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PRESS RELEASE

The Association of Cities of Vietnam organizes the Mid-term Workshop “Strengthening Local Governance for Local Economic Development in Vietnamese Cities”

Hanoi, - Today, Friday 19 September 2014, the Mid-term Workshop of the EU Project "Strengthening Local Governance for Local Economic Growth in Vietnamese Cities" takes place in Hai Duong City – one of the three pilot cities of the Project. The Workshop will summarize project activities of the first year, present results and discuss the work plan for year 2.

The project "Strengthening Local Governance for Local Economic Growth in Vietnamese Cities" is co-funded by the European Union and by Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation of Germany (KAS). It started in July 2013 and is being implemented by the Association of Cities of Vietnam (ACVN) in collaboration with KAS over a 2-year period. The project operates in 3 pilot cities: Hai Duong City, Hue City and Tay Ninh City and aims at strengthening local governance and reducing poverty through increasing capacity of local governments and local household businesses. Until the end of August 2014, the Project has successfully completed 8 of 16 activities including launching activities, doing a baseline survey in 3 pilot cities, developing training curricula and performing training courses for city officials, household businesses and stakeholders in pilot cities and kicking off a 10-month Competition “City of good local economic development and livability” in those pilot cities.

At the workshop, Assoc. Prof.Dr. Vu Thi Vinh – General Secretary of ACVN stated, *“In the past year, 08 completed activities are all core activities of LoGoViC project, those were implemented with a strong cooperation spirit and high sense of responsibility of city leaders and City Task Forces, together with the prompt and timely management of ACVN, KAS and PMU as well as the active participation of experts from NAPA and VNU. The Project has gained initial achievements in introducing city officials to participatory methods, enhancing organizational skills in the project implementation, in creating tangible benefits for household businesses in pilot cities which are intended to provide practical policy inputs to the Government as a result”*.

Nearly 70 participants, including representatives from key Ministries, Government agencies, household businesses, experts and media associations and universities, attended the workshop. The workshop created opportunities for the participants to share experience in the implementation of local economic development initiatives with other projects of ACVN.

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