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**RENEWING THE LEADERSHIP METHODS OF PROVINCIAL
PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA TOWARD
THE FARMERS' UNION AT PRESENT**

**DOCTORAL THESIS SUMMARY
IN PARTY AND STATE GOVERNMENT BUILDING**

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INTRODUCTION

1. Rationale for the Study

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), the peasantry and its representative organization, the Vietnam Farmers' Union (VFU), have consistently played a pivotal role in the country's revolutionary cause, national development, and national defense. Since its establishment, the CPV has attached great importance to building and consolidating farmers' organizations in order to unite, mobilize, and promote the strength of this large social group. In the current context of accelerating industrialization, modernization, international integration, and digital transformation, agriculture, farmers, and rural areas continue to occupy a strategic position in promoting economic growth, maintaining political and social stability, safeguarding national security, and ensuring sustainable development. As the socio-political organization representing the peasantry, the Vietnam Farmers' Union serves as the central and core force in the farmers' movement and the implementation of the National Target Program on New Rural Development. Consequently, the effectiveness of the Union's operation depends largely on the leadership of the Communist Party, particularly that exercised by Party committees at all levels.

The Red River Delta is one of Vietnam's most strategically important regions in terms of politics, economics, culture, and society. It is characterized by a large rural population, a long-established agricultural tradition, and substantial potential for developing modern agriculture. Nevertheless, the rapid process of industrialization and urbanization has brought about a number of emerging challenges, including the shrinking of agricultural land, structural changes in rural employment, increasing pressure on jobs and livelihoods, widening social disparities, environmental degradation, and concerns regarding sustainable development. Under these circumstances, the leadership exercised by provincial-level Party committees over the Vietnam Farmers' Union has become increasingly important in ensuring the Party's unified leadership while enabling farmers to play a more active role in local socio-economic development.

In recent years, provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta have made significant efforts to innovate their leadership of the Vietnam Farmers' Union through the promulgation of Party resolutions and action programs, strengthening direction, inspection and supervision, and improving coordination among organizations within the political system. These efforts have contributed to enhancing the effectiveness of farmers' mobilization, promoting rural economic development, and advancing the implementation of the New Rural Development

Program. However, several shortcomings remain. In some localities, leadership methods continue to rely heavily on administrative approaches; strategic foresight remains inadequate; Party policies have not always been translated effectively into practical measures; and coordination mechanisms among relevant actors are still insufficiently coherent and effective.

Against the backdrop of profound and rapidly evolving changes in both the international and domestic environments, together with the growing impacts of digital transformation, green transition, climate change, the aging agricultural workforce, and the ongoing requirement to build a streamlined, effective, and efficient political system, further innovation in the Party's leadership methods toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union has become an urgent necessity. Furthermore, recent adjustments to the position and functions of socio-political organizations within Vietnam's political system, together with the Party's consistent recognition of the strategic importance of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas, require leadership methods to be renewed in a more scientific, systematic, modern, and practice-oriented manner, while enhancing the autonomy of the Vietnam Farmers' Union and promoting farmers as active agents of development.

From both theoretical and practical perspectives, studying the innovation of leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union is of considerable significance. Practically, it contributes to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of Party leadership over farmers' affairs and rural development. Theoretically, it helps clarify the fundamental principles and practical requirements for renewing the Party's leadership methods toward socio-political organizations under the new stage of national development. Therefore, this dissertation selects the topic "**Innovating the Leadership Methods of Provincial-Level Party Committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the Current Context**" as the subject of doctoral research in the discipline of Party Building and State Governance.

2. Research Purpose and Research Objectives

2.1. Research Purpose

The dissertation aims to clarify the theoretical and practical foundations of the Party's leadership methods and the innovation of leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Based on a systematic review of theory, an assessment of current practice, and the synthesis of practical experience, the study proposes feasible solutions for further innovating these leadership methods in the coming period. The

ultimate objective is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the Vietnam Farmers' Union's activities, thereby contributing to the successful implementation of the Communist Party of Vietnam's policies and the laws and policies of the State.

2.2. Research Objectives

First, the dissertation reviews existing domestic and international studies related to agriculture, farmers, rural development, Party leadership methods, and the innovation of the Party's leadership methods in general, with particular attention to leadership toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union. On this basis, it identifies research gaps and further develops the theoretical framework concerning the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Second, the dissertation develops and refines the theoretical framework on Party leadership methods and their innovation under contemporary conditions. It systematizes and clarifies key concepts, analytical dimensions, and theoretical foundations that provide the basis for assessing current practice and formulating appropriate policy recommendations.

Third, the dissertation analyzes the current situation regarding the innovation of leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union. The analysis focuses on achievements, existing limitations, and their underlying causes in the process of Party leadership and direction.

Fourth, based on the theoretical and empirical findings, the dissertation proposes strategic orientations and a system of feasible solutions for further innovating the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the coming period. These recommendations are designed to ensure coherence, practicality, and compatibility with the ongoing reform of Vietnam's political system, thereby improving the effectiveness and efficiency of Party leadership under the new development context.

3. Research Object and Scope

3.1. Research Object

The research focuses on the innovation of the leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the current period.

3.2. Research Scope

3.2.1. Temporal Scope

The study examines information and data concerning the leadership exercised by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta over the Vietnam

Farmers' Union, together with the Union's operational performance, within the framework established by the Party's policy on renewing leadership methods. Particular reference is made to Resolution No. 15-NQ/TW (30 July 2007) on continuing to reform the Party's leadership methods toward the operation of the political system and Resolution No. 28-NQ/TW (17 November 2022) of the Thirteenth Party Central Committee on continuing to innovate the Party's leadership and governing methods in relation to the political system in the new period. Empirically, the dissertation focuses primarily on the period from 2015 to June 2025.

3.2.2. Spatial Scope

The dissertation investigates the innovation of leadership methods exercised by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

The empirical analysis covers the eleven provinces and centrally governed cities identified in the Politburo's Resolution No. 30-NQ/TW dated 23 November 2022 on socio-economic development and national defense and security in the Red River Delta toward 2030, with a vision to 2045. These include Hanoi, Hai Phong, Ha Nam, Bac Ninh, Hai Duong, Hung Yen, Quang Ninh, Thai Binh, Nam Dinh, Ninh Binh, and Vinh Phuc.

In addition, the dissertation takes into account institutional changes arising from Resolution No. 60-NQ/TW of the Party Central Committee (12 April 2025) and the Resolution of the National Assembly (12 June 2025) concerning the reorganization of provincial-level administrative units. Accordingly, where appropriate, the analysis incorporates updated statistical data, assessments, and forecasts relating to the newly reorganized provinces and cities in the Red River Delta in order to formulate comprehensive and forward-looking policy recommendations.

3.2.3. Content Scope

The dissertation focuses on examining the theoretical foundations and assessing the current practice of innovating the leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Based on these analyses, it proposes strategic orientations and policy solutions intended to guide the continued innovation of Party leadership methods in the coming period.

4. Theoretical Framework, Practical Basis, and Research Methodology

4.1. Theoretical Framework

The dissertation is grounded in the theoretical foundations of Marxism–Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) regarding farmers and mass mobilization among the peasantry. These theoretical foundations provide the conceptual and methodological basis for examining the Party's leadership methods and their innovation in relation to the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

4.2. Practical Basis

The practical basis of the dissertation is derived from an examination of the process of innovating the leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union during the period from 2015 to June 2025. The study draws upon official documents, statistical data, field investigations, and practical experience accumulated throughout this period to evaluate achievements, identify existing limitations, and formulate policy recommendations.

4.3. Research Methodology

The dissertation adopts the methodological principles of Marxism–Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam as its overarching research methodology. In addition, it applies a systems approach to analyze the relationships among Party committees, the Vietnam Farmers' Union, and other actors within the political system.

To accomplish the research objectives, the dissertation employs the following research methods:

Analysis and synthesis, to examine theoretical and practical issues and to develop the analytical framework for the study;

Logical and historical methods, to analyze the evolution of the Party's leadership methods and their innovation within their historical and political contexts;

Statistical and comparative methods, to process empirical data, compare findings across provinces and time periods, and identify major trends;

Sociological survey methods, including questionnaire surveys and interviews, to collect empirical evidence and evaluate the effectiveness of leadership practices; and

Practical review (practice-based evaluation), to summarize practical experiences, identify successful models, and draw lessons for further innovation of Party leadership methods.

5. Original Scientific Contributions of the Dissertation

Based on a comprehensive assessment of current practice, the dissertation makes several original contributions to the existing body of knowledge.

First, it enriches and further develops the theoretical framework concerning the Party's leadership methods and the innovation of leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees toward socio-political organizations in general and the Vietnam Farmers' Union in particular.

Second, it clarifies the distinctive characteristics and developmental trends of the Party's leadership methods within the context of the socialist-oriented market economy, international integration, and digital transformation.

Third, it contributes to improving the research methodology on Party leadership methods by developing and systematizing a comprehensive analytical framework that may serve as a reference for future studies.

Fourth, through an empirical investigation conducted in the Red River Delta—one of Vietnam's most dynamic socio-economic regions—the dissertation provides systematic empirical evidence on the innovation of Party leadership methods toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Fifth, it proposes a coherent and feasible system of policy recommendations aimed at further innovating the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the new development context.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance

From a theoretical perspective, the dissertation contributes to clarifying and further developing the theoretical foundations of the Party's leadership methods and their innovation with respect to socio-political organizations, particularly the Vietnam Farmers' Union at the provincial level. It also provides additional theoretical arguments for improving the Party's leadership methods toward the political system under contemporary conditions.

From a practical perspective, the findings of the dissertation may serve as a valuable reference for Party committees in strengthening their leadership over the Vietnam Farmers' Union at different administrative levels, thereby enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the Union's activities. Furthermore, the dissertation may be used as a reference source for teaching, learning, and academic research at political academies, political schools, research institutions, and universities, particularly institutions specializing in farmer training and rural development.

7. Structure of the Dissertation

In addition to the Introduction, Conclusion, List of the Author's Publications Related to the Dissertation, References, and Appendices, the dissertation consists of four chapters comprising nine sections.

Chapter 1

LITERATURE REVIEW

1.1. International Studies

1.1.1. Studies on Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Development

Bergeret, P. (2005), *Farmers, the State and the Market in Vietnam: Ten Years of Agricultural Cooperation in the Red River Delta*; Zhai Weihua (2008), *Theory and Practice of China's Rural Reform and Development over the Past Thirty Years*; Do Tien Sam (2008), *Issues Concerning Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas in China*; Pheng Phavanh Daophoncharoen (2009), *Improving the Efficiency of State Investment in Rural Socio-economic Development in the Lao People's Democratic Republic*; Minot, N. (2009), *Contract Farming in Developing Countries: Patterns, Impact, and Policy Implications*, in *Case Studies in Food Policy for Developing Countries: Institutions and International Trade Policies; Proceedings of the Scientific Conference on Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas: Experiences from Vietnam and China* (2009); Miyata, S., Minot, N., & Hu, D. (2009), "Impact of Contract Farming on Income: Linking Small Farmers, Packers, and Supermarkets in China"; Xinxone Phounbounsy (2011), *The Rural Economy in the Lao People's Democratic Republic during the Renovation Period*; Le Xuan Cu (2015), *Selected Agricultural Policies of China and Their Implications for Vietnam*; Scoones, I., Mavedzenge, B., Murimbarimba, F., & Sukume, C. (2016), "Tobacco, Contract Farming, and Agrarian Change in Zimbabwe"; Nguyen Thi Vi (2020), *China's Agricultural Development Policies after WTO Accession: Lessons and Implications for Vietnam*; Ha Xuefeng (2021), *Rural Governance: A Study of Rural Governance Modernization in China*; Le Khanh Cuong (2022), *Sustainable Agricultural Development in Selected Countries and Implications for Vietnam*; Ochiai, M. (2022), *Rural Development in Japan*; Guo Shaohua (2022), *A Study of Farmers' Modernization from the Perspective of the Rural Revitalization Strategy*; Fu Cuilian (2022), *Farmers' Interests: Rural Governance from the Perspective of Modernizing Grassroots Governance Capacity*; Fang Yijiao (2023), "How Rural Infrastructure Construction Promotes Rural Economic Development through Rural Living Environment Management: A Case Study of 285 Cities in China"; Cao Jinqing (2024), *Farmers and Chinese Modernization*, *Chinese Social Sciences*, No. 10/2024; Khan, S. (2025), "The Novel Saemaul Undong Model: A Rural Transformation Paradigm for Developing Countries – A Review," *International Journal of Rural and Urban Development*, Vol. 1, Issue 1; Cai Xiaowei (2025), *Research on Farmers' Development in the Process of Modernization: A Marxist Perspective*.

1.1.2. Studies on Socio-political Organizations and Farmers' Associations

Savath, A. (2018), *The Lao Front for National Development and the Implementation of the Policy on Building United Families and Villages in Luang Prabang Province*; Wu Xiaoning (2019), *Consultative Mechanisms and Deliberative Practices of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference*; Xi Jinping (2019), *Speech at the Conference on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Ceremony Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the CPPCC*; Sengphachanh, S. (2021), *Inspection and Supervision Activities of the Lao Front for National Development during the Reform Period*.

1.1.3. Studies on Political Parties, Ruling Parties, and the Leadership of Farmers' Organizations

Bunthong Chitmaly (2010), *The Lao People's Revolutionary Party's Leadership in Building New Rural Areas*; Wemheuer, F. (2014), *Famine Politics in Maoist China and the Soviet Union*; Li Liangdong (2019), *Research on Reforming and Improving the Leadership and Governing Methods of the Communist Party of China* (Internal Reference Publication); Edelman, M. (2024), *Peasant Politics of the Twenty-First Century: Transnational Social Movements and Agrarian Change*.

1.2. Domestic Studies

1.2.1. Studies on Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Development

Nguyen Tu (2008), *The Impact of International Economic Integration on Vietnam's Agricultural Development*; Dang Kim Son (2008), *Vietnam's Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas: Present and Future*; Hoang Ngoc Hoa (2009), *Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas in the Process of Accelerating Industrialization and Modernization in Vietnam*; Nguyen Thi To Uyen (2013), *The Leadership of Provincial Party Committees in the Red River Delta in Accelerating Agricultural and Rural Industrialization and Modernization in the Current Period*; Vu Trong Khai (2015), *Agricultural and Rural Development in Contemporary Vietnam: Reflections and Perspectives*; Nguyen Thi Hoai and Nguyen Duc Luan (Co-editors) (2016), *The Impact of Ownership Reform on the Development of Productive Forces in Vietnam's Agricultural Sector*; Do Thi Thanh Loan (2016), *Transformation of the Agricultural Economic Structure in the Red River Delta in the Context of International Integration*; Le Cong Co, Doan Thu Ha, and Le Thanh Tung (2019), *Issues in Agricultural and Rural Development in Vietnam's Central Key Economic Region*; Pham Hien (2020), *Prospering through Agriculture in the Industry 4.0 Era*; Nguyen Thi To Quyen (2020), *Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas in Vietnam's New Economic Growth Model (2011–2020)*; Le Van Loi (2022), *Contemporary Issues in the Development of Agriculture, Farmers, and Rural Areas*

in Vietnam; Nguyen Thi Minh Tam (2026), *Promoting a Civilized and Happy Lifestyle among Farmers in the Red River Delta*.

1.2.2. Studies Related to the Vietnam Farmers' Union

Vu Ngoc Ky (2005), *Selected Issues on Agriculture, Rural Areas, Farmers, and the Vietnam Farmers' Union*; Nguyen Van Tam (2006), *Reforming the Organization and Operational Methods of the Vietnam Farmers' Union*; Bui Van Hung (2006), *Rural Industrialization in China during the Reform and Opening-up Period*; Nguyen Dinh Liem (2006), *Agricultural and Rural Industrialization and Modernization in Taiwan*; Nguyen The Thang (Principal Investigator) (2015), *The Alliance of the Working Class, the Peasantry, and the Intellectuals in Vietnam under Contemporary Conditions*; Thao Xuan Sung (2019), *The Vietnam Farmers' Union and the Development of Prosperous Agriculture, Affluent Farmers, and Modern, Civilized Rural Areas*.

1.2.3. Studies on the Party's Leadership and Leadership Methods toward the Vietnam Fatherland Front and Socio-political Organizations, Including the Vietnam Farmers' Union

Ngo Huy Tiep (2010), *The Leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam in Building the Peasantry in the Current Period*; Do Quang Tuan, Nguyen Van Hung, and Tran Hau (2006), *Innovating the Party's Leadership Methods toward the Vietnam Fatherland Front and Mass Organizations in the New Era*; Tran Khac Viet, Pham Tat Thang, and Nguyen Van Giang (2015), *Continuing to Innovate the Party's Leadership Methods toward the State, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and Socio-political Organizations under New Conditions: Theoretical and Practical Issues*; Bui Dinh Bon (2017), *Innovating the Leadership Methods of the Communist Party of Vietnam toward the Political System in the Current Period*; Tran Hau (2022), *Innovating the Party's Leadership Methods toward the Vietnam Fatherland Front*; Le Tien Chau and Nguyen Van Hanh (2022), *Selected Issues on Innovating the Party's Leadership Methods toward the Vietnam Fatherland Front and Socio-political Organizations*; Nguyen Minh Tuan (2025), *Innovating the Party's Leadership and Governing Methods under Contemporary Conditions*.

1.3. Overview of Previous Research Findings and Research Gaps Addressed by the Dissertation

1.3.1. Overview of Previous Research Findings

First, issues relating to agriculture, farmers, and rural development have attracted extensive scholarly attention in both domestic and international research. Existing studies have provided valuable theoretical perspectives and practical

evidence on agricultural development, rural transformation, and the evolving role of farmers in socio-economic development.

Second, a considerable number of studies have examined the Vietnam Farmers' Union, focusing on organizational development, institutional reform, enhancement of operational effectiveness, and innovation in fulfilling its functions and responsibilities under changing socio-economic conditions.

Third, many studies have explored the Party's leadership methods in the economic sphere, particularly its leadership over agriculture and rural development, as well as its leadership toward the Vietnam Fatherland Front and other socio-political organizations, including the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Fourth, despite these valuable contributions, research specifically addressing the innovation of the Party's leadership methods remains relatively limited. To date, no comprehensive study has systematically examined the innovation of the leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

1.3.2. Research Issues Addressed by the Dissertation

Building upon previous studies while addressing the identified research gaps, the dissertation focuses on three major issues.

First, it clarifies the concept, theoretical foundations, and principal dimensions of innovating the leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Second, it provides a comprehensive assessment of the current state of innovation in Party leadership methods by analyzing achievements, shortcomings, underlying causes, and practical experiences accumulated during the implementation process.

Third, it examines the major factors likely to influence future innovation, identifies strategic orientations, and proposes a system of feasible solutions to further innovate the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the coming period.

Chapter 2

INNOVATING THE LEADERSHIP METHODS OF PROVINCIAL-LEVEL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA TOWARD THE VIETNAM FARMERS' UNION: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ISSUES

2.1. Provinces, Provincial Party Organizations, Provincial-level Party Committees, and Provincial Farmers' Unions in the Red River Delta

2.1.1. An Overview of the Red River Delta

The **Red River Delta (RRD)** is the alluvial plain formed by the Red River and the Thai Binh River systems in northern Vietnam. It constitutes one of the country's most important political, economic, cultural, and social regions. Prior to the recent administrative reorganization, the region comprised eleven provinces and centrally governed municipalities. Following the restructuring of provincial-level administrative units, the Red River Delta now consists of six centrally administered provinces and municipalities: Hanoi, Hai Phong, Bac Ninh, Hung Yen, Quang Ninh, and Ninh Binh.

2.1.2. Provincial Party Organizations in the Red River Delta

Before 1 July 2025, the Red River Delta consisted of eleven provincial Party organizations, including nine provincial Party organizations and two municipal Party organizations directly under the Central Government, namely those of Hanoi and Hai Phong.

The two municipal Party organizations comprised 85 subordinate Party organizations, with 4,427 grassroots Party organizations and 608,455 Party members. The nine provincial Party organizations included 124 subordinate Party organizations, consisting of 79 city-, district-, and town-level Party organizations and 45 sectoral or equivalent Party organizations, together with 6,097 grassroots Party organizations and 627,649 Party members.

2.1.3. Provincial-level Party Committees in the Red River Delta: Concept, Organizational Structure, Functions, Responsibilities, Roles, and Characteristics

2.1.3.1. Concept of Provincial-level Party Committees

A provincial-level Party committee (i.e., the Executive Committee of a provincial or municipal Party organization) in the Red River Delta is the leading body of the Party organization between Party congresses. It is elected by the provincial or municipal Party Congress in accordance with Party regulations and operates under the organizational principle of collective leadership combined with individual responsibility.

2.1.3.2. Functions of Provincial-level Party Committees

Provincial-level Party committees perform three principal functions: exercising comprehensive political leadership within their respective localities; directing the implementation of the Party's guidelines and policies and the State's laws and regulations; advising and making policy recommendations to the Party Central Committee on issues concerning local development and governance.

2.1.3.3. Roles of Provincial-level Party Committees

Provincial-level Party committees play several essential roles.

First, they are the key political actors responsible for translating the Party's guidelines and the State's policies and laws into practical outcomes in socio-economic development, national defense, security, and external relations within their respective provinces and municipalities.

Second, they make significant contributions to implementing Party resolutions on Party building and political system development, thereby strengthening provincial Party organizations and enhancing their governing capacity.

Third, through policy proposals and recommendations submitted to the Politburo and the Secretariat, provincial Party committees provide important practical input for improving the Party's national leadership.

Fourth, because the Red River Delta hosts numerous central government agencies, leading universities, research institutions, and a highly qualified workforce, provincial Party committees in the region occupy a particularly strategic position within Vietnam's political system.

2.1.3.4. Characteristics of Provincial-level Party Committees

Provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta possess several distinctive characteristics.

First, they inherit a long-standing revolutionary tradition established by generations of Party members, cadres, and local people throughout Vietnam's revolutionary history.

Second, compared with many other regions of the country, members of provincial Party committees generally possess relatively high levels of political competence, professional qualifications, and leadership capacity.

Third, after nearly four decades of the *Đổi Mới* (Renovation) process, these Party committees have accumulated extensive experience in directing local socio-economic development.

Fourth, as the Red River Delta remains one of Vietnam's fastest-growing and most dynamic regions, provincial Party committees face increasingly demanding requirements with respect to strategic vision, governance capacity, and leadership effectiveness.

2.1.3.5. Standing Committees of Provincial-level Party Committees Concept

The Standing Committee of a provincial-level Party committee is elected by the provincial Party committee from among its members in accordance with Party regulations. It serves as the permanent leadership body between plenary meetings of the provincial Party committee and operates under the principle of collective leadership combined with individual responsibility.

Functions, Responsibilities, and Authority

The Standing Committee exercises the authority delegated by the provincial Party committee, directs the implementation of Party resolutions, oversees major political tasks, and decides urgent matters arising between plenary sessions in accordance with Party regulations.

Roles

The Standing Committee performs several indispensable roles.

First, it ensures the effective implementation of resolutions adopted by provincial Party congresses and decisions issued by provincial Party committees.

Second, it guarantees the continuity, consistency, and effectiveness of Party leadership between meetings of the provincial Party committee and throughout each Party term.

Third, it plays a decisive role in directing Party inspection, supervision, and disciplinary work, thereby strengthening Party discipline and organizational integrity.

Fourth, it is responsible for organizational restructuring, institutional reform, and cadre management, contributing to the development of a streamlined, efficient, and effective political system and a contingent of capable and reputable officials.

Fifth, through practical experience and policy recommendations, the Standing Committee contributes to the refinement of the Party's guidelines and the State's legal and policy framework.

2.1.4. Provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions in the Red River Delta: Concept, Functions, Responsibilities, Roles, and Characteristics

2.1.4.1. Concepts of Farmers and Provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions

In Vietnam, farmers are individuals who primarily reside in rural areas and earn their livelihoods mainly from agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and other rural economic activities, predominantly through household-based production.

A provincial Vietnam Farmers' Union is a socio-political organization of the peasantry operating under the Vietnam Farmers' Union. It is subject to the leadership of the provincial-level Party committee, serves as a political foundation of the local government, and is a member organization of the provincial-level Vietnam Fatherland Front.

2.1.4.2. Functions of the Vietnam Farmers' Union

The Vietnam Farmers' Union performs three principal functions.

First, it mobilizes, educates, and supports farmers in enhancing their political awareness, professional knowledge, and capacity while encouraging them to exercise democratic rights and actively participate in socio-economic development.

Second, it represents and protects the legitimate rights and interests of its members and farmers through advisory, support, and service activities related to production, business, and rural livelihoods.

Third, it represents the peasantry in participating in Party building, State governance, and the strengthening of the great national solidarity bloc.

2.1.4.3. Responsibilities of Provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions

The principal responsibilities of provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions include: disseminating and mobilizing the implementation of the Party's guidelines, the State's laws and policies, and the Union's resolutions; organizing and leading farmers' movements in socio-economic development, national defense, security, and the New Rural Development Program; improving the material and spiritual well-being of farmers; expanding Union membership and improving membership quality; participating in Party building and local government development; and promoting international cooperation, external relations, technology transfer, experience sharing, and the promotion of Vietnamese agricultural products and culture internationally.

2.1.4.4. Roles of Provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions

Provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions play a central role in organizing farmers' movements and implementing socio-economic development programs, particularly those related to the New Rural Development Program.

They guide farmers in restructuring agricultural production, diversifying rural livelihoods, promoting agricultural cooperatives, and improving the efficient utilization of land and natural resources.

The Union also encourages farmers to participate actively in grassroots governance, community self-management, and the implementation of democratic regulations in rural areas, thereby contributing to sustainable rural development and strengthening grassroots democracy.

2.2. Leadership Methods and the Innovation of Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union

2.2.1. Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the Red River Delta: Concept and Principal Contents

2.2.1.1. Concept

The Party's leadership methods refer to the forms, mechanisms, procedures, regulations, working styles, and modes of leadership employed by the Communist Party of Vietnam to exercise its leadership over the State, the Vietnam Fatherland

Front, socio-political organizations, social organizations, and the people, with the aim of implementing the Party's Political Platform, guidelines, resolutions, and the State's laws and policies.

Accordingly, the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union refer to the institutional arrangements, forms, mechanisms, procedures, regulations, and leadership practices through which provincial-level Party committees exercise political leadership over the organization and operation of provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions, thereby enabling the Union to effectively fulfill its political functions, responsibilities, and statutory duties.

2.2.1.2. Principal Leadership Methods Employed by Provincial-level Party Committees

Provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta exercise their leadership over the Vietnam Farmers' Union primarily through the following methods.

First, they provide leadership through Party resolutions, action programs, strategic orientations, and major policy directives concerning the activities of the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Second, they exercise leadership by promoting the role of provincial governments, creating favorable institutional conditions, and strengthening coordination between local authorities and the Vietnam Farmers' Union in implementing the Union's assigned responsibilities.

Third, they provide leadership through Party organizations and Party members working within the Vietnam Farmers' Union, ensuring that Party organizations effectively perform their political and organizational functions.

Fourth, they exercise leadership through organizational and personnel work, including cadre planning, appointment, introduction, and recommendation of qualified personnel for leadership positions within the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Fifth, they lead through political communication, ideological education, persuasion, and public mobilization directed toward the Union's organizations and members.

Sixth, they exercise leadership through Party inspection and supervision over Party organizations and Party members working within the Vietnam Farmers' Union, thereby ensuring compliance with Party principles, regulations, and political objectives.

2.2.2. Innovation of the Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the Red River Delta: Concept, Contents, and Significance

2.2.2.1. Concept

The innovation of the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union refers to the process through which provincial-level Party committees modify, improve, and modernize their leadership methods in order to enhance the effectiveness of Party leadership over the organization and operation of the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Such innovation is directed toward making leadership methods more scientific, practical, efficient, and responsive to the requirements of the new development context, thereby enabling the Union to fulfill its political mission more effectively.

2.2.2.2. Principal Contents of Leadership Innovation

The innovation of leadership methods encompasses several major dimensions. First, improving the quality of formulating, promulgating, organizing, and implementing resolutions, directives, action programs, and policy decisions issued by provincial Party committees, their Standing Committees, and their executive leadership in relation to the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Second, strengthening the role of provincial governments in coordinating with and providing institutional support for the Vietnam Farmers' Union through clearer working regulations and more effective mechanisms of cooperation.

Third, innovating organizational and personnel leadership in order to improve the quality and effectiveness of the Union's organizational structure and cadre work, with emphasis on institutional streamlining, organizational restructuring, and the development of a contingent of competent, ethical, and professional officials.

Fourth, improving the quality and effectiveness of Party organizations and Party members within the Vietnam Farmers' Union so as to enhance their political leadership capacity and organizational effectiveness.

Fifth, renewing approaches to political communication, ideological education, and persuasion in order to improve the effectiveness of mobilizing Union members and farmers under changing socio-economic conditions.

Sixth, enhancing the quality of inspection and supervision conducted by provincial Party committees and their Standing Committees over Party organizations and Party members within the Vietnam Farmers' Union, particularly with regard to the implementation of Party guidelines, State laws and policies, and provincial policies relating to agriculture, farmers, rural development, and the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

2.2.2.3. Significance of Innovating Leadership Methods

The innovation of leadership methods employed by provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union has both theoretical and practical significance.

First, it constitutes an essential condition for strengthening the Party's leadership and governing capacity, enabling provincial Party organizations to enhance their political leadership, organizational effectiveness, and combat capacity in response to the demands of local development during the new stage of national development.

Second, it serves as an important driving force for improving the role and performance of provincial Vietnam Farmers' Unions, thereby enabling them to fulfill their political functions and statutory responsibilities more effectively.

Third, it contributes directly to the successful implementation of the political tasks assigned to provincial Party organizations, particularly those relating to agricultural development, rural modernization, and sustainable socio-economic development.

Fourth, by improving the effectiveness, transparency, and responsiveness of Party leadership, the innovation of leadership methods strengthens farmers' confidence in both the Vietnam Farmers' Union and the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, thereby reinforcing political consensus and social cohesion in rural areas.

Chapter 3

INNOVATING THE LEADERSHIP METHODS OF PROVINCIAL-LEVEL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA TOWARD THE VIETNAM FARMERS' UNION: CURRENT SITUATION, CAUSES, AND LESSONS LEARNED

3.1. Current Situation of the Innovation of Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees in the Red River Delta toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union

3.1.1. Major Achievements

The empirical findings indicate that provincial-level Party committees in the Red River Delta have achieved significant progress in innovating their leadership methods toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

First, provincial-level Party committees have continuously improved the quality of formulating, promulgating, and implementing Party resolutions and directives relating to agriculture, farmers, rural development, and the Vietnam Farmers' Union. These policy documents have provided an increasingly coherent

political framework for strengthening the Union's activities and fulfilling its assigned responsibilities.

Second, provincial-level Party committees have strengthened the role of provincial governments in supporting and coordinating with the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Leadership practices have gradually shifted toward greater institutionalization, clearer division of responsibilities, and closer adherence to established working regulations, thereby improving both effectiveness and administrative efficiency.

Third, considerable attention has been devoted to innovating organizational and personnel work within the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Provincial Party committees have promoted organizational restructuring in line with the objective of building a streamlined organizational apparatus while simultaneously strengthening the political integrity, professional competence, and leadership capacity of Union officials.

Fourth, Party committees have enhanced the leadership role of Party organizations operating within the Vietnam Farmers' Union and have placed greater emphasis on the exemplary responsibility of Party members and officials, thereby improving political discipline and organizational cohesion.

Fifth, political communication, ideological education, and public mobilization have been substantially renewed. These efforts have contributed to strengthening farmers' confidence in the Party and the Vietnam Farmers' Union, enhancing political awareness, and encouraging the active participation of farmers in patriotic emulation movements and local socio-economic development programs.

Sixth, provincial-level Party committees and their Standing Committees have improved the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of Party inspection and supervision over Party organizations and Party members within the Vietnam Farmers' Union, particularly regarding the implementation of Party guidelines, State laws and policies, and provincial policies concerning agriculture, farmers, rural development, and the Union itself.

3.1.2. Existing Limitations

Despite these achievements, several limitations remain in the innovation of leadership methods.

First, in some localities, the formulation, promulgation, and implementation of Party resolutions aimed at improving the quality and effectiveness of the Vietnam Farmers' Union have not always been timely or sufficiently responsive to emerging practical requirements.

Second, certain provincial-level Party committees have been slow in renewing their leadership style, working methods, and administrative practices in directing the activities of the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Third, although organizational and personnel reforms have been implemented, improvements in the organizational structure and cadre work of the Vietnam Farmers' Union have not consistently met the demands of rapidly changing socio-economic conditions.

Fourth, the leadership exercised in strengthening Party organizations and promoting the exemplary role of Party members within some provincial Farmers' Union organizations has not always produced the expected outcomes.

Fifth, in several provinces, insufficient attention has been devoted to improving the quality of Party inspection and supervision over Party organizations and Party members responsible for implementing Party guidelines, State laws and policies, and provincial policies relating to farmers and the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

3.2. Causes and Lessons Learned

3.2.1. Causes

3.2.1.1. Factors Contributing to the Achievements

Several factors have contributed to the positive outcomes identified above.

First, provincial and municipal Party committees in the Red River Delta have developed a sound awareness of the necessity of renewing Party leadership in general and innovating leadership methods toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in particular.

Second, the achievements of Vietnam's *Đổi Mới* (Renovation) process, especially sustained socio-economic development, have created favorable political, institutional, and material conditions for improving Party leadership methods.

Third, the political competence, professional qualifications, and leadership capacity of provincial Party committee members, members of Standing Committees, and advisory officials responsible for the Vietnam Farmers' Union have gradually improved.

Fourth, increasingly effective coordination among organizations within the political system has strengthened the implementation of leadership innovation and enhanced the overall effectiveness of Party leadership toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

3.2.1.2. Factors Contributing to the Limitations

Several factors have constrained the effectiveness of leadership innovation.

First, the awareness of some Party members, officials, and Party committees regarding the position and role of the Vietnam Farmers' Union, as well as the necessity of innovating Party leadership methods, remains insufficient.

Second, leadership styles, working methods, and coordination mechanisms among actors within the political system have, in some localities, been slow to adapt to new governance requirements.

Third, organizational restructuring, cadre development, and the provision of institutional and operational resources for the Vietnam Farmers' Union have not always kept pace with the demands of organizational reform.

Fourth, political communication, public mobilization, inspection, supervision, and the systematic review of practical experience have, in certain respects, lagged behind the requirements of leadership innovation.

Fifth, rapid changes associated with digital transformation, international integration, socio-economic restructuring, and sustainable development have generated new challenges that exceed the adaptive capacity of some provincial Party committees and Farmers' Union organizations.

3.2.2. Lessons Learned from the Innovation of Leadership Methods

The empirical findings suggest several important lessons for further innovating the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

First, it is essential to continuously strengthen the awareness and political responsibility of Party committees and Party organizations regarding the strategic role of the Vietnam Farmers' Union and the necessity of innovating Party leadership methods.

Second, effective Party leadership should be ensured through a coherent system of Party resolutions, action programs, implementation plans, and well-defined coordination mechanisms among organizations within the political system.

Third, innovation in Party leadership methods should be closely integrated with reforms in the organizational structure, operational methods, and substantive activities of the Vietnam Farmers' Union in order to maximize organizational effectiveness.

Fourth, sustained attention should be devoted to developing a contingent of competent, ethical, and professional Union officials while continuously improving cadre work as one of the Party's most important instruments of political leadership.

Fifth, regular inspection, supervision, preliminary reviews, comprehensive evaluations, and the systematic synthesis of practical experience are indispensable

for continuously improving and refining the Party's leadership methods in response to evolving political and socio-economic conditions.

Chapter 4

ORIENTATIONS AND SOLUTIONS FOR FURTHER INNOVATING THE LEADERSHIP METHODS OF PROVINCIAL-LEVEL PARTY COMMITTEES IN THE RED RIVER DELTA TOWARD THE VIETNAM FARMERS' UNION

4.1. Forecasts and Strategic Orientations for Further Innovating the Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union

4.1.1. Forecast of Favorable Conditions and Challenges

4.1.1.1. Favorable Conditions

Several factors are expected to create favorable conditions for the continued innovation of the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

First, Vietnam's continued socio-economic development in the context of industrialization, modernization, digital transformation, and international integration will provide a favorable institutional and developmental environment for improving Party leadership over the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the Red River Delta.

Second, the Party's guidelines and policies concerning agriculture, farmers, and rural development are expected to be further refined, thereby providing a stronger political and institutional foundation for the continued innovation of Party leadership methods.

Third, the ongoing process of Party building, Party rectification, and the comprehensive renewal of the Party's leadership methods will serve as a direct driving force for further innovation by provincial-level Party committees.

Fourth, the continued organizational development of the Vietnam Farmers' Union, together with the increasing educational level, political awareness, and professional capacity of Vietnamese farmers, will create favorable conditions for improving leadership effectiveness.

Fifth, the ongoing restructuring and streamlining of the political system will provide new opportunities to improve organizational coordination, institutional efficiency, and the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

4.1.1.2. Challenges

Alongside these favorable conditions, several emerging challenges are expected to influence the process of leadership innovation.

First, the adverse impacts associated with industrialization, modernization, urbanization, digital transformation, and international integration will place increasingly higher demands on the leadership capacity and governance effectiveness of provincial-level Party committees.

Second, the strategic objective of developing ecological agriculture, modern rural areas, and civilized farmers will require the Vietnam Farmers' Union to undertake new responsibilities, thereby necessitating corresponding innovations in Party leadership methods.

Third, the continued restructuring and streamlining of the political system, together with reforms in the organization and operation of socio-political organizations, will create new institutional challenges for Party leadership toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

Fourth, the leadership capacity, professional competence, and innovative thinking of some Party committees, Party organizations, and Union officials have yet to fully meet the requirements of the new development context.

Fifth, the growing demand for socialist democracy, stronger social supervision and social criticism, and greater protection of farmers' democratic rights will require provincial-level Party committees to further improve their leadership capacity and governance effectiveness.

4.1.2. Strategic Orientations for Further Innovating Leadership Methods

Several strategic orientations should guide the continued innovation of Party leadership toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

First, leadership innovation should contribute to promoting sustainable agricultural development, improving the material and spiritual well-being of farmers, and accelerating rural modernization and new-style rural development.

Second, innovation in Party leadership methods should be closely linked with strengthening Party building and Party rectification, thereby enhancing the Party's governing capacity, leadership effectiveness, and political legitimacy.

Third, Party leadership should be renewed in ways that encourage the initiative, creativity, and autonomy of the Vietnam Farmers' Union while minimizing bureaucratic practices and administrative dependence.

Fourth, it is necessary to improve working regulations and coordination mechanisms among the Vietnam Fatherland Front, socio-political organizations, and the Vietnam Farmers' Union in order to strengthen coordination across the political system and maximize its collective effectiveness.

4.2. Major Solutions for Further Innovating the Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union

4.2.1. Continue improving political awareness, leadership responsibility, and innovative leadership thinking among provincial-level Party committees, their Standing Committees, the Vietnam Farmers' Union, and especially leading officials, regarding the necessity of innovating the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

4.2.2. Continue improving the quality of formulating, promulgating, organizing, and implementing Party resolutions and policy documents concerning agriculture, farmers, rural development, and the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

4.2.3. Provincial-level Party committees, particularly their Standing Committees, should continue innovating political communication, public mobilization, and farmer engagement while enhancing the effectiveness of the Vietnam Farmers' Union's patriotic emulation movements and revolutionary action campaigns.

4.2.4. Continue strengthening Party leadership over the organizational structure and cadre work of the Vietnam Farmers' Union to ensure that its institutional capacity and human resources meet the requirements of the new stage of national development.

4.2.5. Continue strengthening Party leadership and direction in building clean, strong, and politically capable Party organizations within the Vietnam Farmers' Union while promoting the exemplary role and political responsibility of Party members.

4.2.6. Continue improving the quality and effectiveness of inspection and supervision conducted by provincial-level Party committees and their Standing Committees over Party organizations and Party members in implementing the functions and responsibilities of the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

4.2.7. Fundamentally renew the leadership style, working methods, and administrative practices of provincial-level Party committees while further improving and strictly implementing working regulations governing relations between Party committees and the Vietnam Farmers' Union.

CONCLUSION

Innovating the Party's leadership methods toward socio-political organizations is an objective requirement for enhancing the Party's leadership capacity, governing capacity, and the effectiveness of the political system. Based on the theoretical foundations of Marxism–Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thought, and the viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam, this dissertation has developed a theoretical framework for the innovation of the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union. It has clarified the

concept, characteristics, roles, principal contents, evaluation criteria, and influencing factors of this process.

The empirical findings from the Red River Delta indicate that provincial-level Party committees have made substantial progress in renewing their leadership methods through improvements in policy formulation and implementation, cadre work, political communication and public mobilization, inspection and supervision, and coordination mechanisms. These innovations have contributed significantly to enhancing the organizational effectiveness and operational performance of the Vietnam Farmers' Union. Nevertheless, the process of leadership innovation continues to face several limitations, including insufficient institutional coherence, uneven coordination quality, constraints in organizational resources, and the incomplete promotion of the Union's initiative and autonomy.

Drawing upon both theoretical analysis and empirical evidence, the dissertation proposes strategic orientations together with a comprehensive system of feasible solutions to further innovate the leadership methods of provincial-level Party committees toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the context of accelerating industrialization, modernization, digital transformation, and international integration. The findings of this study contribute to the further development of the theoretical understanding of the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership methods while providing scientific and practical foundations for the continued innovation of Party leadership toward the Vietnam Farmers' Union in the new stage of national development.

**LIST OF THE AUTHOR'S PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO THE
DISSERTATION**

1. **Nguyen Quoc Trung** (2026), *Building a Strong and Comprehensive Hanoi Farmers' Union as a Key Actor in Agricultural Economic Development and New Rural Development*, Communist Review, published on April 10, 2025.
2. **Nguyen Quoc Trung** (2026), *Innovating the Leadership Methods of Provincial-level Party Committees in the Red River Delta: A Driving Force for the Development of the Vietnam Farmers' Union and Sustainable Agriculture*, Communist Review, published on June 10, 2025.