1. Introduction. The rapid economic growth in Vietnam over the last two decades has put high pressure on the natural resources. Local communities are facing the challenge to maintain their rights and benefits from resources they have managed for generations due to intervention of outsiders. In such cases collective actions are often formulated basing on “action taken by a group in pursuit of members’ perceived shared interests” (Marshall 1998). This research presents empirical evidence for the collective action of local people to protect their benefit in Pho Trach-one ancient village of Thua Thien Hue province in Central Vietnam (figure 1) has been established over 500 years. Applying customary law, local people have maintained the natural forest of 250 ha in the sanctuary for environment protection and livelihood benefits. Since 2005, the appearance of sand mining company has damaged natural resources of community destroyed forest, exhausted water, damaged graves… which results in the conflict between community and sand company.

2. Objective. To analyse conflict escalation, underlying cause of conflicts and potential actors involving in conflict management to find solutions reinforcing the collective action of local community.

3. Research method. This research based on the data collected from key informants and a survey with 36 households closed with the natural forest. Qualitative analysis is main method. Responses and perspective of the local people on forest use and exploitation of the silicate company are discussed to address conflict escalation. The role of potential stakeholders in conflict management is analysed through vein diagram and One-Sample T test about the perception of local people.

4. Results. Escalation of conflict (figure 2 & 3):

Underlying conflict causes in the area (figure 3):
- Ignoring the informal property rights
- Lack of the consistency among the government authorities
- Interest of outsiders vs. local benefits

Collective action and conflict management: Collective action in Pho Trach village originated from the awareness of the local people on their weak voice in negotiation process. To protect community benefits, they organized many meetings and send representatives to negotiate with company.

For conflict management (table 1&2; figure 5):
1) each HH cannot resolve conflict;
2) Pho Trach cooperative was identified as local representative for negotiations;
3) CPC got low trust from local although this is legal and power organization closest to local people;
4) No involving groups with high power or legality often have no relationship to those resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role of Actors in conflict management</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Difficult for conflict management</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>.83</td>
<td>.378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs resolve conflict with company</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>.00</td>
<td>.0006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperative involving</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>.72</td>
<td>.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPC resolves conflict</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>.41</td>
<td>.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPC/PPC resolves conflict</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>.69</td>
<td>.467</td>
</tr>
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| Table 1: Opinion of local people on the role of stakeholders |

4. Why supporting to collective action? Collective action is considered as one outcome of resource conflict and it help to increase awareness and governance of the community in its resources management. So far, it completely lacks mediators to be bridge between local people with company. This can push conflict to go further weaken due to manipulated by outsiders. Therefore it is necessary to get the involvement of stakeholders for conflict management to improve livelihood of local people and sustainable development of natural resource.

5. Conclusion

Figure 1: Research site

Figure 2: Sand company activities and responses of local community

Figure 3: Conflict escalation between sand company and local people

Figure 4: Community vs. Outsiders

Figure 5: Venn diagram of stakeholder analysis

References