Floodplain formation and reclamation of the Song Hong (Red River) Delta plain, northern Vietnam

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The Song Hong (Red River) delta, northern Vietnam, is characterized by huge natural levees in an area of the delta plain known as the West Floodplain where fluvial sedimentation predominates. The natural levees along the Day River, a major distributary of the Song Hong, are larger than those of the main course of the Song Hong. The Day River levees are 3?8 km wide and rise 3?5 m above the adjacent backswamps and have played an important role in human settlements since the late Metal age. In this presentation, we discuss the Holocene evolution of the Day River levees to determine their relationship to Holocene sea-level change, delta progradation, and the distribution of archaeological sites on the delta plain. Also, we present the land reclamation and disaster mitigation history in relation with geomorphological features.

Keywords: Song Hong (Red River), floodplain, reclamation