

**GREETINGS PARTICIPANTS!**

**WELCOME**  
**to our**  
**ENVIROLISH**  
**PROJECT!**

# SCIENTIFIC ENGLISH IMMERSION WITH HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTATION ON MICROBIAL PLASTIC DEGRADATION IN VIETNAM

**MEDEN F. ISAAC-LAM, PhD**  
Professor of Chemistry

Fulbright Alumni Exchange Program  
Citizen Diplomacy Action Fund (CDAF)  
2024

Department of Chemistry and Physics  
College of Engineering and Sciences  
Purdue University Northwest  
Indiana, USA 46391



School of Biotechnology  
Tân Tao University  
Long An, Vietnam

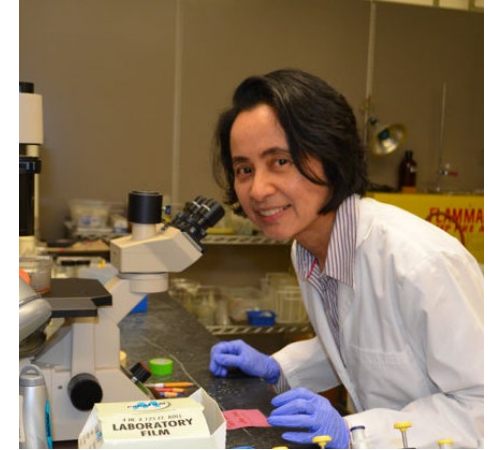


TTU  
Virtual  
July 5-6, 2024

# YOUR PROJECT LEADER 1

I am

- Meden F. Isaac-Lam
- Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics
- Purdue University system
- Teach General, Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, Spectroscopy
- Research on human health (cancer treatment, imaging the human brain, psychiatric disorder, pharmaceutical drug therapeutics, calorie restriction), environmental protection, STEM education



Why am I in Vietnam?

- Fulbright Scholar in 2023 with TTU as the host institution
- Awardee of Fulbright Exchange Alumni Program in 2024 funded by Citizen Diplomacy Action Fund (CDAF) under the US State Department



# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## What is this project about?

- A response to the themes of the Citizen Diplomacy Action Fund (CDAF) under the US Department of State, the funding agency
- 2 Themes: Protecting the environment  
Building community through language and technology
- This is a pilot study to instill knowledge and skills through virtual workshops and hands-on pedagogy
- Project Aims:
  - 1.) to increase awareness of the impact of protecting the environment in Vietnam
  - 2.) to use English as a tool for global understanding and communication

# PROJECT TEAM

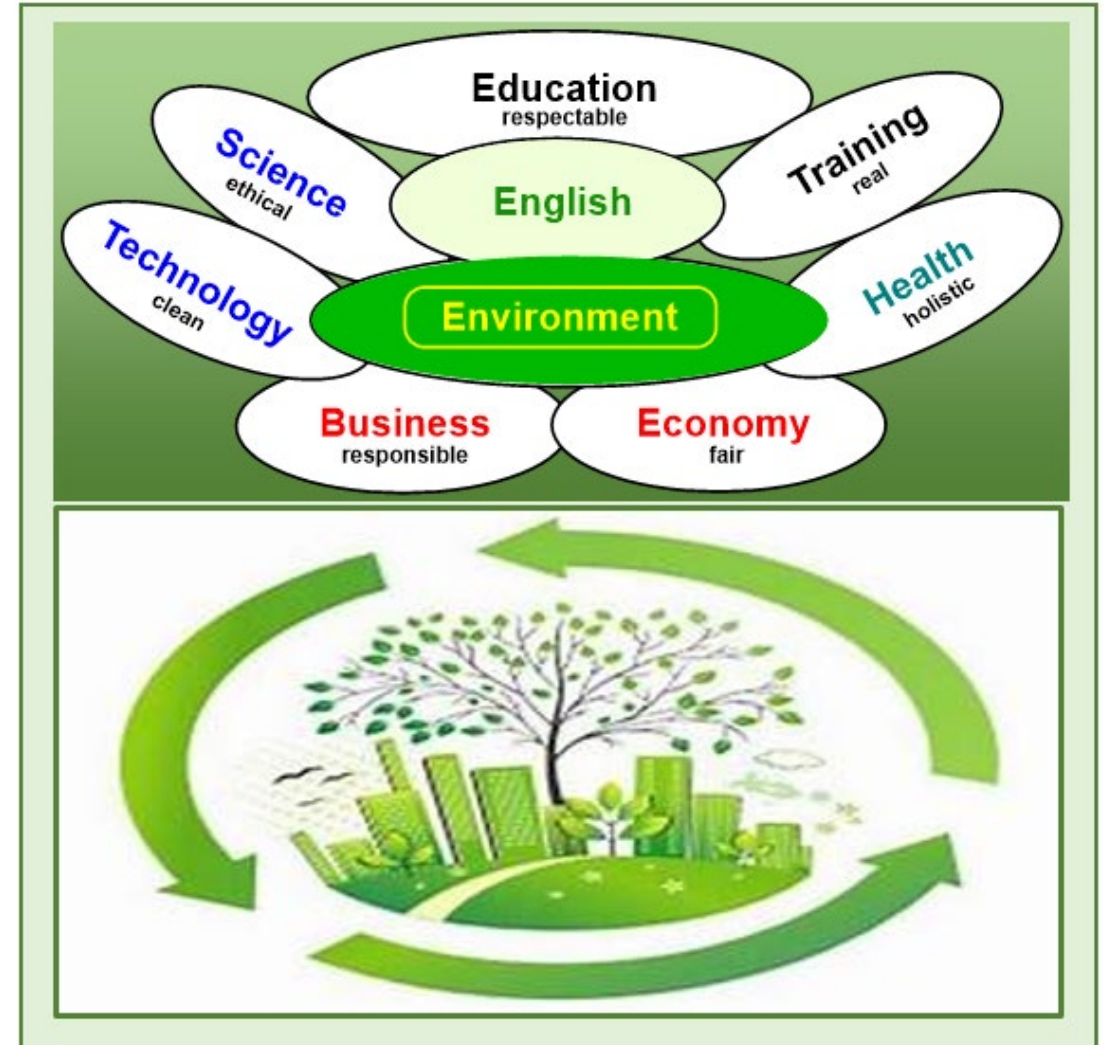
## Faculty Mentors

- Prof. Meden F. Isaac-Lam – Chemistry and Biology (Team Leader 1, Fulbright Scholar)
- Dr. Nhon Dang– English (Team Leader 2, Fulbright Scholar)
- Dr. Quang Ta – Biology
- Dr. Dien Nguyen – Biotechnology
- Dr. Trung Nguyen – Business

Faculty Mentors will discuss their respective field of expertise as it relates to the overall goal of this project. Our goal is for our youth to have a broad view about quality of life and to be well-rounded with skills in effective communication and knowledge in science to protect the environment. Participants will learn the interconnection of English, Science, Technology, Health, Business, Economy, and the Environment. These categories overlap and affect each other. Our multi-faceted approach is intended to inspire and trigger the youth to be pro-active and be carefully conscious about the environment to protect their families and our planet. Everyone has a responsibility to take care of each other and to preserve our ecosystem. This is the message that our project team would like to inculcate among the participants and for them to propagate to the community in the region. ***Our vision is to mold and motivate our future generation to be competent, competitive and confident.***

# PROJECT NARRATIVE

Protecting the environment is now becoming the primary goal of humanity to conserve existing natural resources, and repair damages to the environment caused by population growth and human activity. This project aims to inform the next generation in Vietnam on ways to protect their environment. Our approach is to provide training and education about the environment for the health and well-being of the community. Instruction will be accomplished in English being the universal language as the tool in learning. Having green, clean and sustainable environment creates responsible business practices that can boost the economy. ***Knowledge and application of good science and state-of-the-art technology will position the country for global competition in the next millennium.***



# WE OFFER FOR VIETNAM: 'TheBEST'

Program Category	Description
<u>T</u> raining, Teaching and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading scientific articles in English about plastic pollution; writing a summary, manuscript and project proposal; hands-on biology experiment on degradation of plastic, and chemical analysis of degradation products; technology of computer modeling of plastic-eating enzymes; effect on health; and, impact of plastic pollution on business and economic sectors.</li></ul>
<u>H</u> ealth and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wholesome quality of life is fostered with correct information.</li><li>• Green and clean promotes peace, calmness, inner strength, and spirituality.</li></ul>
<u>E</u> nglish as Universal Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication in English is critical in today's global competition.</li></ul>
<u>B</u> usiness Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economy blossoms from conscientious business practices.</li></ul>
<u>E</u> nvironmental Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect the fragile earth for longevity. Restore the beauty of nature and avoid unconscious human devastation.</li><li>• Everyone on this planet has a moral obligation to protect the environment.</li></ul>
<u>S</u> cience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Science is the core of human progress, but practice science with ethics and careful responsibility to the environment.</li><li>• Discovery and inventions satisfy humanity.</li></ul>
<u>T</u> echnology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progress in technology brings comfort to human life.</li><li>• Technology (computers), science (biology experiments), business, language, training and education overlap with the environment, and ultimately advocate for a healthy well-grounded citizenry.</li></ul>