

**DYNAMISM OF LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE:  
A CASE STUDY OF A MUONG COMMUNITY  
IN NORTHERN VIETNAM**

**NGUYEN THI DIEN**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN  
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ARTS  
IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**


**GRADUATE SCHOOL  
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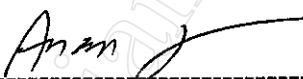
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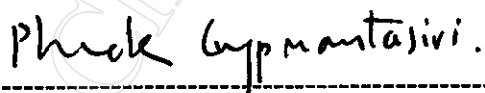
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**EXAMINING COMMITTEE:**

  
----- CHAIRMAN  
Professor Dr. Yos Santasombat

  
----- MEMBER  
Lecturer Dr. Anan Ganjanapan

  
----- MEMBER  
Lecturer. Phrek Gypmantasiri

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It was a summer day in 1985, when I was a pupil at the age of 11, I got a opportunity to visit Hoa Binh by my excellent study results at secondary school. When the first mountain lines appeared along the road to Hoa Binh, the groups of people who dress in their traditional costumes attract my eyes. They strong impress me, a rural child at her first time out off her village. I was told that they are Muong peoples. That trip to Hoa Binh also was my first chance to see how big the biggest dam in Southeast Asia is. “ It is in construction process. The hillsides are cut to fill in the river. From the mountain, I saw the vans, they just like the moving match boxes on the river and the workers there just like the moving matches”. I told my parents, my siblings and my friends about Hoa Binh Dam like that. I have interested in Muong people and Hoa Binh since that day. I am getting known Muong peoples, the dam and Hoa Binh thank for the stories of my friend in university and the trips to visit her family in Hoa Binh. The image of Muong people, the dam and Hoa Binh impose me to this thesis.

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