MPR by provincial governments in Vietnam?
- Which provincial government in Vietnam has succeeded or failed in managing MPR from 2016-2022?
- What has the Hanoi government done and what has it not achieved in terms of SM of MPR from 2016-2022?
- What solutions should the Hanoi government implement in the coming years to enhance the effectiveness of SM of MPR (i.e. reducing the poverty rate and improving social service quality for the poor) in the area?

### **3. Research objectives and tasks**

#### ***- Research objectives***

Based on the systematization of the theoretical foundation regarding SM of MPR by provincial governments, the dissertation analyzes the current situation, identifies the successes, limitations, and causes of these limitations in SM of MPR in Hanoi. From this analysis, the dissertation proposes solutions and scientific recommendations aimed at innovating and improving the effectiveness of the government of the City in PR efforts, contributing to sustainable socio-economic development.

#### ***- Research tasks***

- + Literature review related to SM of MPR by provincial governments.
- + Present the theoretical foundation of SM regarding MPR by provincial governments.
- + Analyze and evaluate the current state of SM of MPR by the Hanoi government.
- + Propose directions and solutions for innovating and improving SM of MPR in Hanoi in the future.

### **4. Research subjects and scope**

***- Research subjects:*** SM activities regarding MPR in Hanoi.

#### ***- Research scope***

- + *Scope of management subjects:* the SM subject is the government of Hanoi
- + *Scope of management objects:* MPR activities of poor households (i.e. permanent residents) and poor regions within Hanoi, excluding migrant poor households not registered as permanent residents in Hanoi.
- + *Scope of content:* SM of MPR in Hanoi is approached based on SM functions, including:
  - Developing MPR plans
  - Organizing the implementation of these plans
  - Inspection, assessment and evaluations of the progress of the plans.
- + *Spatial scope:* SM of MPR is studied within the scope delegated to the government of Hanoi and within the administrative boundaries of Hanoi.
- + *Temporal scope:* Primary data was collected in 2022; secondary data was collected during the period 2016-2022, with some content supplemented with data up to 2023; the proposed solutions in the dissertation are intended for application in the period 2025-2035.

## **5. Methodological basis and research methodology**

### ***5.1. Methodological basis***

The research process is based on viewpoints and positions of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, the perspectives and guidelines of the Communist Party of Vietnam, as well as the policies and laws of the Vietnamese State regarding MPR. Additionally, the dissertation benefits from the theoretical research achievements and practical experiences of scientists, research organizations, and practical activities, both domestically and internationally on SM by local governments concerning MPR.

### ***5.2. Research methodology***

#### *- Secondary research*

+ Using methods of systematization, generalization, synthesis, comparison, modeling, supplementation, and development of theoretical research results to form a theoretical basis for SM by provincial governments in MPR.

+ Using methods of analysis, comparison, systematization of statistical data, and field survey data to describe the current state of SM activities by the Hanoi government in multidimensional PR.

+ Using comparative method between the current state of SM by the city government with the theoretical basis regarding the objectives and functions of SM by provincial governments in PR and the practical experiences of other localities to propose scientific recommendations.

#### *- Data collection methodology*

+ *Secondary data collection:* Secondary data related to SM of MPR was collected from reports of agencies under the Hanoi government (Hanoi Statistics Office, Hanoi Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, Hanoi People's Council, Hanoi People's Committee, etc.) and from published scientific works.

+ *Primary data collection:* The candidate conducted a sociological survey using two types of questionnaires for two groups: PR officials and poor households in Hanoi.

The survey methodology is as follows:

- **Questionnaire development:** The candidate developed the questionnaire based on the MP measurement standards set forth in Decision No. 13/2021/QĐ-UBND, which defines Hanoi's multidimensional poverty standards for the period 2022 - 2025, with 12 criteria to clarify deprivation criteria, causes, nature, and factors influencing poverty and PR. Additionally, the questionnaire explores the views and opinions of the poor regarding issues related to poverty and current and future PR support efforts.

- **Survey area:** Since the urban districts of Hanoi have virtually no MP

households, the candidate selected four districts with the highest number of poor households: Ba Vi (436 households), Phuc Tho (299 households), Soc Son (290 households), and Chuong My (227 households). In each district, four communes were randomly selected for the survey.

- **Survey sample:** A total of 356 questionnaires were distributed as follows: 20 questionnaires for PR officials and 336 questionnaires for poor households in the four districts that had the highest number of poor households in Hanoi at the end of 2022.

*The 20 questionnaires for PR officials* were evenly distributed across the four districts of Ba Vi, Phuc Tho, Soc Son, and Chuong My, with the following structure: four questionnaires for commune-level officials in charge of PR in each of the four selected communes (one questionnaire per commune) and one questionnaire for a district-level official from the District People's Committee responsible for PR.

*The 336 questionnaires for poor households in Hanoi* were selected using the population estimation method based on Slovin's formula (1984):

$$n = N : [1 + N \times (e^2)]$$

*In which:* n: sample size to be determined  
 N: total sample size  
 e: permissible margin of error

With a total sample of 2,134 poor households in Hanoi (in 2022) and a permissible margin of error of 5% (+/- 0.05), the candidate determined the corresponding sample size for the survey of poor households based on the calculated results:

$$n = 2.134 : [1 + 2.134 \times (0,05)^2] = 336$$

Using this result, 336 questionnaires were evenly distributed across the four surveying districts of Ba Vi, Phuc Tho, Soc Son, and Chuong My. There were 84 questionnaires for each district, administered within the region of four communes (21 questionnaires per commune).

- *In-depth interview (expert interview method):* The doctoral candidate conducted 15 interviews, corresponding to 15 experts and scientists with specialized knowledge in poverty and PR. A structured questionnaire with in-depth questions (Appendix 8) was designed to facilitate the analysis and assessment of the SM of MPR by the Hanoi government. The in-depth interview method has the advantage of evaluating complex issues to clarify research topics and gather insights from scientists and experts in social

security, PR, or SM of PR. These insights serve as a foundation for drawing theoretical and practical conclusions.

In addition, the dissertation also employs the SWOT method to clarify the current situation of SM of MPR in Hanoi; identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges. The forecasting method is used to project the current context, forming the basis for proposing solutions in Chapter 4.

- *Data processing method*: Survey data were processed using Excel 2013.

## **6. New scientific contributions of the dissertation**

### ***- Theoretical contributions***

+ The results in this dissertation contribute and further explain the theoretical basis of SM of MPR by provincial and centrally governed city governments in line with the conditions in Vietnam.

+ This dissertation has clearly identified the objectives, influence factors, the details of state management by Vietnamese provincial authorities regarding MPR within a state. These details include a comprehensive set of state management activities in accordance with their functions: developing MPR plans; organizing the implementation of these plans; inspection, assessment and evaluations of the progress of the plans. The aim is to facilitate poor households and individuals to escape poverty according to the income poverty standards and to access social services for each specific state.

### ***- Practical contributions***

+ The dissertation has described, analyzed and assessed the current situation of state management regarding MPR in Hanoi from 2016 – 2022, drawing evaluations about the strengths (i.e. the development of MPR plans alongside timely and appropriate policy implementation; the diversified ways of resource mobilization for MPR; effective execution of policies related to education, health care, housing, sanitation, clean water, and information systems for the poor; good execution of specific policies in MPR) and weaknesses (i.e. slow pacing and incomplete planning of MPR plans in some localities; unsystematic identification of MP households leads to incorrect implementation regarding the target group; income support policies tend to focus on production; the diversity and quality of social services provided are limited; and the inspection and supervision work of the local Steering committee for PR is not regular).

+ The dissertation proposes some solutions to improve state management regarding MPR in Hanoi: (i) refining the process of developing and enhancing

the quality of MPR plans; (ii) innovating methods and improving the effectiveness of implementing MPR plans; (iii) strengthening inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of the implementation of MPR plans; (iv) enhancing the professional qualifications and ethical standards of the staff responsible for PR work; (v) raising awareness among the poor to limit the emergence of new poor households in the future.

+ The dissertation can serve as a reference for the staff and civil servants involved in state management regarding MPR in other provinces and cities under the central government, as well as readers and researchers investigating SM issues related to MPR.

## **7. The structure of the dissertation**

Aside from the introduction, conclusion, recommendations, list of references, and appendices, the content of the dissertation consists of 4 chapters.

### **Chapter 1**

#### **OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH RELATED TO STATE MANAGEMENT ON MULTIDIMENSIONAL PR BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS**

##### **1.1. OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH RELATED TO STATE MANAGEMENT ON MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS**

###### **1.1.1. Overview of research related to poverty, poverty reduction, multidimensional poverty reduction, and factors influencing multidimensional poverty reduction**

Nguyen Thi Hoa (2009) discussed various theoretical schools regarding poverty, including the basic needs school, the welfare school, and the capability school. In the work by Zahra and Zafar (2015), seven necessary aspects to reflect the state of poverty are identified, including: living standards, environment, assets, education, health, livelihood, and above all, social exclusion. Janjua and Kamal (2011) utilized panel data from 40 developing countries to analyze econometric models using the GLS method, demonstrating that income positively affects PR. Nasir Muhammad (2016) suggested that MP could be alleviated through vocational training for workers, thereby increasing employment opportunities and income for the poor. Phan Thi Nu (2012) and Doan Van Truong (2016) emphasized the impact of credit policies on PR. Additionally, there are numerous studies evaluating the implementation of PR policies in Vietnam and various localities across the country.



Furthermore, studies by Nguyen Trung Hai (2022), Son Thanh Tung (2023),... evaluate the implementation of PR policies in Vietnam and several localities, focusing on: *i)* the role of PR policies and programs such as improving access to credit and social services (e.g. education, health care); *ii)* identifying and analyzing poverty trends in various localities in Vietnam, highlighting achievements, limitations, and challenges in PR; *iii)* proposing solutions aimed at achieving sustainable PR; *iv)* studies emphasizing the correctness of the Vietnamese government's approach to PR.

### **1.1.2. Literature review of state management on multidimensional poverty reduction by provincial governments**

#### ***1.1.2.1. Research related to developing multidimensional poverty reduction Plans by provincial governments***

*Firstly, studies related to establishing a set of criteria for multidimensional PR and reviewing poor households at the local level are presented*

World Bank (2000) argued that *the nature of poverty is multidimensional* and pointed out different aspects of MP as follows: 1) *poverty* is material deprivation, 2) *poverty* is the lack of access to education and health services; 3) *poverty* entails vulnerability and risk; 4) *poverty* is a state of voicelessness and lack of power. Alkire and Santos (2011) suggest that the MP index (MPI) is used not only to target the poorest but also to monitor the Millennium Development Goals. This perspective was also emphasized by Virginia Robano and colleagues (2014), highlighting the necessity for the Bangladeshi government to apply poverty measurement criteria to its national PR program for effective PR. Sabina Alkire and colleagues (2020) constructed 10 MPIs based on three dimensions: health, education, and living standards. The work by Y. Lu and colleagues (2019) utilized the Alkire–Foster (AF) method to design a poverty measurement system consisting of five dimensions and fifteen indicators. Wang and Wang (2016) also used the AF method to measure and evaluate MP. They proposed a model to assess poverty levels in each locality and analyzed the contributing factors to poverty in China. Le Thi Thanh Loan and colleagues (2010) discussed adjusting the poverty criteria set to fit local conditions. Tran Tien Khai and Nguyen Ngoc Danh (2014) developed a MPI for rural households in Vietnam based on a livelihood approach, identifying 16 asset variables representing ten dimensions measurable for poverty.

*Second, studies related to identifying resources, pathways, and solutions for PR are presented*

Most studies on PR generally share similar views on identifying PR resources, including: resource endowments, financial resources, human

resources, social resources, and physical assets. Financial resources were highlighted by Katsushi S. Mmai and colleagues (2012), stating that expanding microfinance institutions significantly reduces poverty rates at the macro level. Mosley (2001); Jonathan Morduch and colleagues (2022); and Doreen S. Nakiyimba discussed the vital role of these resources in helping the poor cope with poverty and improve livelihoods.

P.A. Samuelson, through the theories of “*vicious cycle*” and “*external shocks*”, that a country falls into poverty because it has not undergone modernization to become a developed nation and needs support from wealthy nations to escape poverty. Walter W. Rostow (1961) with his “*reform*” theory similarly stated that poverty is a starting stage of development for any country transitioning from a traditional to a modern society. Therefore, it is impossible to immediately eliminate wealth disparity through a social revolution or by transforming production relations, which forms the basis for building PR solutions.

Many authors deeply analyze the causes of poverty in their research. David S. Landes (1999) examined the overall perspective of wealth and poverty and explained that the causes of wealth and poverty differ by country. England and China were endowed with the same advantages such as knowledge of science, technology, and resources. However, only England excelled due to its “*open*” society encouraging trade and accepting investment risks, becoming the cradle of the industrial revolution. China developed its industry later and more slowly. A persistent cause of poverty, as noted by the World Bank (1995), is *unemployment*. The gender of the household head and unskilled labor are also cited as causes of poverty by many authors. Iqbal (2012) confirmed that *a lack of technical education and skills* was a primary cause of poverty in Pakistan. Okojie also indicated that *the gender* of the household head was one of the factors influencing the poverty of families. Max Weber emphasized that *the market* is the primary cause of wealth disparity and inequality in society. Khan and colleagues (2001) explained that rural poverty in developing countries results from *a lack of accumulated assets*. Phan Huy Duong and colleagues (2010) identified the main causes of poverty as *a lack of production capital, lack of business experience, and lack of land*. Tran Cong Kha, Bui Thi Thanh Tam and Le Thi Thanh Loan analyze the factors influencing poverty, including the *dependency ratio, household size, agricultural land area, education level of the household head, and gender of the household head*.

Thus, there are virtually no studies that directly address the development of MPR plans in a locality, including the basis for adjusting MP criteria, searching and identifying MP households, identifying resources, goals, pathways, and solutions. Most authors only discuss one or several aspects of poverty and MP in their research.

### ***1.1.2.2. Literature review of the implementation of multidimensional poverty reduction plans by provincial authorities***

*First, research related to the delegation and coordination between units in the process of implementing MPR is presented.*

In terms of SM in the coordination of PR efforts, A. Goetz and colleagues (2005) emphasized the need for coordination between functional departments within public administration to achieve PR goals. In 2006, Aline Coudouel and colleagues analyzed the implementation of PR policies in countries like Albania and Bolivia. In Vietnam, research has not delved deeply into the coordination among public agencies in implementing PR but only addressed it as a solution in PR studies. Le Thi Thanh Binh (2021) proposed enhancing coordination between the PR Steering Committee and relevant agencies, departments, and units during PR implementation. Dang Nguyen Anh (2021) notes that *MP is a new approach to ensure that individuals who may not be income-poor but lack in other dimensions are not overlooked.*

*Second, research related to the implementation of policies aimed at MPR is presented.*

- Research related to MPR policies in terms of income dimension

In their study, Dalila Cervantes-Godoy and Dewbre (2015) highlighted the role of government in balancing economic growth and PR. Vishwambhar Prasad Sati (2016) described the sustainable livelihood approach to PR and analyzed the current situation of all livelihoods in Mizoram. Taking a similar livelihood approach to MPR, Dang Huu Lieu and colleagues (2017) presented a method of assessing MP using the Vietnamese Government's standards for 2016–2020, noting that these standards still have limitations as the set criteria do not fully reflect all aspects of life. The World Bank (2012) emphasized that the role of the state in MPR should focus on creating livelihoods for the poor. Vietnam has applied six poverty measurement methods, four of which use MP approaches and offer PR solutions such as livelihood creation, and support for access to education and health services. Tran Thi Sen (2021) assessed the poverty situation from a MP perspective in the Southeast region, identifying the extent to which different factors impact MP in this region. Tran Dinh Thien argued it is not feasible to help the poor escape poverty merely by providing housing or assets. Nguyen Duc

Loc and colleagues (2019) recommend focusing on understanding the relationship between development policies, support, and PR by the government, as well as the capacities of poor individuals in achieving sustainable poverty alleviation.

*- Research related to MPR policies to improve the poor's access to basic services.*

In his study, Jakob Dirksen (2020) explained that each government has different methods for measuring poverty. Regardless of the measurement method, countries generally have indicators in key dimensions, which are education, health, and basic living standards. Y. Wang and B. Wang (2016) identified at least four aspects of poverty with 10 general indicators, with three main contributing factors to poverty being unstable housing, poor family health, and adult illiteracy. Mohanty and colleagues (2018) conducted surveys of 4,290 poor households to measure poverty across five dimensions and 12 indicators. Henaff and colleagues (2012) also emphasized that quality education is vitally important in development and PR. Huynh Dinh Phat (2021) used the government's MP scale and confirmed the impact of the "access to information" factor (i.e. the degree of access to information and the usefulness of information) on the MP status of poor households. Pham Thi Thanh Mai (2014) selected financial services and employment services as two basic services that need to be adequately provided to the poor. Additionally, vocational training and job creation for MPR were addressed in several studies. The book by Martha Alter Chen and colleagues (2004) discussed PR strategies related to employment and occupations among the self-employment labor sector, primarily the poor. Bui Thanh Ha (2021) highlighted the short-term and long-term impacts of vocational training on employment opportunities, income improvement, and the increased ability to access basic social services.

### ***1.1.2.3. Literature review of inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of multidimensional poverty reduction plan implementation by provincial authorities***

Acknowledging differing measurement dimensions, Louis-Marie Asselin and colleagues (2009) discussed MPR monitoring and argued that monitoring methods are suitable for constructing macroeconomic policy regulation frameworks for development in Vietnam. They also provided several recommendations for improving monitoring methods to identify the poor in Vietnam. Nguyen Thi Thanh Van (2022) emphasized the role of inspection and monitoring in PR activities by state agencies. Inspection and monitoring in implementing PR plans were also discussed by Ha Minh Son and colleagues (2022), who proposed completing institutional mechanisms to effectively promote the roles of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, political-social

organizations, social-professional organizations, enterprises, and all other entities in overseeing and evaluating sustainable PR efforts. Nguyen Giac Tri (2023) also proposed measures to enhance inspection and monitoring by relevant functional agencies to improve the roles, responsibilities, and coordination among sectors and levels of local government in managing, directing, and organizing PR activities at the provincial level.

## **1.2. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH ON STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION BY PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES**

### **1.2.1. Issues clarified by the literature**

- *Most studies affirm that the approach to MPR is necessary and suitable for Vietnam's current conditions.* The history of Vietnam's PR efforts has gone through three phases, similar to other countries, from the late 20th century to the present: *material poverty reduction* (measured primarily by income criteria), *sustainable poverty reduction* (with a sustainable livelihood support approach for poor households), and *multidimensional poverty reduction* (with a human rights approach and access to basic social services essential for human well-being).

- *Multidimensional poverty reduction is a long-term process that requires efforts from multiple entities, with the state and poor households as the two most crucial participants.*

- *Solutions for implementing the National Poverty Reduction Program must depend on the poverty situation, national resources, and support from international organizations.* Among these resources, financial resources are critical for accelerating progress, with microfinance being highly valued by many organizations and researchers.

- *Poverty reduction solutions addressed in studies are diverse, including natural environment protection, increased access to resources for the poor, policies supporting land, capital, and human resources training for the poor, among others.* Solutions related to the delegation and coordination between units during implementation, and strengthening inspection, monitoring, and evaluation, are also frequently mentioned.

- *Many studies emphasize the State's essential role in designing and implementing the national PR program.* The state should actively support in service provision areas such as universal education, healthcare, transportation, information access, clean water, housing, and assistance in enabling the poor to access labor markets and formal credit markets...

### **1.2.2. Research gaps**

- Most studies approach MPR from the perspective of multiple stakeholders' involvement, emphasizing aspects such as the causes and

influencing factors of MPR, MP measurement indicators, and general recommendations for stakeholders involved in MPR. Very few studies comprehensively address the content of SM of MPR at the national and provincial levels. Some studies mention the role of the government or local authorities at various levels, but they are often incomplete, only covering specific aspects of SM functions in MPR implementation, such as education, healthcare, financial policies, and job creation policies, viewing them as individual areas of study. There are especially few studies that comprehensively approach the State's role in MPR through the system of functions (e.g. policy formulation, implementation, inspection, monitoring, evaluation).

- A few studies address specific SM functions in PR but only focus on income PR or sustainable PR. In terms of SM in MPR, the studies primarily address individual aspects related to the State's role, primarily related to the role of the state in implementing MPR policies.

- The role of provincial authorities in PR is also mentioned in several studies; however, no research systematically and comprehensively addresses the role of provincial authorities in MPR in Vietnam from 2016 to 2022. Most studies only examine the impact of a specific policy within the MPR policy framework on a specific locality.

In conclusion, SM of MPR in Hanoi has not yet been comprehensively, systematically, and up-to-date researched for the period from 2016 to the present.

### **1.3. RESEARCH ISSUES SELECTED FOR THE DISSERTATION AND ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **1.3.1. Research issues selected for the dissertation**

*Firstly*, the dissertation adopts an economic management perspective, with the provincial government as the managing entity and the MPR program, based on Vietnam's poverty standards, as the object of study, situated within the broader framework of the national PR policy.

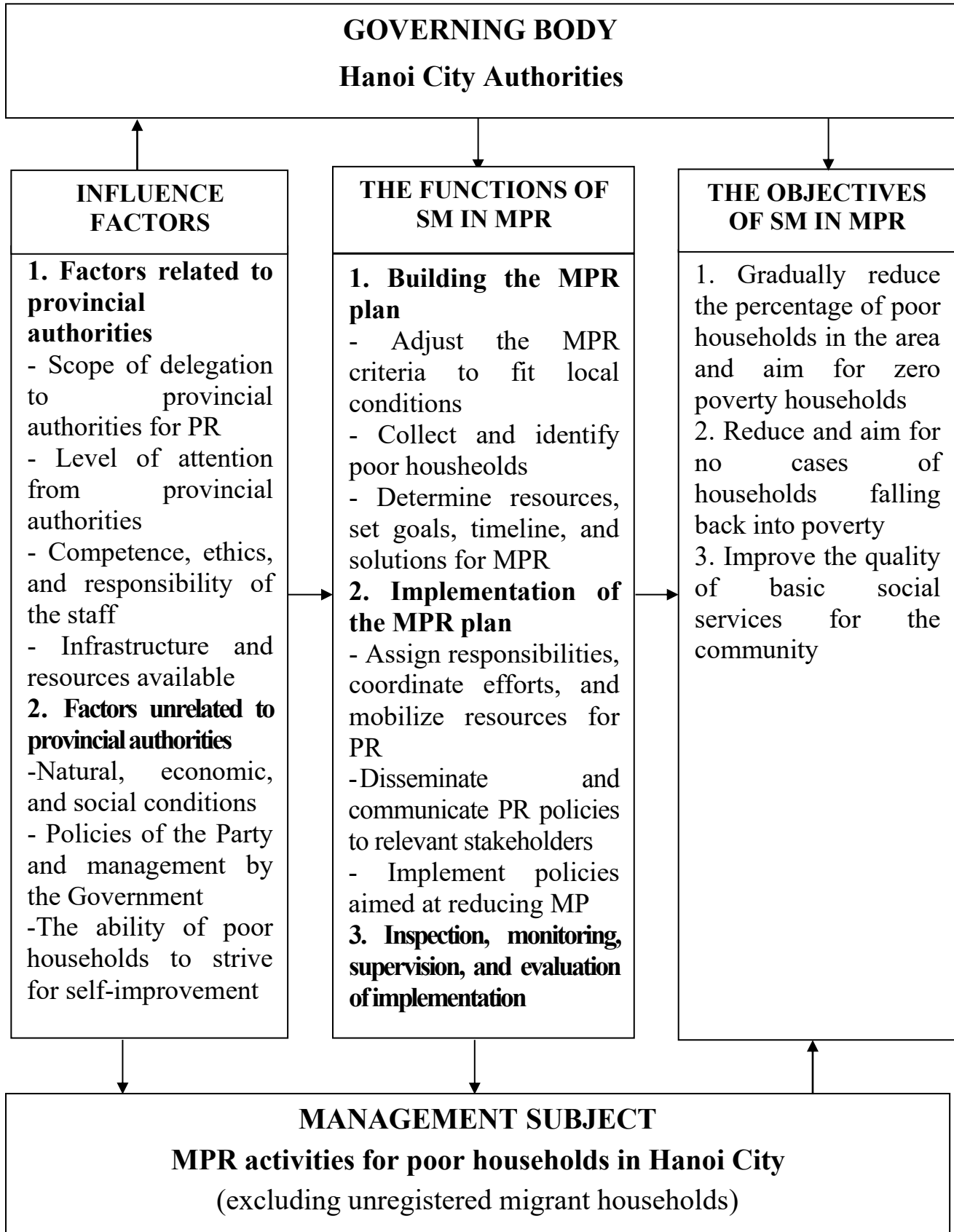
*Secondly*, based on a theoretical framework for SM of MPR by provincial authorities, the dissertation will analyze and evaluate the SM of the MPR Program in Hanoi across the following managerial functions: developing MPR plans; organizing the implementation of these plans; inspection, assessment and evaluations of the progress of the plans.

*Thirdly*, under Hanoi's MPR standards for the 2021-2025 period, urban districts show almost no remaining impoverished households, so the data focuses mainly on impoverished households in suburban districts.

*Fourthly*, dissertation will propose specific solutions aimed at improving SM functions - planning, implementation, and inspection, monitoring, and evaluation - of MPR efforts in Hanoi. Since direct measurement of the SM activities on MPR by the

city government is not possible, the dissertation will assess SM indirectly through criteria like the rate of poverty reduction and the degree of improvement in MPR indicators among the impoverished population in Hanoi.

### 1.3.2. The analytical framework



## Chapter 2

### THEORETICAL BASIS AND EXPERIENCES ON STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION BY PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES

#### 2.1. SOME THEORETICAL ISSUES ON MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY AND MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION

##### 2.1.1. Theoretical basis on multidimensional poverty

###### 2.1.1.1. *The concept of multidimensional poverty*

\* *The concept of poverty:* A phenomenon where individuals can only meet their needs below the average (or minimum) level of a specific society during a defined period. The poor are those who can only satisfy common needs below the average level of society.

\* *The concept of multidimensional poverty:* Multidimensional poverty is understood as the lack of capacity to access the benefits of socio-economic development, resulting in the inability to meet certain basic needs that fall within the scope of human rights, such as education, healthcare, and minimum living conditions.

###### 2.1.1.2. *Indicators reflecting multidimensional poverty*

There are two main methods for determining MP criteria as follows:

- *The first method using input levels,* identifying the extent of deprivation that prevents households from achieving sustainable livelihoods.
- *The second method assesses the level of benefits received.* This method is supported by many countries (including Vietnam) and various international organizations. Accordingly, criteria are developed to measure deprivation levels in six groups of essential social services: i) lack of employment services; ii) lack of healthcare services; iii) lack of educational services; iv) lack of housing services; v) lack of resources for living, such as clean water, standard toilets, and a sanitary environment; vi) lack of information.

###### 2.1.1.3. *Causes of multidimensional poverty*

- Factors from the perspective of the poor household
- Environmental factors
- Cultural, customs, and lifestyle factors of ethnic groups
- Government-related factors
- Other factors

###### 2.1.1.4. *Negative impacts of multidimensional poverty*

- *Multidimensional poverty negatively affects economic growth*
- *Multidimensional poverty negatively affects social relationships*
- *Multidimensional poverty negatively affects political stability*
- *Multidimensional poverty affects the country's status in the international arena*



## 2.1.2. Theoretical basis for multidimensional poverty reduction

### 2.1.2.1. Concept of multidimensional poverty reduction

\* *Poverty reduction*: Poverty reduction involves the activities of households supported by the community and various economic, political, and social organizations to escape poverty. The results of PR are always defined by the decrease in the number and percentage of poor households and the gradual improvement of the living standards of the poor according to the general economic and social development levels.

\* *Multidimensional poverty reduction*: MPR goes beyond just economic development; it also requires social reform, equitable treatment of the poor, and creating conditions for them to participate in the overall development process. MPR demands greater resources and reemphasizes the role of the state in creating a fair living environment for all social classes.

### 2.1.2.2. Ways and criteria for measuring the level of multidimensional poverty reduction

#### \* *Ways of multidimensional poverty reduction*

- Reducing poverty in terms of income
- Improving access to essential social services for the poor

#### \* *The criteria for measuring the level of multidimensional poverty reduction*

- *Criteria for improving the income of poor households*

**Table 2.2. Poverty standards in Vietnam**

<b>1</b>	<b>2016-2020</b>	<b>(Cash)</b>	<b>Poverty standards</b>
	Rural	dong/person/month	700.000 700.000 - 1.000.000 and lacking three or more indicators measuring the level of access to basic social services.
	Urban	dong/person/month	900.000 900.000 - 1.300.000 and lacking three or more indicators measuring the level of access to basic social services.
<b>2</b>	<b>2021- 2025</b>	<b>(Cash)</b>	<b>Poverty standards</b>
	Rural	dong/person/month	1.500.000 and lacking three or more indicators measuring the level of access to basic social services.
	Urban	dong/person/month	2.000.000 and lacking three or more indicators measuring the level of access to basic social services

Sources: Decision No. 59/QĐ-TTg dated November 19, 2015  
Decree No. 07/2021/ND-CP dated January 27, 2021

- *The criteria for measuring the reduction in basic social service deprivation* are divided into six groups (employment, healthcare, education, housing, clean water and sanitation, information), with 12 indicators. Thus, reducing basic social service deprivation involves creating conditions that allow the poor to access more basic social services. The threshold for PR is to overcome the lack of at least three indicators within the standard for basic social service deprivation.

## **2.2. STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION BY PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES**

### **2.2.1. Concept and objectives of state management for multidimensional poverty reduction**

#### ***\* Concept of state management for multidimensional poverty reduction***

- *State management*: It is the organized use of laws and policy systems to influence the behavior of citizens and organizations in society, aiming to achieve the common goal of national, local, and sectoral development, according to the viewpoints and directions of the ruling party.

- *State management for multidimensional poverty reduction*: This encompasses all management activities of the state according to its functions, including structuring the MPR plans; organizing the plan's implementation; inspecting, monitoring, and evaluating the National Poverty Reduction Program, to provide conditions that help poor households and individuals escape poverty according to income and access standards to basic social services established by the state for specific periods.

- *Provincial SM for MPR*: The management activity based on the delegated functions of provincial authorities to implement the national PR program within the province, according to applicable regulations and criteria regarding MPR.

#### ***\* Objectives of provincial state management for multidimensional poverty reduction***

- *General objective*: To effectively implement the national PR program within the managed area.

- *Specific objectives*: *i)* Reduce the poverty rate as planned; *ii)* Reduce the number of poor districts and communes; *iii)* Reduce the number of income-poor and near-income-poor households; *iv)* Decrease deficiency in access to employment services; *v)* Decrease deficiency in access to education services; *vi)* Decrease deficiency in access to healthcare services; *vii)* Decrease deficiency in access to standard housing; *viii)* Decrease deficiency in access to clean water and environmental sanitation services; *ix)* Decrease deficiency in access to information access.

### **2.2.2. Ways of state management for multidimensional poverty reduction by provincial Authorities**

#### ***2.2.2.1. Developing multidimensional poverty reduction plans under the national program of poverty reduction***

*First, adapt multidimensional poverty criteria to local conditions.*

*Second, collecting statistics on multidimensionally poor households in the area.*

**2.2.2.2. *Implementing the multidimensional poverty reduction plan***

- \* Assign and coordinate roles between units and officials in charge
- \* Mobilize, allocate, and coordinate resources in charge
- \* Disseminate and promote MPR activities to stakeholders.
- \* Implement policies aimed at multidimensional poverty reduction

**2.2.2.3. *Inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of program and multidimensional poverty reduction plan***

\* *Inspect, monitor, and evaluate the execution of the multidimensional poverty reduction program and plan*

\* *Implement measures to address and prevent violations*

**2.2.3. *Factors affecting state management of multidimensional poverty reduction by provincial authorities***

**2.2.3.1. *Factors related to provincial authorities***

- Delegated responsibilities of provincial authorities in PR
- Interest of the provincial political system in PR activities
- Capacity, ethics, and accountability of SM officials for MPR
- Facilities, technology, and resources supporting the SM of MPR by provincial authorities

**2.2.3.2. *Factors outside provincial authorities***

- Natural and socio-economic conditions of the province
- Party guidelines and government management for MPR
- Influence of global scientific and technological revolutions and worldwide issues
- The resilience and motivation of poor households

**2.3. EXPERIENCES IN STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN SELECTED LOCALITIES AND LESSONS FOR HANOI**

**2.3.1. *Experiences in state management of multidimensional poverty reduction in selected localities***

**2.3.1.1. *Experiences in multidimensional poverty reduction management in Ho Chi Minh City***

*First, experiences in developing MPR plans*

*Second, experiences in implementing MPR*

*Third, experiences in inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of MPR plans in Ho Chi Minh City.*

**2.3.1.2. *Experiences in multidimensional poverty reduction management in Da Nang***

*First, experiences in developing MPR plans*

*Second, experiences in implementing MPR in Da Nang*

*Third, experiences in inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of MPR in Da Nang*

### ***2.3.2. Lessons for Hanoi***

- Lessons in developing MPR plans
- Lessons in implementing MPR plans
- Lessons in strengthening inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of MPR efforts

## **Chapter 3**

### **CURRENT STATE OF STATE MANAGEMENT OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI CITY**

#### **3.1. NATURAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND THE CURRENT STATE OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY IN HANOI CITY**

##### **3.1.1. General overview of Hanoi City**

###### ***3.1.1.1. Geographical location and terrain of Hanoi City***

- Geographical location
- Terrain

###### ***3.1.1.2. Economic and social conditions of Hanoi City***

- Population and population density
- Economic conditions
- Conditions for cultural - social development, social security, improvement of education - training quality, employment, and healthcare

##### **3.1.2. Current state of multidimensional poverty in Hanoi City**

###### ***3.1.2.1. Current state of multidimensional poverty based on income in Hanoi City***

**Table 3.1. Poverty line and near poverty line based on average per  
Capita Income in Different Periods of Hanoi**

<b>Region</b>	<b>2016-2020</b>		<b>2021-2025</b>	
	<b>Poverty</b>	<b>Near</b>	<b>Poverty</b>	<b>Near poverty</b>
<b><i>Rural</i></b>	1,100,000	1,500,000	<2,000,000 and not meeting three indicators and above	<2,000,000 and not meeting three indicators and below
<b><i>Urban</i></b>	1,400,000	1,950,000	<2,500,000 and not meeting three indicators and above	<2,500,000 and not meeting three indicators and below
<b><i>Documents</i></b>	De. No. 12/2016/QĐ-UBND of Hanoi City, 13/04/2016		Decision No. 13/2021/QĐ-UBND of Hanoi City, dated September 5, 2021	

*Source: Compiled by the author according to Decision No. 12/2016/QĐ-UBND dated April 13, 2016, and Decision No. 13/QĐ-UBND dated September 5, 2021, of the Hanoi People's Committee.*

**Table 3.2. The percentage of poor households, 2016 - 2022***Units: %*

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
% of poor households	2.37	1.69	1.16	0.42	0.21	0.04	0.095

*Source: Compiled by the author from the General Statistics Office, 2022*

**Table 3.3. Results of PR among poor households in Hanoi, 2016 - 2022**

Outcome	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No. poor households reduced during the year	25,037	15,181	11,656	15,382	4,577	3,507	1,582
% of poor households reduced yoy	1.3%	0.7%	0.53%	0.74%	0.21%	0.17%	0.12%

*Source: Compiled by the author from the report of Department of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, 2016 - 2022*

The MP standard of the city is higher than the national average, and the wealthy group has a relatively high income, which leads to the low-income group becoming a vulnerable segment of society. Therefore, the low-income group falls into a state of relative poverty and is the target of MPR efforts.

### ***3.1.2.2. Current situation of multidimensional poverty in terms of basic social service deprivation in Hanoi***

**Table 3.4. Degree of deprivation of basic social services among poor households in surveyed areas in Hanoi**

No.	Type of deprivation	No. of deprived hhs	% (out of 336 surveyed hhs)
1	Unemployment or unstable employment	297	88.4%
2	Dependency ratio over 50%	167	49.7%
3	Nutrition	270	80.3%
4	Health insurance	70	20.8%
5	Education level of adults	226	67.2%
6	Children's school attendance	25	7.4%
7	Housing quality	106	31.5%
8	Average housing area per capita	76	22.6%
9	Access to drinking water	92	27.3%
10	Sanitary toilet facilities	133	39.5%
11	Access to telecommunication services	12	3.5%
12	Access to means of accessing information	9	2.6%

*Source: Survey results of poor households in 4 selected districts in Hanoi*

The lack of basic social services for poor households in the city is specifically manifested in the following aspects: i) employment; ii) healthcare; iii) education; iv) housing; v) clean water and living environment; vi) access to information.

### 3.2. ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF STATE MANAGEMENT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI FROM 2016 TO 2022

#### 3.2.1. Current status of building multidimensional poverty reduction plans

##### 3.2.1.1. Current status of multidimensional poverty reduction criteria issued suitable for local conditions

Based on the MPR criteria issued by the Government, Hanoi has issued regulations on the MP standards applicable in the city.

**Table 3.8. Government and Hanoi's poverty standards**

Region	2016-2020		2021-2025	
	Government	Hanoi	Government	Hanoi
<b>Rural</b>	Average monthly income per capita of 700,000 VND or less; or an average monthly income per capita of over 700,000 VND to 1,000,000 VND, but lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average monthly income per capita of 1,100,000 VND or less; or an average monthly income per capita of over 1,100,000 VND to 1,500,000 VND and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average monthly income per capita of 1,500,000 VND or less and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average income of 2,000,000 VND per person per month or less and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services..
<b>Urban</b>	Average monthly income per capita of 900,000 VND or less; or an average monthly income per capita of over 900,000 VND to 1,300,000 VND, but lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average monthly income per capita of 1,400,000 VND or less; or an average monthly income per capita of over 1,400,000 VND to 1,950,000 VND and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average monthly income per capita of 2,000,000 VND or less and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.	Average income of 2,500,000 VND per person per month or less and lacking at least 3 indicators measuring access to basic social services.

*Source: Author compiled from documents (Decision No. 59/QĐ-TTg, Decree No. 07/2021/NĐ-CP, Decision No. 12/2016/QĐ-UBND, Decision No. 13/QĐ-UBND dated September 5, 2021)*

***3.2.1.2. Current status of searching and identifying multidimensionally poor households***

***3.2.1.3. Identifying resources, goals, and solutions for multidimensional poverty reduction***

*\* Resources for poverty reduction*

*\* Resources for PR implementation:* Financial resources and scientific and technological resources, and resources for supporting PR

*\* Identifying goals for PR*

**3.2.2. Organizing the implementation of the multidimensional poverty reduction**

***3.2.2.1. Assigning and coordinating between units and officials***

***3.2.2.2. Current situation of mobilizing, allocating, and coordinating resources***

*\* Mobilizing resources*

*\* Methods of allocating resources*

***3.2.2.3. Current situation of publicizing and communicating multidimensional poverty reduction work to relevant groups***

*\* Current situation of communication and mobilization for poor households*

*\* Current situation of training for officials involved in poverty reduction*

*\* Current situation of communication to encourage community, enterprises, and organizations to participate in PR plans*

***3.2.2.4. Current situation of implementing policies aimed at multidimensional poverty reduction***

- Current situation of implementing multidimensional poverty reduction policies in terms of income

- Current situation of implementing policies to improve access to basic services for poor households

**3.2.3. Inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of the implementation of multidimensional poverty reduction plans**

**Table 3.14. Summary of inspections and audits for poverty reduction implementation in Hanoi**

No	Implementing units	Year						
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Central Agencies	2	3	5	5	1	1	3
2	City-level Agencies	9	8	8	7	2	3	6
3	District-level Agencies	14	15	15	8	4	4	13
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>

*Source: Author compiled from the Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs of the districts and towns in Hanoi*

### **3.3. EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF STATE MANAGEMENT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI FROM 2016 TO 2022**

#### **3.3.1. Successes in state management for multidimensional poverty reduction in Hanoi**

*First*, the Hanoi city government has focused on building strategies and plans for MPR, along with issuing policies, guidelines, and implementing measures for MPR that are appropriate to the city's characteristics.

*Second*, the Hanoi city government has issued and implemented many significant MPR policies, providing sustainable livelihoods for poor households and creating conditions and resources to provide necessary public services, thereby improving the living standards and benefits for the poor in Hanoi.

*Third*, Hanoi has implemented many specific policies in MPR work, in addition to the policies stipulated by the Central Government.

#### **3.3.2. Limitations and causes in state management for multidimensional poverty reduction in Hanoi**

*\* Limitations in state management for multidimensional poverty reduction in Hanoi*

- Limitations in building MPR plans
- Limitations in organizing the implementation of MPR plans
- Limitations in inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of MPR plan implementation

*\* Causes of limitations in SM for MPR in Hanoi*

- Causes related to the natural, economic, and social conditions of Hanoi
- Causes related to natural disasters and epidemics
- Causes related to mechanisms and policies
- Causes related to the capacity of the officials responsible for PR work

## **Chapter 4**

### **DIRECTIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING STATE MANAGEMENT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI**

#### **4.1. GENERAL CONTEXT THAT AFFECTS THE STATE MANAGEMENT ON MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI**

##### **4.1.1. International context**

##### **4.1.2. Domestic context**



### **4.1.3. Context of Hanoi**

## **4.2. DIRECTIONS FOR IMPROVING STATE MANAGEMENT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI**

**First**, enhance the quality of building MPR plans and policies

**Second**, innovate methods, processes, timelines, and the effectiveness of implementing MPR plans

**Third**, focus on refining the inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of the implementation of multidimensional poverty reduction plans

## **4.3. SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING STATE MANAGEMENT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION IN HANOI**

**4.3.1. Refine the process of building and enhance the quality of multidimensional poverty reduction plans**

**4.3.2. Innovate methods and improve the effectiveness of implementing multidimensional poverty reduction plans**

**4.3.3. Strengthen inspection, monitoring, and evaluation of the implementation of multidimensional poverty reduction plans**

**4.3.4. Enhance the professional qualifications and ethical standards of officials responsible for poverty reduction work**

**4.3.5. Raise awareness among the poor to prevent the emergence of new poor households in the future**

## **4.4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT**

## **CONCLUSION**

Multidimensional poverty reduction is a central task that modern states consider crucial and must undertake if they wish to achieve a fair, equitable, and compassionate society. Depending on the political regime of the country, provincial governments, as the highest local authority, must perform functions in the area of MPR: i) building MPR programs and plans; ii) organizing the implementation of the proposed programs and plans; iii) inspecting, monitoring, and evaluating to ensure these programs, policies, and plans are implemented optimally.

Hanoi is a city with a dynamic economy and a high and sustainable economic growth rate, serving as the economic driving force of the whole country. From 2016 to 2022, Hanoi achieved several successes in MPR, notably that most urban districts no longer have poor households; the rate of PR in the area is also low compared to other localities, despite Hanoi's

PR standards typically being higher than the national average. However, the process of MPR in Hanoi faces some challenges and retains certain limitations: there are still households in remote areas lacking access to clean water, insufficient housing and sanitation facilities, and a number of children not attending school at the appropriate age, as well as poor households without health insurance. In the period leading up to 2030, to implement the PR program more effectively, Hanoi needs to refine SM's involvement in MPR in several aspects: conducting accurate, fair, and transparent poverty assessments; improving support policies for the poor; restructuring the organization structure and officials responsible for PR; and enhancing communication to raise awareness and motivation for the poor to escape poverty.

In the scope of this dissertation, several theoretical and practical issues related to SM for MPR in Hanoi have been systematically reviewed and clarified. Based on the analysis of the current status, assessment of successes, limitations, and examination of the causes of these limitations, the dissertation proposes suitable solutions to enhance the effectiveness of SM for MPR in Hanoi.

The dissertation strives to present fundamental theoretical issues regarding the functions of SM of provincial governments in MPR and analyzes the collected data to evaluate the achievements and limitations of the Hanoi government in the area of SM for MPR, therefore providing recommendations. However, further detailed analysis of certain aspects of SM and the current state of management of poverty reduction in Hanoi has not been thoroughly examined. It is hoped that after defending the dissertation, the researcher will have the opportunity and time for more in-depth study.

## **LIST OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WORKS BY THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC**

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2. Le Thi Dieu Hoa (2022), “Multi-dimensional poverty approach: opportunities and challenges in applying multi-dimensional poverty standards to sustainable poverty reduction in Vietnam”, *Journal of Finance and Accounting Research*, Vol 241 (issue 1 – July), pgs 9-13.
3. Le Thi Dieu Hoa (2023), “Current methods of measuring multi-dimensional poverty”, *Journal of State Management*, published on June 22nd, 2023, <https://www.quanlynhanuoc.vn/2023/06/22/mot-so-phuong-phap-do-ngheo-da-chieu-hien-nay/>.
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