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Rural investment climate and business activities of agro-enterprise: Evidence from northern area of Vietnam

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論文内容の要旨

Vietnam has reformed its economy that known as "Doi Moi" since 1986 and enhanced a reasonable level of macro-economic stability over the past twenty-five years. It is now focusing on issues of competitiveness and productivity through micro-economic reform programs. Although reforming the economy following the trend of reducing density of agriculture in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Vietnam is still the country depending on agriculture heavily. However, investment on agriculture is not adequate to its contribution to GDP and creating jobs. Consequently, agricultural development has not shown sustainable and complete progress with small scale and low productivity.

This dissertation is considered a contribution to improving rural investment climate and promoting growth of agro-enterprises. Firstly, it assesses the situation of rural investment climate in Northern area of Vietnam, and then, examines the impacts of rural investment climate factors on business activities of agro-enterprise.

Objectives of the dissertation are (1) to collect evidences of rural investment climate factors, indicators of firm's business activities, and relationship between rural investment climate and business activities of enterprise, (2) to describe the situation of rural investment climate in Northern area of Vietnam and analyze the

Government's efforts to create an enabling rural investment climate, (3) to examine impact of rural

investment climate factors on business activities of agro-enterprise for both indicators of total factor productivity and investment decisions, and (4) to suggest implications that can contribute to improve rural investment climate and promote growth of agroenterprises.

In terms of structure, the dissertation has seven chapters. The dissertation begins by defining the research problem with research questions, objectives and providing the originality and significance of the research study. Chapter one also reviews the research background, and presents summary of method, conceptual framework, scope and limitation of the study. Chapter two reviews extant literature related to relationship between rural investment climate and business activities of enterprises. Theoretical framework of the research study is also developed in this chapter. Chapter three provides a description of characteristics of Northern area of Vietnam and a summary statistics of the observations.

Data analysis and findings are presented in chapters four, five and six. Chapter four presents the situation of rural investment climate in Northern area of Vietnam by understanding the constraints of rural investment climate and discussing on the Government's efforts to remove these constraints. Chapter five examines the relationship between rural investment climate and agro-enterprise performance in Northern area of Vietnam. This examination empha-

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sizes the impact of rural investment climate factors on total factor productivity of agro-enterprise. Chapter six presents descriptive findings of the research study related to measuring the influence of rural investment climate factors on agro-enterprise's investment decisions which include decision to invest and level of investment made. Finally, the dissertation ends with chapter seven where conclusions drawn from data analysis and implications of the research study are respectively summarized and presented.

The dissertation provides descriptive findings of the situation of rural investment climate that are somewhat reflected by identification of rural investment climate constraints and how to remove these constraints. In addition, the dissertation demonstrates the impact of rural investment climate factors on business activities of agro-enterprise which are indicated by total factor productivity and investment decisions.

As a consequence of the research findings, this research study provides many implications including the policy implications and implications for the further research. Firstly, implications are mentioned in policy recommendations for the Government to remove constraints towards enabling rural investment climate and for the agro-enterprises to improve their capability and building strategies. The implications for the further research are suggested.

審査報告概要

地方に立地する農企業にとって、農村の投資環境が企業の事業成果を大きく左右することは広く認められている。本研究は、ベトナム北部4州の農村で事業を展開している農企業を調査対象にして、農村投資環境と農企業の事業活動の関係について実証的に明らかにし、農企業が事業成果を向上させるために、農村の投資環境をどのように整備していくべきかを政策提言するという、すぐれて実践的な内容である。本研究では、①近年政府が農村投資環境の整備にあたって強化してきた事項、②農企業の事業成果に対する農村投資環境のインパクト評価(全要素生産性の計測による)、③農企業の投資決定に対する農村投資環境の影響について、計量モデルを用いて明らかにした。その結果、農村投資環境の制約要因とし

て、土地と金融へのアクセス、行政上の諸手続き、農村 インフラ、税制、労働力人材の熟練と教育が導出され た。しかしながら、現実には、土地へのアクセスが複雑 であること、金融へのアクセスもまた困難であることが 指摘された。とはいえ、農村投資環境の整備は、農企業 の成長と発展にとって不可避であることから、政府への いくつかの政策提言がなされた。本研究は、依然として 農業を主体とするベトナム経済の発展にとって重要な核 心をなす農村投資環境の整備に焦点をあてたものであ り、その成果はきわめて斬新であり、政策的な意義が大 きい。

よって、審査員一同は博士(会計学)の学位を授与する価値があると判断した。