



# **Eco-friendly house** with compressed stabilized earth blocks

Nguyen Trung Hieu, Pham Xuan Dat, Nguyen Van Tuan, Nguyen Cong Thang  
Pham Thi Hai Ha, Nguyen Duy Thanh, Nguyen Tien Dung  
Hanoi University of Civil Engineering, Vietnam

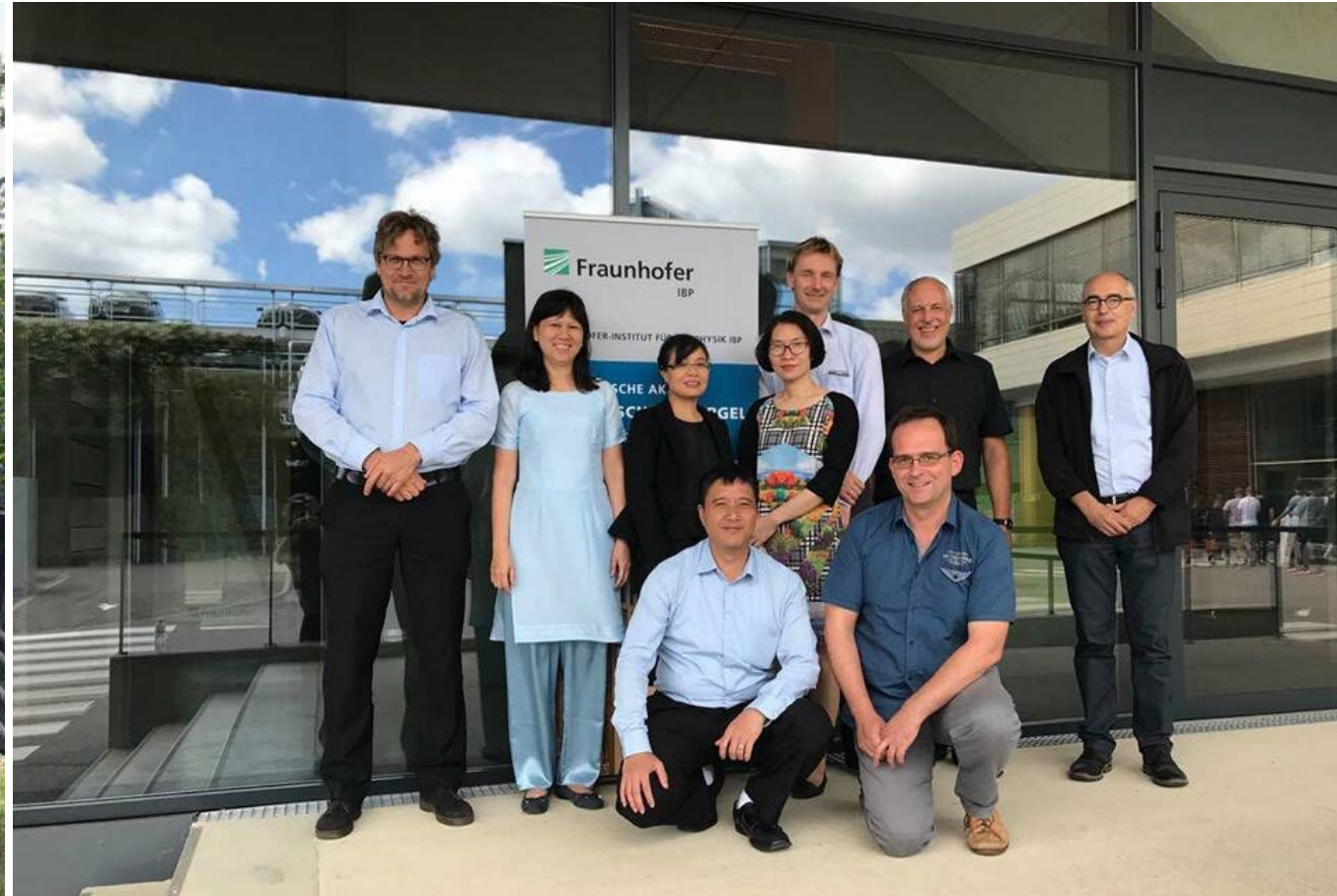


# Inspiration

**CAMaRSEC** project (2019-2023)



**ReBuMat** project (2020-2024)





# Inspiration

IFC



MoC





# Inspiration



UNDP





# Inspiration

VNCC



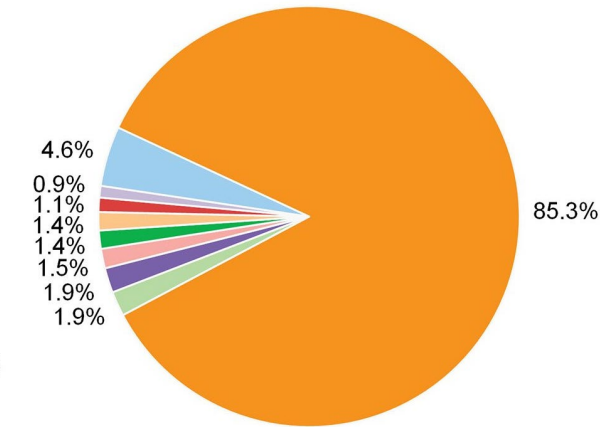


# Inspiration

Lubeck Uni.







14.119.256 people (2019)

20.8% unstable or simple house

7.037.246 (Northern Midland & Mountainous)



# Inspiration

In many difficult areas of the Northern mountainous region, people's houses are dilapidated and temporary



Tân Minh, Đà Bắc (2022)



Tân Minh, Đà Bắc (2022)



Hòa An, Cao Bằng (2022)



Đồng Văn, Hà Giang (2021)



Mường Tè, Lai Châu (2021)



Mường Tè, Lai Châu (2021)



# Inspiration

Difficulties in transporting materials is one of the reasons limiting people's housing construction





In addition to solutions to support housing construction costs, using on-site materials (non-fired clay bricks) in house construction overcomes difficulties in transporting materials, taking advantage of available materials is the basis for building houses for the poor



Hill land (no farming features) is very abundant



Palm leaves are used for roofing...



Bamboo supports the palm roof



# Ideas and Implementation

Survey



H'Mông

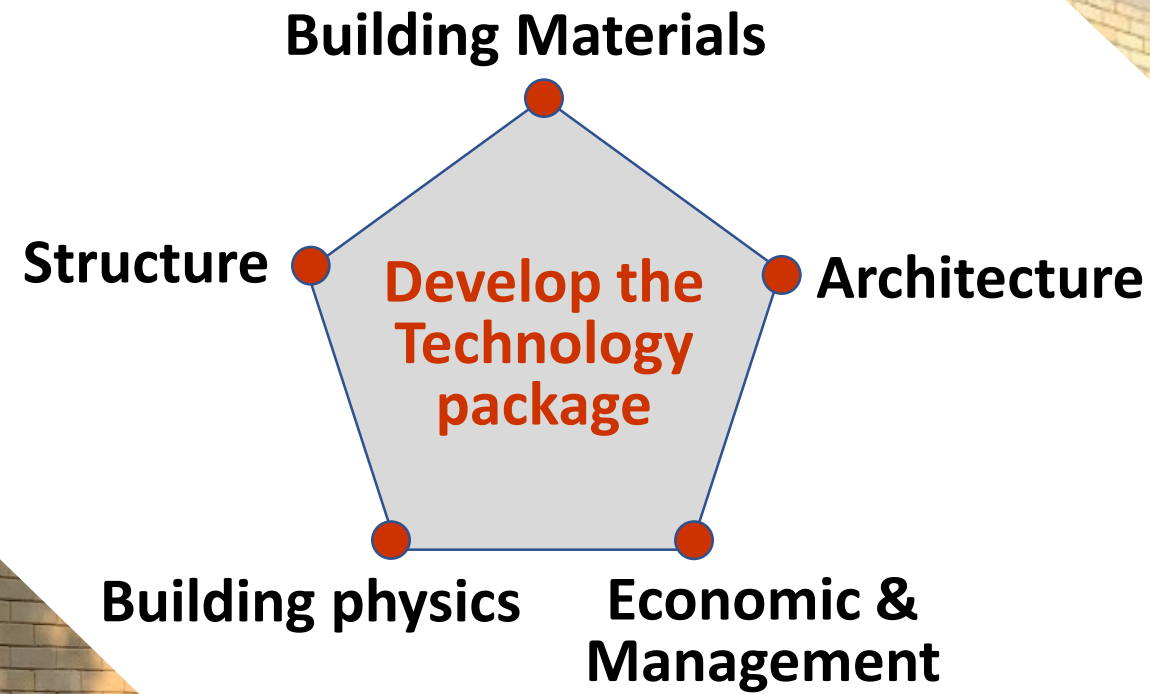
Thái, Tày





# Ideas and Implementation

Develop the Technology Package to build the house for the poor



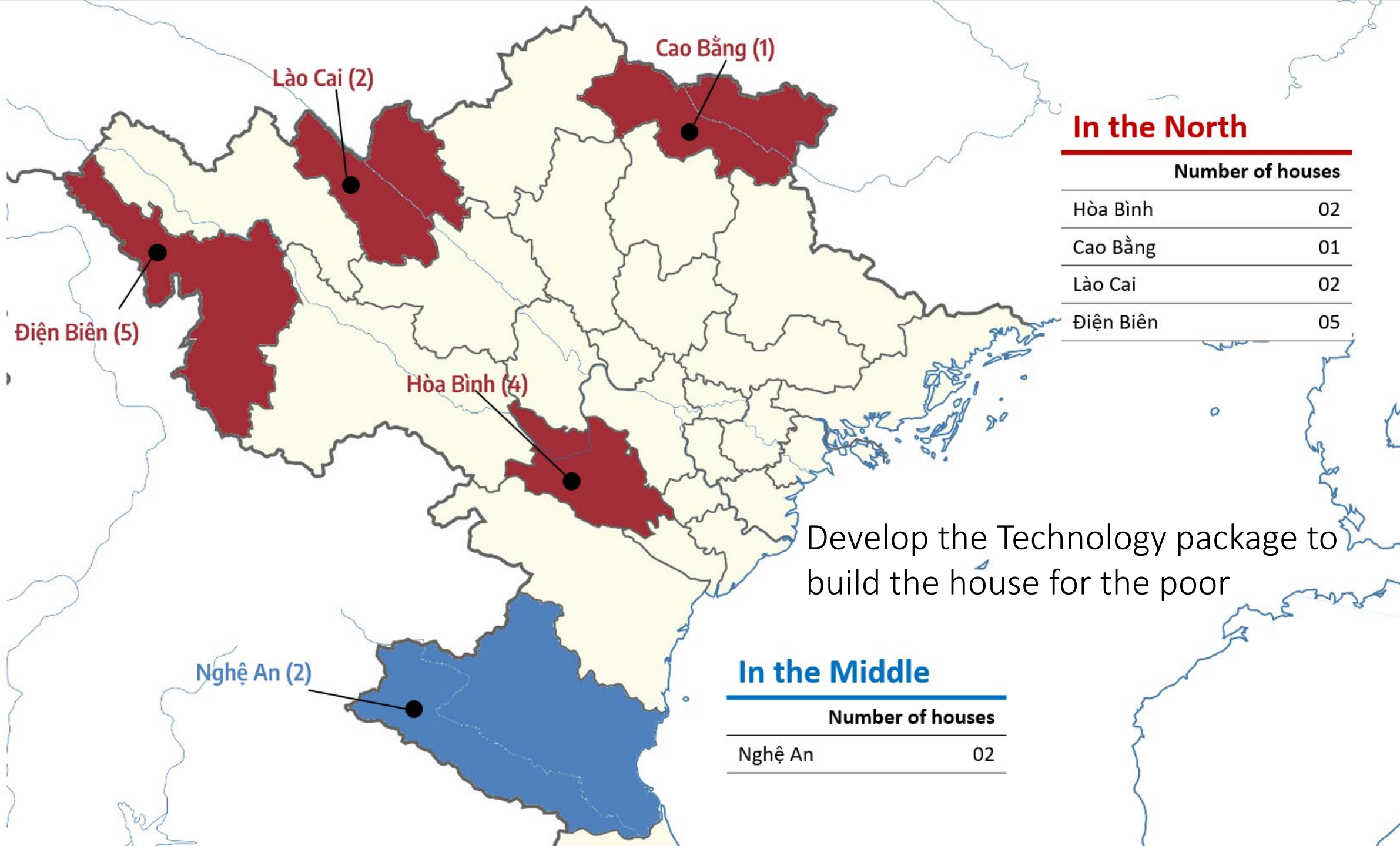


## Production of compressed stabilized earth blocks (CSEB)

Property	Compressed stabilised earth blocks	Fired clay bricks	Calcium silicate bricks	Dense concrete blocks	Aerated concrete blocks	Lightweight concrete blocks
Wet compressive strength (MN/m <sup>2</sup> )	1 - 40	5 - 60	10 - 55	7 - 50	2 - 6	2 - 20
Moisture movement (%)	0.02 - 0.2	0.00 - 0.02	0.01 - 0.035	0.02 - 0.05	0.05 - 0.10	0.04 - 0.08
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1700 - 2200	1400 - 2400	1600 - 2100	1700 - 2200	400 - 950	600 - 1600
Thermal conductivity W/m°C	0.81 - 1.04	0.70 - 1.30	1.10 - 1.60	1.00 - 1.70	0.10 - 0.20	0.15 - 0.70
Durability against rain	good to very poor	excellent to very poor	good to moderate	good to poor	good to moderate	good to poor

Develop the Technology package to build the house for the poor





### In the North

Number of houses	
Hòa Bình	02
Cao Bằng	01
Lào Cai	02
Điện Biên	05

Develop the Technology package to build the house for the poor

### In the Middle

Number of houses	
Nghệ An	02



# Ideas and Implementation





# Ideas and Implementation

Develop the Technology package to build the house for the poor (**Hoa Binh province**)

**(1)**  
**Design the house**



**(2)**  
**Production of  
non-fired earth  
bricks**



**(3)**  
**Guide the poor to  
produce bricks**



**(4)**  
**Build the house**



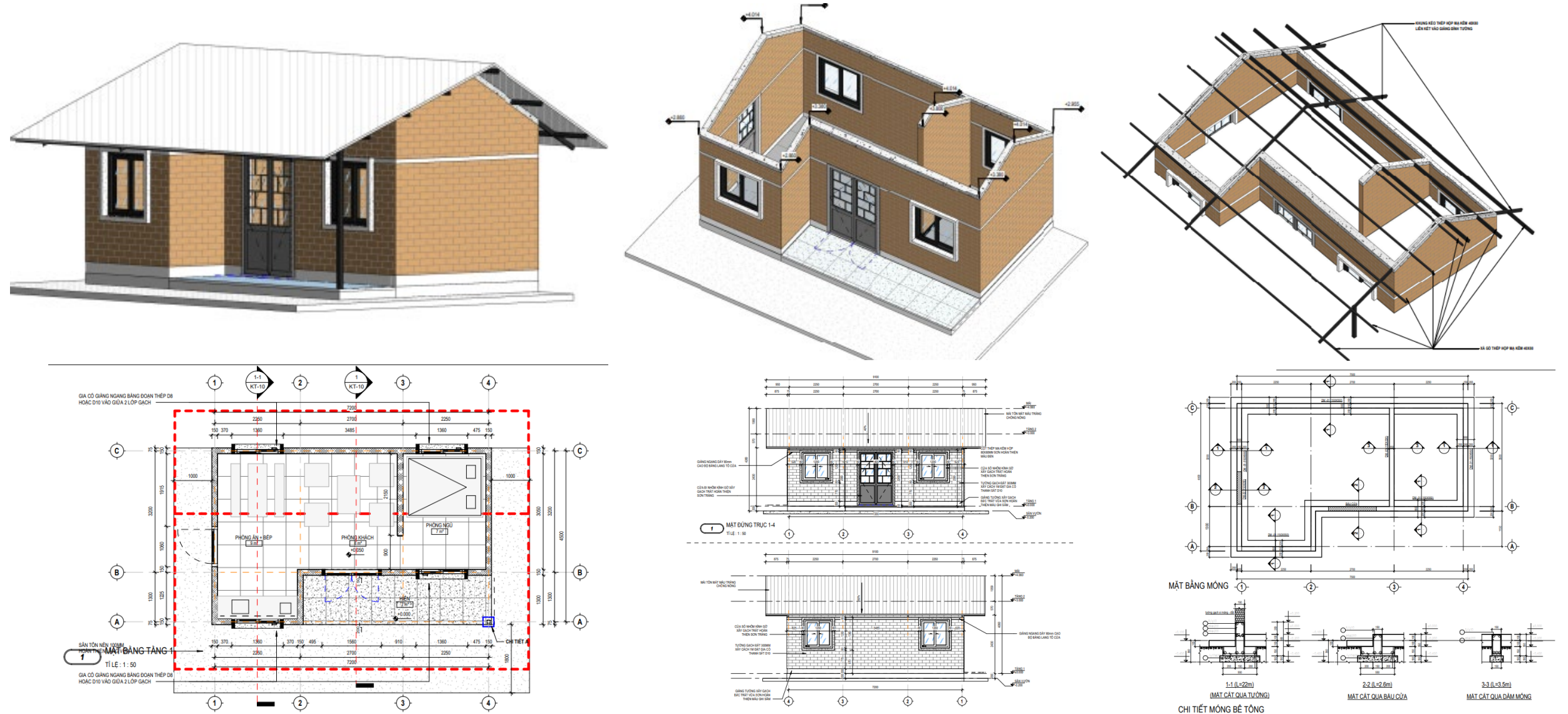
**(5)**  
**Finishing**





# (1) Design the house

Typical house with a square of 40 m<sup>2</sup>





## (2) Production of non-fired earth bricks

### Making the samples in the laboratory



Collecting the earth



Drying



Crushing



Seiving



Weighting the  
earth+cement+water



Mixing



Pressing to make the  
sample



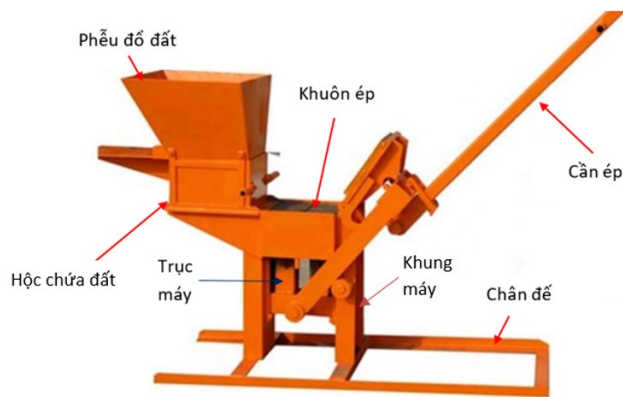
The samples



## (2) Production of non-fired earth bricks

### Experimental results in the laboratory

#### Manual pressing machine



CSEB with a size of  
 $300 \times 150 \times 100$  mm



#### Hydraulic pressing machine



Make the machine



Modify the Chinese  
machine



# (3) Guide the poor to produce bricks

## Technology transfer





## (4) Build the house

Roof with palm leaves





## (5) Finishing

The house has a corrugated iron roof





# (5) Finishing









## (5) Finishing

The house has a palm leave roof









# (5) Finishing

House sign





# (5) Finishing

## Green product and house certifications



## LOTUS GREEN PRODUCT CERTIFICATE

**Product Name:** INTERLOCKING COMPRESSED CEMENT STABILIZED EARTH BLOCKS

**Certification number:** 00018 04 010

**Product Category:** 04 Masonry

**Certificate holder:** Hanoi University of Civil Engineering  
No. 55, Giai Phong Boulevard, Dong Tam Ward,  
Hai Ba Trung District, Hanoi City, Vietnam

**Date of Issuance:** March 12, 2024

**End of Validity:** March 12, 2026

**Product Reviewer:**

Arden Linh Nguyen  
Vietnam Green Building Council

Signature 

THE PRODUCT HAS BEEN ASSESSED ACCORDING TO THE ASSESSMENT  
CRITERIA OF LOTUS GREEN BUILDING PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME AND  
HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY THE VIETNAM GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL



  
Executive Director  
Vietnam Green Building Council







After **6 months**



# (5) Finishing



After **9 months**





# Ideas and Implementation





## (6) Some other provinces

**Cao Bang province** (5 hrs driving from Hanoi)





# (5) Finishing

**Cao Bang province** (5 hrs driving from Hanoi)





# (5) Finishing

**Cao Bang province** (5 hrs driving from Hanoi)



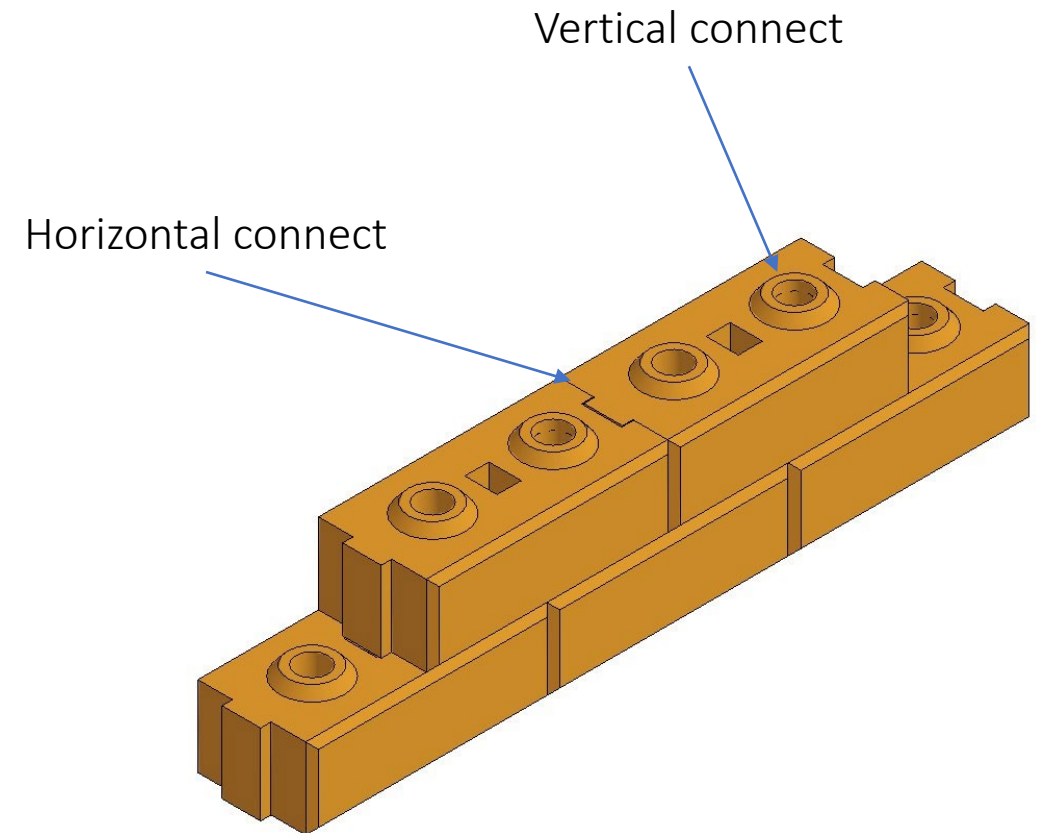


# Ideas and Implementation





Modification of brick shape → no mortar needed between bricks





# Ideas and Implementation

Manual press machine





# Ideas and Implementation

**Nghe An province** (~8 hrs driving from Hanoi)





# Ideas and Implementation

**Nghe An province** (~8 hrs driving from Hanoi)

