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# SWEDEN'S SUPPORT TO LEGAL EDUCATION IN VIETNAM



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The views and interpretations expressed in this report are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

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## Executive Summary

The project called *Strengthening Legal Training in Vietnam* started in March 1998 and has extended over three phases. The present contract regarding the third phase will come to an end in 2010. The Project is based on a twinning arrangement between the Hanoi Law University (HLU), the Law University of Ho Chi Minh City (LUHCMC) from Vietnam with the Faculty of Law at Lund University (Lund) from Sweden. The purpose of the present evaluation is to document and assess the achievements made and lessons learned in the Project until today.

The objective of the Project is to strengthen the legal education capability of the universities by improving the teachers' qualifications, strengthening the libraries' information system and by improving management and widening international cooperation.

In the Vietnamese context where legal education is very young and the opening up of the country to the international market and internal social change call for large numbers of well trained lawyers, building up and improving the legal education is absolutely relevant. The Project is without any doubt highly relevant.

The objectives of Sweden's development cooperation with Vietnam have been among others: *to promote openness and development towards democracy and respect for human rights*. The rule of law is a key concept in Sweden's development policy. The Project is most relevant also from the point of view of Sweden's development cooperation. Well educated lawyers are key to advancing towards rule of law and they will contribute to respect for human rights and strengthening the conditions for democracy.

The Project is also compatible in the sense that it is an important piece in the mosaic of support projects to the governance reforms and legal sector development that are ongoing in Vietnam. The Government has decided that HLU and LUHCMC will be supported to become the two leading legal training institutions, one in the North and one in the South, and models for other law schools. Against this background Sweden's support has indeed been well targeted and its results should be sustained.

Overall the Project has achieved good results:

- a large number of teachers have undertaken or are on the way to a Masters or Ph.D. degree which will substantially strengthen the teaching force,
- new and modern teaching methods have been introduced to the teaching staff which will improve the teaching,
- the curricula for legal education have been revised and updated,
- the libraries of HLU and LUHCMC have been put on a path to become modern libraries with a long-term development plan, trained librarians and increased volumes of textbooks as well as internet connections to international legal reference bases,
- the basis for management has been strengthened by the establishment of Academic Quality Assurance Centers (AQAC) both at HLU and LUHCMC and at HLU the AQAC has also a central role in the further development of the university.

However, the results achieved are not yet sustainable. Furthermore, the universities are in the process of transforming into a credit based educational system which is a considerable challenge. The credit based system will require revision and further improvement in most of the university's key functions: the curriculum, teaching methods, management of students, teachers and classrooms, the libraries etc.

A well implemented transformation into the credit based system will capture and sustain all the essential improvements that the Project has aimed at. On the other hand, if the implementation fails much of the achievements of the Project over the last ten years will be wiped away. Against this background there would be every reason for Sweden and the Project to support the transformation process.

When the Project started the intention was to support the strengthening of legal education in Vietnam for a long time which was a pre-requisite for sustainable results in the Vietnamese situation. The intention was that after the present phase the Project would still have been continued with a phasing out phase particularly to safeguard sustainability of the results achieved. Against this background the fact that Sweden will cease the support to legal education in Vietnam (as development cooperation with the country will not be continued) came as a surprise to the stakeholders. There are strong arguments for still extending key elements of the Project up to the end of the 2010–2011 academic year (up to August 2011).

#### **Recommendations:**

Cooperation in the remaining period of the Project should to a large extent focus on supporting HLU through AQAC in the process of transformation into the credit based system which is a wide ranging exercise touching on most of the activities of the university. At LUHCMC the focus should be on completing the improvement of the library, both physically and through further training.

Cooperation and support should be continued until the end of academic year 2010–2011 and cover during the extension:

- continued support to the nine Ph.D. students who are about to finish their thesis in the first half of 2011,
- continued support to HLU (through AQAC) up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 in implementation of the transformation to the credit based system, and
- continued support to the library at LUHCMC up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 if the planned activities have not been completed by the end of 2010.

Sida and Lund should confer so as to find a way to finance the continuation of the Project up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 from development cooperation funds or by other means.



# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Objective and Scope of the Evaluation

Swedish involvement in Vietnam began already in the 1960s and development cooperation between Sweden and Vietnam has a long history. The last years of cooperation have been guided by a country strategy with the broad objectives of strengthening the capacity of Vietnam to reduce poverty on an environmentally sustainable basis, and promoting openness, development towards democracy and respect for human rights. Sweden has supported legal sector development in Vietnam since 1991. In 2008 Sweden decided to cease cooperation with Vietnam by 2010.

Sweden's cooperation with Vietnam in the area of legal education started with the inauguration of the project called *Strengthening Legal Training in Vietnam*, in March 1998. The first phase of the Project ended after prolongation in July 2001. The second phase started in September 2001 and the third phase in December 2004. The present contract regarding the third phase will come to an end in 2010.

The overall objective of the Project has generally been the improvement of the level of legal education but also clearly to support the principle of rule of law and the requirements of Vietnam's *doi moi* policy and increasing international relations. Thus the Project has also supported the internal social change and opening up to international trade and investment which both require well trained legal professionals contributing to a process of strengthening the rule of law and modernizing the legal system.

The Project in legal education is based on a twinning arrangement between the Hanoi Law University (HLU), the Law University of Ho Chi Minh City (LUHCMC) from Vietnam with the Faculty of Law at Lund University (Lund) from Sweden.

The purpose of this evaluation report is to document and assess the achievements made and lessons learned in the Project until today, and to assess whether the Project has contributed to the overall goals of Sweden's cooperation with Vietnam in promoting openness, development towards democracy and respect for human rights, although this is not an explicit objective of the Project as such.

The development policies of Vietnam are a starting point for the evaluation. Also, Sweden's development policy and the overall purpose of Sweden's development cooperation with Vietnam have been important considerations throughout the evaluation. The "rights based" or "human rights based approach to development" (HRBA), the promotion of the rule of law and of human rights, as well as the poverty perspective and gender equality have been crosscutting issues for the evaluation team.

The relevance of the Project's objectives has been assessed against Vietnamese and Swedish policies and priorities. The relevance of the project design in reaching the objectives has been considered. The evaluation also assesses to what extent the Project objectives have been met or not met and analyzes reasons for this. Furthermore, the issues of effectiveness and efficiency have been assessed. As regards effectiveness, attention has been paid to analyzing to what extent the country context may have had an impact on the achieving or not of the results of project. Assessment of efficiency focuses largely on cost-efficiency. In addition, serious attention has been paid to what extent one can expect sustainability of the results.

The evaluation has assessed the suitability of twinning as the chosen project implementation modality as well as the quality of cooperation and division of roles between the main Vietnamese and Swedish partners. Consideration has also been given to the prospects and possibilities of twinning or partner cooperation beyond the aid financed cooperation. Connected to the twinning arrangement, the quality of the project design as well as the capacity of project management has been assessed. Also the project implementation strategy has been assessed along with the M&E systems developed for the Project.

The set up of the project management arrangements have been assessed as well as the cooperation between the various parties involved; the cooperating governments, the agencies involved and the twinning partners and the flexibility and smoothness of the cooperation between the parties during implementation.

The main outcomes and results of the Project are described and assessed to the extent possible. However, it should be noted that the evaluation has not had the possibility to assess the final impact of the Project in the country. Such an impact evaluation would have required much deeper research and also a longer time period to have passed.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) (Annex 1) for the evaluation are backward looking, naturally so since Sweden is bringing the development cooperation with Vietnam to an end. However, legal education will continue in the country also after Swedish aid has vanished and possibly with support from other partners. Sweden might also continue with so called partner driven cooperation in the area. Therefore, the Evaluation Team has also taken a forward looking approach in the report which we hope will benefit the universities and the Vietnam Government as well as potential donors in legal education.

## **1.2 Method and Mode of Evaluation**

The Evaluation Team consisted of Tauno Kääriä as Team Leader and Anne-Lie Öberg and Phan Manh Tuan as Team Members. The evaluation was carried out during January to May 2009 and in conjunction with a similar evaluation in Laos. A field mission to Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) was carried out from 25 March to 16 April 2009. A debriefing meeting was arranged in Hanoi with HLU and in Ho Chi Minh City both with Sida and LUHCMC before departure.

The Team had a participatory approach in the evaluation involving key persons and relevant stakeholders. The primary source of information was the very wide array of interviews that were carried out both in Vietnam and Sweden (see Annex 2). Some of the interviews were held one-on-one while others were interviewed in larger groups. The secondary source of information was the large documentary review which was undertaken, consisting of documentation on the legal sector, on Vietnam and on the Project itself, such as project documents, evaluations or mid-term reviews, regular reports on the Project etc. (see Annex 3). In assessing the information the Evaluation Team applied a mix of qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods and research tools with triangulation of information to assure reliability, validity and credibility.

Following the rights based approach to development the Team assessed not only the outcomes and results of the Project but also the processes involved which often are equally, if not more, important for development and sustainability.

The OECD/DAC criteria for evaluating development assistance have been applied. In preparing this report, the EU quality criteria of Evaluation Report and OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards of 2006 have been followed.

## **1.3 Constraints and Limitations**

The Evaluation Team has faced some constraints and limitations during the evaluation which have made the work more difficult. However, the Team feels that constraints and limitations have not necessarily affected the results of the evaluation.

- The evaluation covers a long period of time and thus the amount of documentation has become very large and the documentary review heavily time consuming.

- The ToR is very much backward looking. However, the discussions with stakeholders and at the request of Sida Hanoi, particularly as regards partner driven cooperation, prompted the Team also to take a forward looking approach in the evaluation which was a new feature and added to the workload.
- The triangulation method proved at times to be of limited use because interviews in the Vietnamese habit often took place in larger groups and it was difficult to detect differences and the real opinion of some of the interviewees.
- Due to delays at Sida regarding the evaluation of the tenders, the start of the evaluation was delayed and time constraints (notwithstanding the delays, the deadline for the draft report/s was kept at end of April) forced the Laos and Vietnam evaluations to take place back-to-back, which put additional pressure on time-tables and on the writing of the report/s.

## 2 Background

### 2.1 The Country Context and Legal Education in Vietnam

Long periods of struggle against alien domination and more recently two prolonged Indochina wars (1946–54 and 1961–75) have deeply influenced the socio-political history and development of Vietnam. Following the model of former Chinese rulers, Vietnam in 1079 established the Quoc Tu Giam (National College) to teach Confucianism to children of the royal family and nobility. Only scholars well-versed in Confucianism could pass the civil service examinations which was a test for any bureaucratic appointment. Van Mieu (Temple of Literature) in Hanoi still today testifies to the traditional high respect for education and higher learning in the country. Some studies indicate that in the period just before the French rule began in the nineteenth century, Vietnam had an estimated 20,000 schools with a very high literacy rate. At the end of the French rule, literacy was estimated at around 10%, a measure of the neglect of education under the alien Western rule.

The political mobilization and structure that took place during the Indochina war periods is still today reflected in the dual faceted administration characterized by strong rule and absolute power of the Communist Party and the traditional village based administration. Within this socio-political system there are two relatively separate structures:

- The political institutions: The Communist Party and then, the State (the National Assembly, the Government/Cabinet) and the Administration (from central Ministries to Provincial, District and Village level Peoples' Committees), and
- Socio-political or mass organizations: Fatherland Front, Youth League, Women Unions, Trade Unions, Peasant Unions, Veteran Unions, and various other economic, professional and social associations and organizations. The mass organizations play a role in mobilizing resources to support and implement political missions set by the Party and the State, and at the same time, are supposed to represent the voice of the people towards the Party and the State.

Ever since the end of the war and unification in 1975, Vietnam has been struggling with how to maintain a balance between two often contradictory goals – maintaining ideological purity and promoting economic development. For the first decade after reunification, the emphasis was on the former. By the mid-1980s, disastrous economic conditions led the country to adopt in 1986 the *doi moi* economic reforms.

The *doi moi* opening up policy, decreasing Soviet aid and the resolution of the Kampuchean question (which had largely isolated Vietnam) paved the way for increased international cooperation in the 1990s. Big Western and Japanese donors came to Vietnam, Vietnam established relationships with IMF and the WB, and it joined ASEAN in 1995 and APEC in 1998. Economic development which was guided by “socialist market-economy” gained speed while the Party continued to hold strongly onto the political power.

As for the legal system, the traditional Vietnamese legal system had borrowed a great deal from the old Chinese legal culture. The voluntary large-scale political-legal borrowing by the rulers was unprecedented in other pre-colonial East Asian countries (and foreshadowed the wholesale importation of the Soviet political-legal system centuries later).

The French who colonized Vietnam in 1862 divided the country in three parts (Cochin China in Southern Vietnam, Annam in Central Vietnam and Tonkin in Northern Vietnam) and introduced their own legal system. However, they allowed a modified pre-colonial administration coexist in Annam and Tonkin with the French legal system which was introduced in the metropolis. This policy allowed indigenous law to regulate village life provided it did not compromise public order. There was a dual legal system.

After independence was declared in 1945, the French legal systems were followed for a decade while new legislation was being enacted and new administrative and judicial structures established. The shift away from colonial legality accelerated when the Supreme Court prohibited the use of French colonial laws and practices in 1959. This was followed in the early 1960s with the purge of French-trained legal personnel. Even legal training was discarded and tertiary level study did not resume until after reunification in 1976. Students were sent to the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe to study law.

In the late 1950s, and encouraged by Soviet influence, the Party decided that the economy would be developed along socialist lines. Political orthodoxy demanded also constitutional amendments: there should be leadership of the working class over the peoples’ democratic State. This organizational ideal required the importation of socialist political-legal doctrines and institutions designed to justify and maintain Party supremacy. Soviet laws and institutions were taken as a model. As economic production was brought under centralized planning the entire legal system based on socialist economic laws and legal institutions was imported from the Soviet Union.

Following reunification in 1975, Northern laws and political-legal institutions were transplanted to the South. They replaced the French-derived laws and institutions and officials from the North were seconded to run the legal apparatus in the South. Most Southern and French-trained lawyers either fled the country or were sent to ‘re-education camps’.

With a stagnant domestic economy, rampant inflation, falling production and loss of Soviet aid *doi moi* economic policy was introduced in 1986. At that time there was a vibrant unofficial entrepreneurial economy, but less than 40% of the products were passing through the state controlled trading system. *Doi moi* also tried to capture this development and maintain relevance of the State. The aim was to build a legal framework to this end and also attract foreign trade and investments. A large number of new legislation was passed in the following years, mostly commercial in nature to comply with international treaties and control domestic economy. Socialist economic laws were replaced by more modern legislation from models abroad, in the first instance from China, but later also from France and elsewhere, particularly as international economic integration gained momentum. The reform of commercial legislation continues. The legal system was primarily constructed from local adaptations of laws derived from China, France, the former Soviet bloc and more recently from East Asian and Western countries.

The economic opening up and preparations for joining the WTO (which Vietnam joined in 2007) prompted the Government to further develop the legal system. With the support of UNDP and other donors Vietnam has prepared two strategy papers regarding future development in the legal sector which have been adopted by the Party in 2005:

- Resolution of the Politburo of the Communist Party on the Strategy for the Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal System to the Year 2010 and Direction for the Period up to 2020 (Resolution Number 48-NQ/TW, 24 May 2005), and
- Resolution of the Politburo of the Communist Party on the Judicial Reform Strategy to 2020 (Resolution Number 49-NQ/TW, 2 June 2005).

Basically, Vietnam's domestic law is consistent with its WTO commitments due to ongoing law making efforts and adoption of laws and sub-laws, especially in 2005 and 2006. Most of these new regulations were also adjusted for consistency with the bilateral trade agreement between Vietnam and USA. A number of donors have also supported Vietnam in this development (see Annex 4).

The economic opening up has also increased the need for legal services in the country, particularly in the area of foreign trade and investments and the settlement of disputes in that regard. Even during the evaluation the Vietnam News (on 26 March 2009) published a piece of news where the Minister of Justice expressed concern that out of the present over 5 000 lawyers only about 200 can deal with commercial cases and called for more internationally capable lawyers. In addition, as the economic developments bring about societal change the demand for legal advisory services will increase rapidly also in the traditional legal services, such as litigation, as well as in the continuously expanding coverage of tax laws.

Side by side with legal development progress has been made in legal professional education and training. The Law Faculty of Hanoi University was re-established in 1976 (which is now Hanoi Law University). In the South the Ho Chi Minh City College of Law was established. Furthermore, three professional legal training schools were established. Since then there has been further development and there are a number of places for legal training. Today HLU and LUHCMC are the two largest legal education institutions in the country.

In Vietnam there are 61 Bar Associations with over 5,000 lawyers and 2,000 semi-lawyers, practicing in almost 1,500 different law firms and organizations. In just seven years, from 2001 to 2008, the number of lawyers has increased 250%.

#### Number of lawyers in Vietnam

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	11/2008
Lawyers	1 471	1 700	1 861	2 048	1 845	2 261	2 871	4 161	5 143
Annual Increase (%)		16	9	10	9	23	27	45	24

## 2.2 The Project

The Project *Strengthening Legal Education in Vietnam* is based on the sector agreement on legal aid signed on the 20th of January 1997 between Sweden and Vietnam and it was inaugurated in 1998. The development partners in Vietnam have been Hanoi Law University, the Law University of Ho Chi Minh City twinning with the Law Faculty of the University of Lund.

The Project was inaugurated in March 1998 and The first phase of the Project ended after prolongation in July 2001. The second phase started in September 2001 and the third phase in December 2004. The present contract regarding the third phase will come to an end in 2010.

The ultimate direct goal of the project is to bring about a new and modern legal education in Vietnam at the bachelor, master and doctoral levels, using the three pillars of: a) Teacher Training, b) Development of the Law Libraries, and c) Management Support and International Contacts.

The exact present wording, which has been modified since the project started in 1998, but still follows the initial orientation, reads:

*To achieve an accomplished curriculum development and teaching methodology for bachelor, master and doctorate degrees, which fits the principles of a state based on rule of law and the needs of the “Doi Moi” policy, strengthening legal education capability by improving gender equal lecturer’s qualification, strengthening the library information system and widening international cooperation.*

In implementation of this overall objective, the partners also endeavour to maximize the project’s effect on poverty reduction, human rights protection, HIV/AIDS prevention and gender issues.

The Project has three different sub-objectives:

*Sub-objective 1 – To develop gender equal lecture force, applying modern teaching methods based on modern literature and a modern curriculum*

The main aim of this sub-objective is to improve the quality of the teaching staff. The goals set include that the majority of the faculty has been introduced to modern pedagogical training. Initially the goal was that the teachers normally should have a masters degree but also to increase the number of lecturers with a doctoral degree. Since 1998 the Vietnamese partners has revised the curricula at the bachelor level and started new masters programs in line with the examples set by the project’s programs. The new joint doctor program will give experiences for the future doctoral training in Vietnam and improve supervision.

*Sub-objective 2 – To develop law libraries to a modern standard and define their role in modern legal teaching*

The library staff at HLU and the LUHCMC will be trained to meet future requirements. Improvements will be made in both library knowledge and language ability as well as increasing awareness of the importance of planning, organization and cooperation. In the last year the project supplied support also for ICT upgrading. Finally library education would be given to faculty members in form of courses in information retrieval and the procurement of books and other kinds of legal material and databases (more so in Hanoi then HCMC so far).

*Sub-objective 3 – To enhance legal education and project management and widen international cooperation*

The main aim of the activities under this heading is to support the management and improving planning and organization in order to make the changes sustainable. The establishment of Academic Quality Assurance Centers (AQAC) is an important part of this. Transparency between the parties, especially on economic matters and reports and budgets showing the whole project has taken place. There has also been improved reporting on performance and results using indicators.

### *2.2.1 Phase I (1998–2001) – “the try-out period”*

#### *Project components at the start of phase I*

##### *1. Teachers’ training*

Objective: Satisfactory skills in legal, pedagogical and linguistic terms amongst teachers of law.

##### *2. Curricula development*

Objective: That updated curricula, relevant to the new socio-economic situation in Vietnam, are used in faculties training LL.B.



3. Books and other documents

Objective: An acceptable availability of foreign legal materials for study and research.

4. Post-graduate studies

Objective: An improved and expanded post-graduate legal training in Vietnam.

5. Dialogue partnership

Objective: An enhanced development of legal training in Vietnam.

6. Project management

Objective: A timely and effective management of the Swedish contribution to the Project.

*Project inputs*

The inputs were mainly (i) staff and expertise, (ii) books, other documentation, materials, equipment and at this point only possibly the construction of premises, and (iii) the financing of various Project running costs.

*The Vietnamese contribution*

Supply of all locally available inputs required, such as f.e. Vietnamese experts, translation and printing of texts, construction and equipment of premises, local travel and other recurrent costs.

*The Swedish contribution*

Supply of all inputs to be procured from abroad, either from Sweden or from a third country, short term consultants (STCs), books and other legal texts, back-up and dialogue contributions.

Once work on the Project began it became obvious that the first phase was to be a starting phase, a try-out period, where a lot of fundamental needs and conditions of the Project had to be figured out, and hence the first phase can be described as experimental. Although the barriers of culture and language formed an initial obstacle, a Log frame workshop in December 1999 helped identify many of the problem and focus areas.

During this phase the Project did implement practical activities in line with the overall objective in order to train some lecturers. Surveys on curricula of certain developed countries were made. Relevant experience from these countries was also collected as reference for initial comments to reform the teaching curriculum in Vietnam. Some librarians were also sent abroad for more training and the Project broadened the cooperation with some legal educational institutions in Europe and Asia.

*Significant activities*

Despite the many start-up problems some significant and visible activities took place during the first phase of the project:

- Lecturers training:
  - Every year ten people from the senior staff of HLU and LUHCMC visited Sweden for three weeks to get an understanding of the teaching system and how the law is taught and used.
  - Two major teachers' workshops were organised in Vietnam, the first in December 1998, the second in April 1999.
  - English courses were organized for 75 participants from the two universities.
- Curriculum development:
  - Five seminars were organized on curriculum development, pedagogic methods and educational experiences from other countries in order to develop the reform of curriculum in Vietnam.

- Post-graduate training:
  - Six lecturers from the two universities were sent to LL.M. courses in Sweden.
- Libraries development:
  - Two librarians were sent to a training course in Lausanne, Switzerland
  - A list of reference material was produced
  - A preliminary survey of the current situation of the libraries at the two universities were carried out, and some facilities were provided to the libraries
- Management support:
  - Five working visits abroad were organized to study and exchange experiences on education management, curriculum development and pedagogic methods.

### 2.2.2 Phase II (2001–2004) – “making real progress”

The second phase started in the fall semester in 2001, some three months later than anticipated due to the evaluation process of the first phase and the finalization of the project document for the second phase. The goal set in the second phase was to increase the efficiency in the project. The overall objective of the second phase was slightly amended: *“To achieve an accomplished curriculum development and teaching methodology for bachelor, master and doctorate degrees, which fit the principles of a state based on rule of law and the needs of the “Doi Moi” policy, strengthening legal education capability by improving gender equal lecturer’s qualification, strengthening libraries information system and widening international cooperation”*.

There were three major sub-objectives; (i) *developing a gender equal lecturer force*; (ii) *library development and (iii) enhancing education and project management and widening international cooperation*. The number of activities in the second phase was increased. One major change in Phase 2 was the hiring of a resident Long Term Coordinator (LTC).

Subsequently during the second phase, the Project started to move forward on a larger scale, in particular with the launching of the joint master program and acceptance of a Vietnamese doctorate candidate in Lund. In addition, the development of the library embarked on a path of modernization with the introduction of international databases. A key factor driving the increase in implementation was the arrival in autumn 2001 of the LTC from Sweden.

#### *Significant activities*

##### *(i) Developing a gender equal lecturer force*

The single most significant event during phase II was the launch of the *Joint Master Programme*, a three-year programme for 34 students, 20 from HLU and 14 from LUHCMC. Students who had an interest in becoming teachers were selected. They would study English, travel to Sweden and write a master thesis in English with a supervisor in both Vietnam and Sweden. They would also take pedagogical training for the future work as teachers. A brand new curriculum was created for the Joint Master Programme. They were also trained in research methodology in Lund. The final semester was devoted to writing the thesis which was defended in December 2004.

Since the beginning of the Project there has also been an opportunity for two teachers to attend the *Master Course in Lund*. The course commence in the fall semester and ends by the spring semester. This period unfortunately saw two students fail to complete their studies due to health related problems. Otherwise the students over-all performed well. Two of the graduates now are participating in the joint doctorate program that is carried out in the third phase of the project.



*A Doctorate Course in Lund* was introduced under the second phase of the Project and the first doctoral candidate under Swedish rules was accepted in Lund in April 2002 and he defended his thesis successfully in the beginning of the third phase. The second candidate was accepted in May 2004 and belatedly started his studies as soon as the agreement on Phase III was signed in September 2005. He finalized in June 2009.

The *short-term pedagogical course in Lund* was introduced already in the first phase and developed into a well functioning activity. In the first years this activity was open for junior teachers only. The approach was changed during the second phase to be open to senior teachers only, with the support of an interpreter. The reason for this shift was firstly a demand from senior teachers to be part of the Project as well as a deep interest from the Project to involve all teachers in the methodology training. The aim in this activity has been to introduce new pedagogical techniques. An important point is that the management has to provide the necessary support to the teachers that they can practice what they have learnt.

The activity of *training teachers and staff in English* started already in the first phase and over the years a majority of the teachers at the two universities have been trained at an intermediate level. The reason behind this activity is of course to establish a critical mass of teachers with the ability to use English material in the different courses. This is vital to the success to the project in the context that all material that will be acquired will be in English. The different course that has been provided to teachers and staff at the two universities has been focused on both intermediate level and advanced level. The first advanced course was carried out in 2004 at the end of the second phase.

There have been *seminars* as a side effect of the joint master program where the Swedish professors coming to Vietnam would conduct a round table seminar about curricula development within their subjects. These seminars have been related to contents and teaching methods in their teaching subjects. This has also led to the establishment of deeper academic contacts between the universities and the teachers. The number of participating teachers from the Vietnamese universities has varied, but it is estimated that average 30 lectures have been present at those seminars. The number of seminars has varied over the years depending on in how many courses in the joint master program Swedish teachers have been present. All in all nine such seminars have taken place in both Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

*A survey on current legal education in Vietnam* was carried out in order to collect curricula from all the legal training institutes in Vietnam to form the backbone for an international workshop in September 2002 on the subject “Reformation and Development of LL.B. Program in Vietnam in the First Decade in the 21st Century”. The Conference was first planned as a workshop but it ended up as an *international conference* on the theme. At the conference participants from all institutes in Vietnam with some form of legal training were represented together with representatives from law faculties in Singapore, China, the Nagoya University in Japan, the Lund University in Sweden and the Law University in Vientiane Laos.

The final outcome of the international conference and the work done after it was a *new curriculum for the Bachelor level* at the law universities. It came into force in 2004.

A three day *seminar on case methodology* was held in November 2003, aimed at being a stepping-stone for the development of new teaching methods and the renovation of the graduate legal training. It was important to arrange a workshop to discuss and show how cases are used in a civil law country and a common law country. More than 80 teachers attended the workshop.

In 2005, another important *seminar* was organized on the theme of *comparative law and its role within the legal school curriculum*. The workshop was attended by 80 Vietnamese law teachers from all over the country.

## *(ii) Library development*

The *legal libraries* took major steps of improvement. The librarians were taught English and how to correctly catalogue the legal reference literature. In addition, the infrastructure of the libraries was modernised and special bookcases installed to withstand humidity. A major move was made to open digital and on-line databases by installing computer networks with all the relevant international legal databases. The librarians received training in computers and legal databases.

The *training of librarians* has been one of the key activities in the development of the libraries. The training started with a course in Lausanne for two librarians at the time. The prerequisite to participate was good English capability which limited training in Lausanne to two sessions, one under the first phase and the second at the beginning of the second phase. This gave two trained librarians at each of the universities.

At the beginning of the second phase a workshop on general skills in the modern law library was held in Hanoi. It was noted the National University's institute for training librarians held a very high degree of professionalism and that continuing training could be carried out in Vietnam.

A strategic plan was prepared for the libraries and it was decided to divide the specialist training in different ways. The first major course encompassed all librarians and staff members in a basic course. The next step was to find courses to further train librarians in special fields to meet the needs get specialized librarians in different fields. Despite the needs for specialization it was necessary to carry out a second general course in 2003.

An important part of the project is to furnish the libraries with new legal material in form of books and databases. To be able to inform students and teachers about the resources and also to perform an adequate cataloguing of the material knowledge in English is vital. Therefore a course in English just for the librarians was introduced. The course was carried out the last year of the second phase and was limited to the librarians only.

The first *librarian workshop* was carried out in March 2002. The workshop was carried out over two days and all librarians at the two libraries participated together with librarians from other law libraries in Vietnam. The outcome of the workshop was two-fold. First of all it was necessary to carry out a workshop in Lund aiming at the leaders of the libraries to participate. The theme for this workshop was the modernization of law libraries. At this workshop a study tour to the Institute of Comparative Law in Lausanne was also carried out. The participants were the managing staff consisting of two chief librarians and two vice chief librarians. It was carried out in the late spring semester 2002. This activity was followed up by a similar workshop in phase III when a strategic plan for the libraries was formed.

The second part was the modernization of the libraries with new equipment installed during August and September 2003. This equipment consisted of one server, one printer and five working stations at each of the universities. These servers were connected through licenses from the Law Faculty in Lund to West Law and Hein Online. The ICT-workshop aimed at teaching the Vietnamese librarians how to use ICT technology and raise the knowledge about the working in a modern law library. It also aimed at establishing the use of new databases and the usages of ICT in a library.

*Material and book procurement* has since the start of the project moved in a very slow pace due to a number of different reasons. First the librarians needed to be trained and second it was necessary to construct new bookshelves to protect the books from dust and humidity. The third reason was the need for a strategic plan for the development of the library resources.

In the second phase a strategy was formed and its main objective was to find material to the libraries in the area of International and Comparative Law. The activities to furnish the law libraries follow the strategy and the evaluation carried out during the workshop in March 2002. The procurement of books has preliminary been based on the needs in the masters course. Extended procurement was activated during the second year and was further developed during the third year.

*Translating English textbooks into Vietnamese* started by the translation of a book on Comparative law. During the second year of the second phase a book on International Transactions was translated and the printing and distribution process took place during autumn in 2003.

*(iii) Enhancing education and project management and widening international cooperation.*

During the second phase *study tours for project management teams* were arranged. Each study tour was connected to specific activities of the Project. The first year the study tour was to acquaint with new teaching methodologies in modern law schools, to study IT integration in law teaching and finally to have an introduction to teaching in common law and civil law. The second study tour was to find out about postgraduate training curricula and undergraduate training methods in a common law country. The third study tour was to meet with the EU Institute on Humanitarian Law and the EU Institute in Florence.

In October 2001 associate professor Lars-Göran Malmberg was posted in Hanoi as *resident Long Term Coordinator* to the Project (he kept residence in Hanoi until the beginning of the third phase of the Project).

### *2.2.3 Phase III (2006–2009/2010) – “fully operational and looking to the future”*

The third phase of Strengthening Legal Education in Vietnam can be described as ‘more of everything’. During 2006 the Long Term Project Coordinator returned to Sweden and from that time onward various personnel from Lund stayed in Vietnam for shorter or longer periods of time.

The third phase has in summary been characterised by the following:

1. Masters courses: in the spring of 2007 the second group of 27 master students began their studies and eleven of them graduated in April 2009. Another four are expected to graduate in early fall 2009
2. Following the success of the Joint Master Program, the Joint Doctoral Programme was initiated in June 2006. Eight of the Master Programme graduates and two Master graduates from the master programs in Lund, five from Hanoi Law University and five from the Ho Chi Minh City Law University, were selected to enter this research programme and they are expected to graduate by March 2011. Each doctoral candidate has two supervisors, one from Vietnam and one from Sweden, and they have all visited the Faculty of Law, Lund University, for six weeks, attending a doctoral course. The goal is that the candidates will have spent between six and twelve months outside of Vietnam before they finish their studies. The main goal of the Joint Doctoral Programme is to foster a new generation of Vietnamese law teachers and researchers well prepared for independent research.
3. Modernising of the legal libraries. The Project has provided computer classrooms and taught the librarians to work as legal information teachers, i.e. given classes in legal databases and teaching how to find critical legal information online, though at the time of this evaluation there was still some more equipment to be provided (campus 2) and training to be done at the library at LUHCMC.

#### *Significant activities*

##### *Sub-objective 1: Teachers training*

##### *Result 1 – Joint Swedish-Vietnamese Masters program*

A special coordinator for the joint masters program was appointed by the Swedish side. Still, special attention is needed to improving English. The second intake to the joint Master program was 27 students. They have finished their third and fourth semesters with satisfactory results. Human rights form an integrated part of the courses taught. The students have spent a six weeks in Lund.

The students have chosen preliminary subjects for their thesis. The list of subjects covers many important areas; of special interest from a human rights perspective are topics concerning sexual offences

against children, strikes, unemployment insurance, juvenile participation in criminal law proceedings, right of access to public documents, environmental protection, and capital punishment.

#### *Result 2 – Master of European Affairs program in Lund*

Students were only admitted to the masters program in Lund in the first years of the third phase.

#### *Result 3 – Doctorate training program*

One of the doctoral candidates taking part in the Swedish Doctoral Program successfully defended his thesis in Constitutional Law in 2006. The other candidate in Intellectual Property Law is making progress according to plan. He has presented and successfully defended his licentiate thesis in November 2007. He will defend his doctoral thesis in June 2009.

In June 2006 ten doctoral candidates were admitted to the *Joint Doctoral Program*; five from Hanoi Law University and five from Ho Chi Minh City University of Law. The program for a doctoral degree comprises a total of 160 credits (four years of full-time study). The main portion of the programme involves the writing of a scientific dissertation (doctoral thesis), which corresponds to 140 credits. The candidates are expected to have their dissertations in March/April 2011. Two supervisors have been appointed for each doctoral candidate, one from Hanoi Law University or Ho Chi Minh City University of Law and one from the Faculty of Law, Lund University.

Prolongation seminars for the doctoral candidates were held in Hanoi in October 2007. The doctoral candidates as well as their Vietnamese and Swedish supervisors attended the seminars. The overall conclusion from the seminars was that the doctoral candidates' achievements after the first year as well as their individual performances during the seminars were good and will serve as the basis for their future studies and research in the program. Seminars for the Swedish and Vietnamese supervisors were held in Hanoi also in October 2007. The criteria for assessment of the doctoral candidates' current and future manuscripts were thoroughly discussed. Prolongation seminars after the second year were held in HCMC in January 2009. These focused on the assessment of theoretical and methodological issues as well as the substantive parts of the research carried out by the doctoral candidates.

A second Course in Research Methodology and Legal Writing was held in Lund in May–June 2008. The course focused mainly on Legal Writing in English. Six of the candidates followed courses given within Suffolk University Summer Program in Lund in June–July 2008. The courses chosen were Comparative Constitutional Law, Comparative Corporations and International Intellectual property Law. In accordance with the aim of the program and the plan of operation 2007/08 nine out of the ten candidates have spent time at a foreign English-speaking university or institute.

The Junior Scholar Schools are complementary activities aimed mainly at the doctoral students taking part in the current Vietnamese doctoral programs. Junior Scholar Schools on Civil law and International law was organized 2008.

#### *Result 4 – Over the Project period 40–45 lecturers will take part in training in modern teaching methods and in modern legal thinking at the law Faculty, Lund University, in order to improve their profession and pedagogy*

A large number of Vietnamese lecturers (over the Project period 40–45 lecturers) has participated in pedagogical (modern teaching methods) training in Lund and in different pedagogical seminars. The proportion of teachers that have attended basic training is large.

#### *Result 5 – Pedagogical training in Vietnam*

The responsibility for the training is gradually shifting to the Vietnamese side, especially the Academic Quality Assurance Centers (AQACs). A basic training course will be established by the universities with support of the Project. Special support will be given to the transition to the credit-based system, curricula development and new pedagogical methods.

#### *Result 6 – English training for teachers*

The English resource Center in Hanoi has new hardware and software to provide a modern environment for learning English. A similar center was set up in Ho Chi Minh City the academic year 2008/09.

#### *Result 7 – Academic staff of the law universities is provided with the latest knowledge in legal theory and pedagogical methodology through scientific workshops, professional seminars and international conferences*

This is a continuation of activities in the first and second phase and is carried out regularly through (i) specialized in-depth workshops and seminars on legal issues (two/annum) with the participation of foreign legal experts on legal topics especially decided upon by the steering committee and the board of directors on each occasion, and (ii) specialized professional seminars on small scale using Swedish professors and their Vietnamese counterparts participating in the joint master program to discuss topics concerning modern legal issues and related teaching methods. For example, one workshop on teaching human rights took place in December 2007. Workshops on HIV/AIDS were held in Hanoi in August 2008.

#### *Result 8 – Modernize the legal textbook standards to meet the needs of a new curricula and modern teaching methods*

This was a new activity in phase three and aims at sustaining the results achieved during the second phase in regard to LL.M. curriculum development. With the adoption and introduction of a new LL.B. curriculum during the second phase by the Vietnamese it is necessary to support this new curriculum with legal textbooks that contain advanced knowledge and are suitable for modern teaching.

Plans include (i) providing scholarships to teachers to write textbooks reflecting modern teaching methodology, (ii) support the set up of a casebook review series (like WestLaw et alia) and (iii) involvement of Swedish professors to write textbooks and joint venture textbooks. At the time of the evaluation only activity (ii) seemed to have started.

#### *Sub-objective 2: Library development*

##### *Result 1 – Librarian training*

Education of researchers and teachers on information retrieval and libraries when visiting the Law Faculty in Lund was carried out. Furthermore special courses and workshops in different areas of library work have been given. Also some English training has been given to librarians.

##### *Result 2 – Upgrading the database and the access to the databases*

A subscription to WestLaw has been set up and both HLU and LUHCMC libraries now have access to it. The number of workstations with access to Internet has been increased. Training of ICT staff and an upgrading of the library system and ICT-infrastructure has been carried out.

##### *Result 3 – Book procurement and book translation*

Procurement of books and other kinds of legal material and databases has been done and are done continuously.

##### *Result 4 – Strengthening the infrastructure of the libraries*

Bookshelves, photocopy machines, additional computers, servers and printers have been procured to the libraries.

##### *Result 5 – Set up and refurbish existing English resource centers at HLU and LUHCMC*

New material has been procured.



*Sub-objective 3: Enhancing education and project management and widening international cooperation and planning for new campus areas in Hanoi and HCMC*

*Result 1 – Improving educational and project management capabilities of management staff of HLU and LUHCMC*

A workshop was held in October 2006 to develop indicators for evaluating the Project. The management of the universities used this knowledge to improve their capacity to evaluate. In HCMC two workshops have been held on course and teacher evaluation.

*Result 2 – Organizing project's annual review meeting held alternatively in Vietnam and Sweden*

The Projects annual review meeting is held in May or June every year alternatively in Vietnam and Sweden.

*Result 3 – Project coordination work*

Coordination is understood as the joint work of the steering committee and the board of directors aimed at the implementation of all approved activities. The coordination therefore consists of three components whose management function must be well organized.

*Result 4 – Setting up a program to establish a pedagogical and academic Quality Assessment Office at the two universities to secure the sustainability in methodology development*

The Academic Quality Assurance Center (AQAC) in Hanoi has been established and is operative. The center in Ho Chi Minh City is also established.

*Result 5 – Set up a plan for gender equality program*

The gender plan development started with a seminar in Lund in November 2006. A workshop on this subject combined with a seminar will be held in spring 2009.

### **3 Key Findings**

The following are some key findings of the evaluation regarding the Project. In this respect it is important to note the Vietnam context as it tends to reflect on many issues.

Vietnam has gone through many development stages and is presently economically in a very dynamic and rapidly changing stage. The country has opened up to the world market and is experiencing rapid growth, although the world financial crisis may take a toll also on Vietnam. Economic change has also brought about social change and a certain opening up of the society. Issues such as gender equality or human rights are no longer taboos and they have been reflected in one way or another also in the constitution and legislation. The change in these areas in every-day life is, however, slower.

The political change is much more sluggish with the Party keeping the real power tightly in its hands. Thus there is a dual structure also in governance where the Government has the formal power and structures but the Party has the ultimate power.

The legal system has also gone through various and very different stages. Recently legislation has been developed so that it could cater better for the growing international trade and investment sector and work in that respect is continuing. On the other hand, developments in renewing the domestic laws seem to be much slower. The rule of law refers not only to the legislation and more predictable law enforcement on trade and investments but also to the whole legal system, including the courts, and particularly from the viewpoint of the people whom the laws should govern and protect.

### 3.1 Relevance and Compatibility

In a situation like the one in Vietnam where the legal system has been built on many borrowed systems; where the legal system was practically totally dismantled and built up again on socialist principles; where the educated lawyers fled the country in large numbers; where the opening up of the country to the international market and internal social change have called for urgent development of laws and the entire legal sector; and where there is a large demand for well trained lawyers, building up and improving the legal education is absolutely relevant. The Project is without any doubt highly relevant.

The objectives of Sweden's development cooperation with Vietnam have according to the strategy been: *to strengthen the capacity of Vietnam to reduce poverty on an environmentally sustainable basis, and promoting openness, development towards democracy and respect for human rights*. Furthermore, the rule of law is a key concept in Sweden's development policy. The Project is most relevant also from the point of view of Sweden's development cooperation, particularly as regards openness, rule of law and respect for human rights. Well educated lawyers are key to advancing towards rule of law and legally educated professionals will contribute to respect for human rights and strengthening the conditions for democracy.

The Project is also compatible in the sense that it is an important piece in the mosaic of support projects to the governance reforms and legal sector development that are ongoing in Vietnam. The Government has decided that HLU and LUHCMC will be supported to become the two leading legal training institutions, one in the North and one in the South, and models for other law schools. Against this background Sweden's support is indeed well targeted and its results should be sustained.

Setting up and improving legal education to an internationally comparable level is a long-term undertaking in the Vietnamese environment where the legal sector is still shaping up and where legal education is very young to start with. When the Project started the intention was to support the strengthening of legal education in Vietnam for a long time. This in many ways was a pre-requisite for sustainable results given the prevailing conditions. The intention was that after the present third phase the Project would still have been continued with a fourth phasing out phase in order to safeguard sustainability of the results achieved. Against this background the fact that Sweden will cease the support to legal education in Vietnam (as development cooperation with the country will not be continued) came as a surprise to the stakeholders. As will be argued below, sustainability would seem to require that the Project at least in some respect would be continued at least up to the end of the 2010–2011 academic year (up to August 2011), either by extending development cooperation for yet another six months or through partner driven cooperation or by other means.

### 3.2 Phase 1 and 2

The primary objective of Phase 1 of the project *Strengthening Legal Training in Vietnam* was substantial improvement of the content and learning methods for basic legal education. Already at that stage a twinning arrangement was made between the Faculty of Law at Lund University on the Swedish side and HLU and LUHCMC on the Vietnamese side with the financial support from Sida. Although the project document outlined various components of the Project it was also clear, as was stated in the project document, that this phase comprised a planning period for long-term cooperation.

In fact, Phase 1 turned out to be much of a preparatory phase where the relations and the necessary trust between the twinning partners were built up in addition to planning in detail the activities. There were regular visits from HLU and LUHCMC to Lund (altogether 25 participants from HLU and LUHCMC) in order to get acquainted with modern legal training curricula and methods which was the necessary basis for further planning and implementation of the next phase. Two major teachers' workshops were arranged where the plans were discussed and finalized.

Also two librarians were trained to facilitate future development of the libraries. English training was also provided for over 70 teachers which made it possible to begin further training during Phase 2. Five working visits were arranged to other international universities to acquaint the participants with more advanced education management, curriculum development and pedagogic methods.

A Project Management Office was established at HLU and the Project Support Office at Lund but the hiring of a Swedish Long Term Coordinator (LTC) for the Project was postponed to the end of Phase 1/beginning of Phase 2. Having permanent presence from Lund in Vietnam (at HLU, which had the coordinating role on the Vietnamese side) considerably facilitated project implementation and guaranteed an active start for Phase 2.

The objective of the Project was slightly revised to read: *“To achieve an accomplished curriculum development and teaching methodology for bachelor, master and doctorate degrees, which fit the principles of a state based on rule of law and the needs of the ‘Doi Moi’ policy, strengthening legal education capability by improving lecturers’ qualification, strengthening libraries’ information system and widening international cooperation.”* The Project comprised three components: developing lecturing force, developing libraries, and enhancing education and project management and widening international cooperation.

*Teacher training* was carried out in several sub-components. The Joint Swedish/Vietnamese master program in international and comparative law was introduced. The prerequisite that the participants had to have good English knowledge at the start of the course proved to be somewhat difficult due to the general low level of English and they had to be given extended language training. The coordination between the Swedish and Vietnamese teachers left much room for improvement as did coordination between HLU and LUHCMC. In addition to legal training in International and Comparative Law the course gave training in modern teaching methods with a practical examination and videotaped mock lecture.

English training was introduced as a special sub-component from the very beginning of the Project. Some 30 teachers undertook the training each year. However, as they have no or only limited access to daily English practice experience showed that the gained knowledge was soon lost without proper practice. Also organizing the courses turned out to be difficult because of the variety of English knowledge. The majority needed basic English while others already expected more advanced or even legal English training.

With the introduction of the Joint Master Program Swedish teachers regularly came to Vietnam which gave a possibility to arrange seminars and discussions around the subject curricula and pedagogical matters. This was important in broadening the perspective on legal training for both Swedish and Vietnamese teachers but also in allowing much more teachers and administrators to become involved in the project and the subject matters. This also laid the basis for enhancing the twinning effect of the Project.

During Phase 2 also a doctorate candidate programme was introduced without any major complications although the need to select truly qualified candidates, also in English, was underlined.

The short term pedagogical courses (three weeks) continued throughout Phase 1 and 2 with subjects concerning both pure teaching methodology and institution building to create understanding and links between different subjects and different institutions inside the university, including the library, which will be important when moving into a credit based system in the universities. The training was widened to give the teachers also an insight in the Swedish legal system and visits were paid to civil and administrative courts in the region.

A number of international workshops and conferences were arranged as a natural element of twinning and to broaden the international perspective. Over the years a number of study tours had been made



and the workshops and conferences cemented the newly established international contacts. The conference which was arranged in September 2002 was one of the fundamental steppingstones in developing a new curriculum for the LL.B. training in Vietnam.

*Library development* turned out to be more difficult than expected and only minor activities were carried out during Phase 1. The training of librarians was a key issue together with establishing the technical and other infrastructure before it would be advisable to start buying books in big quantities. Furthermore, and perhaps most importantly, the universities needed to understand the importance of a library in legal education and research and the change in such attitudes takes time.

Two librarians from both HLU and LUHCMC were trained in Switzerland. Due to limited English of other candidates, shorter term basic training was started in Vietnam. The knowledge of English of the library staff remained very low, limiting of course the libraries' ability to work internationally and with English language textbooks and materials.

A strategic plan for the development of the libraries was prepared during Phase 2 and followed up in Phase 3, prior to the procurement of books. The books that were procured were all related to the Joint Master Program. Only few books were translated into Vietnamese. The problem was to find proper books in English to translate as most of them had a common law perspective. Secondly, there were difficulties in acquiring publishing rights without having to pay a fee to the original publishers.

A number of international study tours were arranged regarding *enhancement of management and widening international cooperation*. Most of the study tours were related to international cooperation although they also gave an opportunity to acquaint oneself with the management of those universities. Otherwise management issues were mainly related to project management rather than management of the universities.

### 3.3 Phase 3

An assessment of Phase 1 and 2 was made and based on the lessons learned and proposed improvements a project document for Phase 3 was prepared. The new phase was planned to begin as of 1 January 2005 but due to delays in approving the project document on the Vietnamese side and changes in the personnel at Sida followed by extended negotiations with Lund on the contract, the contract was signed only in July 2005. This resulted in further delays because project activities and plans and preparations for implementing Phase 3 were on a halt. In some respect a full academic year was lost as some sub-components could start only at the beginning of the new 2006–07 academic year in August 2006. To some extent the delays are still felt today in the implementation programme. With these delays Sweden's decision to bring the Project to an end at the end of 2010 will thus jeopardize the Project so that some activities cannot be fully carried out and endanger sustainability of some of the results achieved. The following describes the main findings of Phase 3 of the Project.

The assessment made of Phase 1 and 2 indicated that most activities had been successfully carried out as laid down in the project document. Therefore, there was not much need for changes in Phase 3. The present evaluation would confirm that assessment. The shortcomings related to minor issues regarding planning and administration of implementation and most of the issues were addressed already in the course of implementation of Phase 2. The assessment clearly analysed the issues that required improvement or changes in Phase 3 and they are clearly spelled out in the project document of Phase 3 and thus need not be repeated here.

The overall objective of Phase 3 remained the same, without changes from Phase 2. Also the main components of the Project remained the same apart from the addition of “*...and planning for new campus areas in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City*” in the third component. However, some changes were made within the components based on the assessment made on Phase 1 and 2.

As regards the component of teacher training a sub-component of pedagogical training in Vietnam was added. Also there was more need to focus on curriculum development and instead a new sub-component was to modernize textbook standards to meet the needs of the new curricula and modern teaching methods.

As for the library the development of Internet connections to international databases such as WestLaw, HeinOnline and Elin and the technical infrastructure of the libraries were highlighted. Furthermore, English resource centers would be upgraded at HLU and established at LUHCMC.

The third component no longer emphasized the expansion of international connections. The coordination between HLU and LUHCMC and Lund was a new emphasis area. Another important addition was the programme to set up a Pedagogical and Academic Quality Assurance Office at the two universities to secure the sustainability in methodology development.

One of the big achievements of the Project is the impressive list of *masters and doctors* that have been trained or are underway. Also the subjects of studies have been important for the legal reforms in the country and for supporting rule of law. Subjects such as judicial independence, capital punishment, statutory interpretation and access to information, right to defense, and land management, show that the society is opening up, but also that the Project has been able to support that process. Consideration should be given to publication of many of the thesis.

Due to the fact that Sweden will not support the Project after 2010, nine Ph.D. candidates will not be able to finish their studies, which shows total irresponsibility at the project level and indifference at the human level from the Swedish side, although the issue has been labeled “a political decision”. Continuation of the Project for perhaps six months would solve the problem.

After the teething problems with the joint supervision of the students in these programmes, during Phase 3 the students benefited much from the high level of attention from both the Vietnamese and Swedish supervisor who also coordinated the work with each other.

The main objective of the Masters and Ph.D. programme has been to improve the lecture force in HLU and LUHCMC. The graduation of the candidates is an important outcome to that end but the objective will be reached only if the graduates remain and are used as teachers, lectures and researchers. The candidates have been bonded to government service after the studies but in addition there should be sufficient encouragement and incentive for them to continue with an academic career.

*English language training* remained a challenge for the Project and particularly in the Joint Masters Program although there was a requirement to have adequate English language skills and to have passed a test for admission to the programme. The level of English comprehension beyond rudimentary daily conversation is a rather general problem in Vietnam and the gap to proficiency at an academic level is big. The universities need to fully understand the high level of English required to achieve an international academic degree.

The language issue is difficult to solve. The Project has made various attempts to improve the English language skills. English language was introduced specifically for the prospective masters students during the first term under the Vietnamese part of the programme. However, in hindsight it might have benefited the Project if more intensive and regular English teaching had been introduced as an established part of the curriculum on an ongoing basis. And yet, one must ask whether it is the task of a law university to teach general English in such a degree.

The Project has established English Resource Centers, both at HLU and LUHCMC. Hopefully this will encourage also the teachers to maintain and improve their English.

Transforming and introducing modern *teaching methods* was one aim of the Project. The older teachers at the Vietnamese universities have been brought up and educated in a very conservative socialist and old school tradition. Many have taken their own academic education in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. For those teachers it may take a much longer time to fully take on board the new perspectives. However, there have been clear improvements, for example in the use of modern technology in teaching, case studies and course seminars. Modern teaching methods are also affected by the large number of students and the limited availability of adequate classrooms for smaller seminars and interactive learning.

The spin-off effect of training on teaching methods could have been wider if those teachers who had a chance to participate in such training would have been compelled to organize seminars or workshops on the same subject for those colleagues who did not have a chance to participate in the training.

As regards the *development of libraries* the Project has made considerable achievement with a substantial increase in volumes of textbooks on the shelves, trained librarians, reference desks and IT connections. The library at HLU is well used and appreciated by the students and the one at LUHCMC has just been inaugurated although it has been in use already for a few months.

There is still a limited amount of books translated into Vietnamese which is an obstacle due to the low level of English of the users. Choosing which books to translate and then identifying people with adequate skills to do the translation has proven to be a difficult process. The libraries do hold a number of volumes in English and it has been argued that having easy access to volumes in English will encourage students to improve their language skills.

As regards the selection of books to purchase, in HLU the Academic Quality Assurance Center (AQAC) is working with the faculties and the library to facilitate the selection and proposals are then submitted to a committee for consideration. In LUHCMC the library makes proposals to the Rector who decides which adds a seemingly unnecessary administrative burden at the top management level.

The library in LUHCMC was inaugurated during the evaluation. It is located on three floors which is not optimal because the logistics require a threefold staff at the entrances. The internet connections at the other campus in HCMC are not yet in place.

In LUHCMC some of the librarians have only had the first round of basic librarian training. More generally, there is a need to improve the level of English with the librarians both at HLU and LUHCMC.

*Improving management* has, apart from study tours, related to management of the Project rather than management of education or of the university. However, during Phase 3 quality assurance centers (AQAC) were established both at HLU and LUHCMC. The AQAC have also a potential to support improvement of management of education, depending of course which road the AQAC will take.

The AQAC at HLU and LUHCMC seem to have taken quite different roads. At HLU it has a wide role in quality assurance, but also in developing a variety of issues for the university, although the center itself has only two staff members. The center is working actively together with the faculties, departments, the library etc. The Center has a role in some important common activities of HLU, such as developing the reporting to MoE with indicators; servicing the committee which is drafting various management procedures; developing teaching programmes for the new credit based system; developing indicators to assess teachers etc. Its own activities include issues such as developing evaluation methods for different issues in HLU; managing feedback from students; facilitating procurement of textbooks and teaching materials by serving as a bridge between faculties and the library; developing the credit based system; designing pedagogical aspects to teaching materials; preparing a survey on the needs of users (staff and students) etc.

At LUCHMC the AQAC is focusing more on pure quality assurance aspects while the Training Department is supporting the Rector in the management of teaching methods and exams as well as developing the credit based system. The AQAC arranges seminars on teaching methods, is involved in developing teaching technology, and assists in managing classrooms. Furthermore, the Center monitors the quality of education along the instructions given by MoE and manages the feedback from students. Also the Center provides assistance in managing and organizing exams. It seems that difference in the way the Centers work partly stems from difference in the management structure of the universities. At LUHCMC the process is more vertical than at HLU where there is more horizontal cooperation between faculties and departments. It also seems that the Project has not had much of a role in the way management structures have developed in either of the universities.

### 3.4 Crosscutting Issues

Poverty reduction is a main objective of Sweden's development cooperation. However, this Project does not have any direct effect on poverty reduction. Indirectly the Project will contribute to poverty reduction in as much as the improved legal training will definitely contribute to good governance, rule of law and respect for human rights in the long run as these issues are taken more into account in the legal training and the graduates from the universities will serve in various government positions, and courts and the procuracy in the cities as well as in the provinces.

*Human rights, gender and HIV/AIDS* have not been perceived as a priority issues in the project document but the Project has successfully conducted seminars and workshops on these issues and has increasingly drawn attention to them. Along with the opening up of the society these topics no longer are taboos and they are elaborated more also in other universities. A Human Rights Center was set up at LUHCMC with the support of the Danish Embassy. Topics related to these crosscutting issues have been chosen for the Masters and Ph.D. thesis to which the Project has contributed. The Project has also contributed to gender equality at the two universities not only by emphasizing the matter and keeping the topic up in workshops and seminars but also by providing equal opportunities for training of female teachers.

The *Human Rights Based Approach to development* (HRBA) has not been introduced as such or followed as a doctrine in the Project. Appreciative inquiry, however, reveals that in practice elements of HRBA have been followed: participatory approach in planning with open workshops on work plans; promoting transparency in various project activities. Also after initial financial reporting from Lund to Sida there now is transparency also in financial management. However, there are areas where following the rights based approach may have yielded some additional results. For instance, in the education, going down to the level of the people and their rights for instance to education, health, clean drinking water etc. one could have de-politicized the issue of human rights and revealed what human rights means in everyday life at the level of the people.

### 3.5 Implementation Set-up

From the very beginning the Project has been set up on a very traditional twinning arrangement. It is cooperation between equal and independent universities. This has also reflected partly in the way the Project has been implemented: there has been active cooperation between Lund and HLU and LUHCMC respectively in terms of study tours, workshops and seminars and other visits. This has built up the trust and mutual understanding and interest which have been necessary not only for implementation of the Project but also for meaningful twinning. Cooperation with other international universities has taken place largely on the basis of enhancing international cooperation in line with the project document.

Also the formal project management set-up reflects the twinning arrangement between independent universities. A Board of Directors was set up for the Project on the Vietnamese side and a Steering Committee on the Swedish side. Issues were considered separately at each end, although there were of course informal consultations between the parties as needed in preparing for decisions. The Steering Committee and the Board of Directors have had regular joint meetings which have served well the need for more formal coordination. On the practical level a Project Management Office (PMO) was established at HLU and the Project Support Office at Lund. When the Swedish LTC was hired he was with the PMO at HLU which further facilitated the cooperation and implementation.

Due to the twinning arrangement between equal partners Lund never had the opportunity or position to “push through” issues although it on the Swedish side has had a certain responsibility in seeing to it that implementation is smooth and timely. On some issues Lund has been persistent but in a manner that has not caused conflicts between the parties.

The fact that HLU has been the coordinator of the Project on the Vietnamese side and that the LTC has been posted in HLU has resulted in Lund having more and closer cooperation with HLU and somewhat less with LUHCMC, although both have participated equally in training and other activities. The more active cooperation with HLU has been highlighted by the fact that there has been little cooperation between HLU and LUHCMC. They have both acted rather independently although both are partners in the common Project. Also the more centralized management style of LUHCMC has resulted in much more narrow participation in the Project by the staff. At HLU there has been more broad-based active participation.

The Project has not developed a clear monitoring system and indicators to follow up progress and achievements. As no baseline study was prepared at the beginning of the project it is difficult to assess progress without a good monitoring system. The Project does prepare regular progress reports following the LFA format. However, the reports are not based on indicators which would assess progress towards the objective and sub-objectives of the Project, although activities and outputs have been tediously reported. In this regard also the project document is defunct as the indicators (results) there only refer to activities, not achievement of the objectives.

The audit report prepared in 2006 indicates that there were certain shortcomings in the financial administration of the Project. Regarding financial reporting the auditor notes that they have not been able to follow the information from the accounting system to the financial reports sent to Sida due to the complicated reporting from Lund. Also, Lund had submitted financial reports directly to Sida without the Vietnamese side having been informed. Furthermore, the auditor notes that the support in the Project has been divided between that channelled through the Lund University and the support given directly to the two universities in Vietnam. This approach to budgeting and reporting carries with it a risk of projects not being planned and run as efficiently as possible and could lead to a failure to detect mistakes. Financial management has been rectified since then along the recommendations of the audit.

Sida as a financier of the Project has an important role in the set-up. Sida's role is very much dependent on the Sida Programme Officer in charge of the project, which has changed over time. It takes some time for a new person to ‘get into’ the Project and sometimes personalities can have a disruptive effect on implementation. Sida also partly was responsible for the delays in the beginning of Phase 3 of the Project as negotiations with Lund on the contract were extended for several months causing considerable delays in implementation of Phase 3.

It appears that in spite of the fact that the Project has been based on a twinning arrangement there is little concrete development cooperation between Lund and the two universities that could be based on partner driven cooperation. Naturally when the universities have developed their relationship over the



years through close cooperation in the Project, cooperation between the universities will continue. However, it is very likely that the cooperation will be similar as normal international cooperation between universities: participation in conferences and workshops, occasional visiting lecturers, perhaps sometimes exchange of lecturers or exchange of students or researchers. Perhaps partner driven cooperation funds could to some extent be used in financing some of the activities but those funds would hardly be sufficient for any real development work between the universities. On the other hand, it is difficult to see why the Faculty of Law at University of Lund would use its own budget to finance development work in Vietnam. Thus it is difficult to see how the cooperation would possibly grow beyond normal international cooperation between universities.

### **3.6 Efficiency**

In assessing efficiency the Evaluation Team has considered also the twinning arrangement. Overall one could say that this has been an expensive project. A large number of Swedish professors and teaching staff have been involved and visits to Vietnam are several in a year. Equally, Vietnamese visits and students' stay in Lund are numerous. However, this has been caused largely by the way the Project has been set up, the twinning arrangement. Also the contents of the Project have contributed to this.

The very nature of twinning requires close cooperation and frequent visits both ways. Building up contacts has to be wide based, involving a lot of people. Also as the Project monitoring report notes, in order to deliver the quality and properly supervise and interact, this is probably the only way it could have been done. On the other hand, this modus operandi is no more expensive than having full time advisers in the project, and offers the required spread of topics and disciplines in accordance with the ambitions of the Project. The LTC has been in Vietnam only for a limited period which has increased the need for travel.

In accordance with the twinning arrangement it is also natural that the training programmes have fully or partly taken place in Lund rather than at some other university for instance in the region, which presumably would have been much cheaper, but then Lund would not have been in a position to guarantee the quality.

It is impossible to assess whether a traditional consultancy type project would have been more cost efficient, would have been able to provide the same quality, and would have been acceptable to the Vietnamese side.

### **3.7 Sustainability**

The evaluation also considered the issue of sustainability although in many respects it is perhaps too early to make any convincing judgment about sustainability. Also with the large variety of objectives and activities the picture is rather mixed.

It goes without saying that the increased knowledge and skills that the teachers have gained through training, be it legal knowledge, educational skills or English language, will remain with the individuals and will thus be sustained. However, it is essential that the universities will find ways and means to retain those staff members that have been trained, as well as encouraging them to use their new skills.

Sustainability of many of the things that have improved through Project activities will depend also on how well HLU and LUHCMC will be able to institutionalize the improvements, for instance in terms of internal processes, guidelines etc. In the view of the Evaluation Team the issue of institutionalizing the change is a key for sustainability. In this regard the AQAC, particularly at HLU with its wide and interactive role, is of key importance. Sustainability will be of outmost importance at this stage when the universities in the near future will be moving into a credit based system. In a way one can conclude

that well implemented transformation into the credit based system will capture and sustain all the essential improvements that the Project has aimed at.

There is one objective that Lund has had with the Project although it is not clearly spelled out in the project document. It is not a hidden agenda of Lund but rather a philosophical approach in the cooperation. Lund believes that in order to become a high quality modern university one has to be able to combine high quality training with high quality research. Any highly reputable university would have a combination of teaching and research, as research is a necessary basis for continued improvement. The Project has been able to lay some foundation to this end, particularly with the Ph.D. programme and improvements at the library. It seems that the universities have realized the importance of a good quality library but it is not clear whether the philosophical approach of Lund has been fully taken at heart by HLU and LUHCMC.

There are areas where sustainability is more obvious, such as development of the facilities, provision of equipment, provided that they are properly maintained, improvements within the library, the textbooks etc. Of less tangible areas it is likely that activities in the areas of gender and human rights and contacts with other international universities will continue even after the Project. But in all areas what should be maintained and sustained is the drive and commitment to continuous improvement. Also this should be institutionalized as seems to have been done at HLU with the establishment of the AQAC with a wide mandate.

## 4 Conclusions

Overall, the Project and support to legal education has been most relevant and much needed. In general, implementation has been efficient and effective and the results good. Some of the results apparently will be sustained even after Swedish aid comes to an end in 2010.

However, Sida's support should have continued for a phasing out period if Sweden would have wanted to safeguard sustainability of the Project and results achieved so far. In particular there would have been a need to support the AQAC at HLU in the initial implementation of the transformation of the university into a credit based system, which will touch on a whole range of key functions of the university. MoJ has decided that of the two key law universities in Vietnam, HLU should be first supported to become a model for others. In this respect the Project could have been a key factor in safeguarding that the transformation process would have captured and sustained all the improvement efforts that have been supported and undertaken during the past more than ten years. An ill-implemented transformation will threaten to wipe away much of what has been achieved thus far.

A large number of teachers have successfully undertaken advanced studies supported by the Project and will contribute significantly to the teacher workforce of HLU and LUHCMC. The fact that Sida's support to the Project will end in 2010 means that the nine Ph.D. candidates who presently are preparing for their thesis will not be able to complete their studies which have been supported by the Project, which will be a human tragedy at the individual level.

A network of international contacts has been built up and it will remain for HLU and LUHCMC to maintain and build further on those contacts.

The libraries of both universities have seen considerable improvement both in terms of physical improvement and training of staff. However, at LUHCMC the improvements with the library have not yet been completed. The library with the campus outside of the center of HCMC is still lacking the IT

infrastructure and the planned training programme for librarians at LUHCMC is only half way through. The focus in HCMC should be to finalize the library improvement component although it is probable that all may not be finalized by the time the Project comes to an end. The Project has still room for further purchase of books. Incentives should be found for writing more textbooks in Vietnamese and for translation work.

There has been little research at either of the universities. More research should be encouraged and incentives developed to reward research.

The Project is formally set up on a twinning basis. Taking into account the nature of a twinning arrangement and the ambitions of the Project it can be concluded that the Project has been fairly cost efficient, although rather expensive with the frequent visits back and forth between the universities.

There seems to have been no apparent benefit from having two universities involved on the Vietnamese side. There has been little cooperation between them and little lessons learned from each other. LUHCMC has participated in the Project on a very narrow basis and for instance only the Rector has basically participated in joint meetings of the Board of Directors and the Steering Committee while other parties have participated on a much wider basis.

The evaluation did not reveal great possibilities for partner driven cooperation between the universities. There is a need to continue cooperation in order to safeguard sustainability of the results of the Project but it is difficult to see how such cooperation could be financed by partner driven cooperation funds.

## **5 Lessons Learned**

A twinning arrangement has its limitations and does not seem to yield any particular benefits in a Project of this nature. It seems that there should be very specific and concrete reasons to choose twinning as a model on project implementation in development cooperation.

There seems to be no particular benefit in having two universities involved in the Project from the Vietnamese side. On the contrary it seems that it has unnecessarily divided and distracted attention between the parties during implementation. Also the fact that one has been in the North and the other in the South has made implementation more cumbersome and difficult, and somewhat more expensive. There should be very particular reasons to choose two partners for a development cooperation project instead of only one.



## 6 Recommendations

Cooperation in the remaining period of the Project should to a large extent focus on supporting HLU through AQAC in the process of transformation into the credit based system which is a wide ranging exercise touching on most of the activities of the university. At LUHCMC the focus should be on completing the improvement of the library, both physically and through further training.

Cooperation and support should be continued until the end of academic year 2010–2011 and cover during the extension:

- continued support to the nine Ph.D. students who are about to finish their thesis in the first half of 2011,
- continued support to HLU (through AQAC) up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 in implementation of the transformation to the credit based system, and
- continued support to the library at LUHCMC up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 if the planned activities have not been completed by the end of 2010.

Sida and Lund should confer so as to find a way to finance the continuation of the Project up to the end of academic year 2010–2011 from development cooperation funds or by other means.

Annexes

Annex 1, Terms of Reference

Annex 2, List of interviewees

Annex 3, List of reference documents

Annex 4, International assistance to legal and judicial reforms in Vietnam

# Annex 1 Terms of Reference

## Background

Sweden has supported legal sector development in Vietnam since 1991 and Laos since 1992. In both cases, the overall purpose has been to contribute to the transformation and modernisation of these countries into states governed by “rule of law”, ensuring predictability, equality and respect and protection of human rights.

In the area of *legal education*, Sweden’s cooperation with Vietnam started in 1998 and with Laos in 2000. The development partners in Vietnam have been Hanoi Law University (HLU), the Law University of Ho Chi Minh City (LUHCMC) and the Law Faculty of the University of Lund (LFUL), who are now in the third and final phase of cooperation<sup>1</sup>. In Laos, the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the National University of Laos (FLP/NUOL) has cooperated with the Law Department of Umeå University (LDUU), in their second agreement phase<sup>2</sup>.

The programmes have similar goals of improving the quantity and quality of the teaching methodology and ultimately improving the quality of graduated students although the national contexts and size of the project are different. Initially, focus was on enhancing law teachers’ substantial legal knowledge as well as their English language proficiency; producing text-books; and improving the schools’ learning facilities. Over time, more focus has been given to train teachers to use new and modern teaching methods; modernise and expand curricula; develop research methodology and to strengthen the organisation and management of the law schools/faculties, library development and IT infrastructure; and enhance international and national networking with other universities domestically and abroad. In Vietnam, the cooperation has also included joint Vietnamese-Swedish Master and PhD programs (50 graduated master students and 12 PhD’s).

In Laos, the project design largely derives from the recommendations made in the Sida Evaluation of its support to the legal sector in Laos 1992–2000<sup>3</sup>.

## Purpose and Scope of the Evaluation

The purpose of the evaluation is to document and assess the achievements made and lessons learned in the Sida funded legal education projects in Vietnam and Laos from the inception of the project until today. The two projects should be evaluated separately and the results of the evaluation should be presented in two separate reports.

The evaluations shall assess to what extent the project objectives have been met or not met and analyse the key factors and explanations for this.

The evaluations shall in addition assess the relevance of the project objectives in relation to the main problems identified for the two projects, and in relation to the changing Vietnamese and Lao contexts. The efficiency of the projects and the use of the twinning model for implementation shall be analysed and assessed, including the quality of cooperation and division of roles between the main Vietnamese, Lao and Swedish partners.

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<sup>1</sup> Sweden’s financial support to Vietnam in Phase 1 (1998–2001) amounted to SEK 15 000 000 million; Phase 2 (2001–2005) amounted to SEK 24,5 million; and the current Phase 3 (2005–2009) amounts to SEK 71 million.

<sup>2</sup> Support to FLP/NUOL in Laos in Phase 1 (2000–2003) amounted to SEK 12 million; and Phase 2 (2003–2008) to SEK 32,3 million.

<sup>3</sup> Sida Evaluation 03/08 “Strengthening the Rule of Law in Lao PDR, 1992–2000”, Serbinson, Colins-Falk, Birkoff.

The project in Vietnam started in 1998 and is divided into three phases: I 1998–2000, II 2001–2004, III 2005–2009 and the evaluation for Vietnam is expected to reflect the process and major achievements in each phase with an emphasis on the last phase.

What conclusions can be made? What are the lessons learned? The Swedish Government has put increased emphasis on the documentation and utilisation of results and experiences in the management of Swedish development co-operation. The documentation of results is essential in Laos, as part of the process of phasing out the bilateral development cooperation. In Vietnam an assessment of the results achieved is an important input for recommendations for the design of future interventions.

## Expected Output of the Evaluations

The evaluations are expected to:

- a. give an overview of the projects in Vietnam and Laos.
- b. assess and record *the results* – outcomes and impact – of the two projects, and *assess the effectiveness* by relating results to objectives and identify key explanatory factors (achievements as well as shortcomings). With regard to the latter, attention should be paid to making explicit and analysing the *country contexts' impact on the results of the programmes*.
- c. assess and analyse the *relevance* of the projects' objectives in relation to Lao/Vietnam and Swedish policy/priorities as well as the relevance of the project designs in order to reach the project objectives,
- d. assess and analyse the *cost-efficiency* in using the twinning model for implementation,
- e. analyse to what extent the *sustainability* of results can be expected (outcomes and impact);
- f. describe how the projects have addressed the *perspectives of poor women and men*, or directly or indirectly improved the situation for people living in poverty
- g. make *recommendations* on how the project results can be made sustainable in the two projects, and how Sida and its cooperating partners can improve cooperation in legal education or university cooperation in general.

## The Assignment

The consultancy team shall carry out the following tasks:

### **A. Describe the implementation process and analyse the effectiveness and results achieved by the support**

1. Make a summary of the project in Vietnam and Laos, describing the main activities implemented since start.
2. Describe and assess the outcomes of the project, irrespective of intended or unintended, direct or indirect, positive or negative. E.g. to what extent did an increasing number of better educated legal professionals improve the quality of legal drafting by Ministries and NA? Did the supported projects contribute to an increased awareness among legal professionals of human rights and gender equality? Etc.
3. Analyse the reasons for the results obtained and identify which factors have been most important – and how – for attaining those results. The analyses should include but not be limited to:
  - unfavourable change in external or sector environment (context),

- suitability of chosen project implementation modality and strategy,
  - quality of the projects' M&E systems,
  - quality of the projects' design and project management capacity (formulation of problems, objectives and strategies, planning, financial management, system for reporting and monitoring the project etc).
  - flexibility/inflexibility by the partners during the implementation stages (Lao, Vietnamese and Swedish (incl. Sida), etc.
4. Assess the role/contribution of legal education in the overall legal and judicial reforms and development in Vietnam and Lao PDR (the focus on legal education in Laos was recommended by the Sida Evaluation 03/08).
  5. Assess to what extent a rights-based approach – non-discrimination, participation, empowerment, accountability, transparency and promotion of individual rights, and gender equality – has been used in the planning and implementation of project activities.
  6. Describe how the law schools/faculties interact and coordinate their activities with the other legal training institutes and schools, as well as with other concerned institutions in the legal sector within respective country as well as regionally. What influence did the Sida-supported projects have in this regard?

## **B. Assess the relevance, cost-efficiency and sustainability of the cooperation**

Make an assessment of the following specific dimensions:

### *1. Relevance:*

- a) Assess the relevance of the projects in relation to the development of *legal education* in general in Vietnam and Laos, and specifically in relation to the supported Universities.
- b) Assess the relevance of the projects' objectives, outputs and outcomes in relation to the development of the *legal sector as a whole* in each country (in the case of Laos, incl. the relevance of narrowing support in the sector to legal education).
- c) Assess the relevance of the projects' objectives, outputs and outcomes *vis-à-vis the key problems* identified in the problem analyses, *vis-à-vis the countries' poverty reduction strategies* (or similar) as well as the Swedish Cooperation Strategies for Lao PDR and Vietnam, respectively.

### *2. Sustainability:*

- a) Assess *organisational capacity development of University management in terms of administration, human resource development and planning, academic development* in terms of the number of teachers trained, master exams managed and PhD's.
- b) To what extent are the teachers trained by the projects still working for the University? What has happened to those who left the University for other assignments? Why did they leave?
- c) Assess the financial contribution from the Vietnamese/ Lao government for the projects (funds, in kind support, equipment and office facilities etc).
- d) Assess the *financial sustainability* of the Laotian and Vietnamese law faculties/institutions current level of activities (incl. continued method and capacity development funding) beyond the current project funding.

- e) Assess issues of *partnership sustainability*: to what extent will the Vietnamese/Lao cooperation with their Swedish partners be possible to maintain beyond the current projects (especially relevant for Vietnam and possibilities for future ‘actor cooperation’)?
- f) Assess *institutional sustainability*: broader changes in the legal sector, political factors, etc. being sustained after completed Swedish-Lao co-operation.

### 3. *Cost-efficiency*

Assess the cost-efficiency of the chosen implementation strategies, and in particular of the twinning approach compared to other project modalities.

### **C. Give recommendations based on the above analysis of results**

The Consultancy team is requested to conclude their report with key recommendations to Sida.

The Consultancy team is also required to highlight lessons learned for future cooperation in the area of legal education in general, and especially for the design of possible future Vietnamese cooperation.

## **Methodology**

In order to carry out the evaluations, the consultants should:

- Assess reports and other documentation from the projects as well as study other related documents and relevant policies and strategies (list of documents should be provided by the embassies)
- Visit the project sites in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Vientiane.
- Interview different stakeholders, including but not restricted to:
  - Sida staff in Hanoi, Vientiane and Stockholm
  - The Law schools/faculties in Vietnam and Laos,
  - Lund and Umeå University staff that have been involved in the projects at different times (advisors, back-stoppers, etc),
  - Relevant officials in Vietnam and Laos, e.g staff of the Ministries of Justice, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Office of the Government, Supreme people’s Courts, Supreme People’s Procuracy, Private law firms, the provincial Bar Associations,
  - A selection of relevant representatives of the business sectors (both domestic and international companies), civil society and media,
  - Relevant UN and donor agencies involved primarily in legal sector support in the two countries.
- Interview individual beneficiaries, e.g. teachers and students at the Faculty of Law
- Interview graduated law students (in courts, district/provincial administrations, central agencies and ministries, private law firms, private and state business companies, etc) to learn about the longer term result of their education (how many have occupations outside legal professions? Why? What is the trend? Is there a trend in a growing “legal private sector”? Why?, etc.)

The evaluation process and report shall be carried out in accordance with OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards.

## Organisation, Time-frame and Reporting

The evaluations will be conducted by a team of at least four independent consultants (2 international consultants, 1 Lao and 1 Vietnamese consultants, 1 qualified Vietnamese and 1 qualified Lao interpreters. One of the international consultants shall be the team-leader and the main author of the two reports.

The assignment shall be carried out during 15 October 2008–15 March 2009. For Vietnam, Sida estimates that a maximum of 17 weeks ('person weeks', excl. time and costs for interpretation/translation) are required for the Vietnam evaluation and maximum 13 weeks for the Lao evaluation, i.e. a total of 30 *person weeks maximum* for the assignment.

Travels:

- Visit to Ho Chi Minh City for interviews and data collection
- Visit to Hanoi for interviews and data collection
- Visit to Vientiane for interviews and data collection
- Visit to Lund, Umeå and Sida-Stockholm

*An inception report* shall be presented to Sida and the Embassies in Vientiane and Hanoi not later than 6 November 2008, clarifying the main methodologies to be applied; process for selecting interviewees; approach/participation of the main Lao, Vietnamese and Swedish partners; and other aspects of the assignment's implementation. The inception report shall be approved by Sida and the two Embassies before the Consultants carry out the remaining work of the assignment.

*A de-briefing meeting* shall be performed jointly by the consultants after finalising the field work, presenting the main findings to Sida/Embassy in Vientiane and Hanoi, and to representatives from FLP/Umeå University respectively HLS/LSHCMC/LFLU in Laos and Vietnam respectively (preferably with slide-show).

*A draft report* shall be sent to Sida latest 15 January 2009. After comments from FLP/Umeå University and HLS/LSHCMC/LFLU and from Sida, the final report including an Executive Summary, shall be sent to Sida/Stockholm and Sida/Embassies in Vientiane and Hanoi within three weeks after receiving the comments from Sida. The report, in English, Lao and Vietnamese, shall be sent in a Word-file together with a completed Sida Evaluation Data Work Sheet. The English report shall be professionally proof-read, and all reports should to the extent possible follow a Format for Sida Evaluation Reports (Annex, B of Sida's Evaluation Manual 2nd Edition).

The terminology used in the report shall adhere to the OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management.

The recommendations made and the opinions expressed by the team shall be those of the team and shall not be regarded as emanating from, or binding upon Sida. The role of the team is to give constructive advice on how to improve the implementation of the project.

## Requirements and Qualification of the Team

The consultants proposed shall together have documented experiences in the following areas, see invitation to tender for details:

- Documented legal knowledge, including legal education experience
- Documented competence and experience from development cooperation projects in the legal sector, preferably legal education
- Evaluation competence and significant evaluation experience of development projects in the legal sector, preferably legal education projects
- Experience from working in Lao PDR and Vietnam or well documented knowledge about the social and political environment in these countries
- Good knowledge of English, Lao and Vietnamese
- Documented experience of working with HRBA, gender equality and the perspectives of poor people on development, preferably from similar legal sector programmes.
- Experience of team-leading.

## Annex 2 List of Interviewees

### Sida

Ho, My Dung (Ms), Trainee (Hanoi)

Huy, Do Quang (Mr), Program Officer, Development Cooperation Section; Legal Sector,  
Human Rights (Hanoi)

Håstad, Elsa (Ms), First Secretary, Development Cooperation Section; Legal Sector,  
Human Rights (Hanoi)

Lien, Christian (Mr), First Secretary, Development Cooperation Section;  
Public Administration Reform, Health, Partner Cooperation Advisor (Hanoi)

Dr Sevastik, Per (Mr), Ph.D., Department for Empowerment Democracy,  
Human Rights and Gender Equality (Sthlm)

### Faculty of Law, University of Lund

Häthén, Christian (Mr), LL.M., Senior Lecturer

Dr Lundell, Bengt (Mr), Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, Project Coordinator

Dr Moëll, Christina (Ms), Ph.D., Dean

Dr Träskman, Per Ole (Mr), Ph.D., Professor of Criminal Law, former Dean

Nguyen, Tu T. (Mr), LL.M., Doctoral Candidate

Dr Wong, Christoffer (Mr), M.A., B.Phil., Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, Coordinator Joint Master Program

### Hanoi Law University (HLU)

Dr Anh, Vu Thi Lan (Ms), Lecturer in Commercial and Comparative Law

Binh, Nguyen Cong (Mr), Professor, Head of Civil Law Department

Doanh, Le Dang (Mr), Professor in Criminal Law

Dung, Truong Thi Kim (Ms), Senior Lecturer Financial/Banking Law, Deputy Director of  
Legal Consulting and Short-term Training Center of HLU

Dr Hang, Dai Thi (Mr), Associate Professor, former Director of International Cooperation Department  
and Deputy Head of Post Graduate Faculty, former Head of Project Secretary Group

Hang, Vu Thi Nihu (Ms), Lecturer in Civil Law

Hanh, Le Thi (Ms), Deputy-in-Chief of Information Center and Library

Dr Hieu, Bui Dang (Mr), Professor in Civil Law, Director of Quality Assurance Center of HLU

Dr Hoa, To Van (Mr), Ph.D. from Faculty of Law, Lund University 2002–2006, LL.M. Faculty of Law,  
Lund University 1999–2000, Lecturer in Constitutional Law,



Dr Hoan, Nguyen Quoc (Mr), Head of International Cooperation Division  
 Hue, Tran Thi (Ms), Professor in Civil Law  
 Lam, Dam Viet (Mr), Librarian, former Director of Library  
 Lan, Vu Thi Phuong (Ms), Lecturer in Private International Law  
 Mai, Nguyen Thai (Ms), Lecturer in Private International Law  
 Ngoc, Dao Bich (Ms), Head of English Resource Center of the Library  
 Son, Hoang Thi Minh (Ms), Professor, Head of Criminal Law Department  
 Dr Son, Le Thi (Ms), vice Rector, Associate Professor, Executive Director of the Project  
 Son, Nguyen Ngoc (Mr), Lecturer in Civil Law  
 Dr Tam, Le Minh (Mr), Rector, Professor, Editor-in-Chief of Jurisprudence Review of HLU  
 Thang, Thai Vinh (Mr), Head of Administrative Law Department  
 Thao, Chu Thi (Ms), Chief Librarian  
 Thin, Pham Thi (Ms), Head of Constitutional Law Division, Department of Administration & State  
 Dr Trang, Ran Huu (Mr), Lecturer in Criminal Law  
 Dr Tuan, Tran Anh (Mr), Lecturer in Civil Procedure  
 Ty, Nguyen Viet (Mr), Head of Economic Law Department  
 Dr Quang, Nguyen van (Mr), Lecturer in Administrative Law

### **Representatives from the Joint Doctorate Programme, HLU**

Thu, Le Dao (Ms), LL.M., Doctoral Candidate, Lecturer in Criminal Law  
 Quynh, Nguyen Nhu (Ms), LL.M., Doctoral Candidate, Lecturer in Civil Law and Intellectual Property Law

### **Representatives from the Junior Scholar programme, HLU**

Dao, Bui Thi (Ms), Lecturer in Administrative Law  
 Dinh, Tran Ngoc (Mr), Lecturer in Constitutional Law  
 Dung, Nguyen Thi (Ms), Lecturer in Land Law  
 Ha, Do Duc Hong (Mr), Lecturer in Criminal Law  
 Huyen, Bui Thi (Ms), Lecturer in Civil Procedures  
 Nghi, Le Dinh (Mr), Lecturer in Civil Law  
 Oanh, CAO Thi (Ms), Lecturer in Criminal Law  
 Phuong, Nguyen Van (Mr), Lecturer in Environmental Law  
 Yen, Vu Dang Hai (Ms), Lecturer in Commercial Law

## **Representatives from the Joint Master Program, HLU**

Dao, Le Thi Ans (Ms), Lecturer in International Law

Hang, Pham Thi (Ms), Academic Quality Assurance Center

Hung, Chu Maus (Mr), Lecturer in International Law

Ngoc, Ta Quang (Mr), Lecturer in Administrative Law

Ngoc, Tran Minh (Mr), Lecturer in Private International Law

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## **Office of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

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## **Ministry of Planning and Investment**

Thong, Do Xuan (Mr), Head of European Division, Foreign Economic relations Department

## **Supreme People's Court**

Diep, Thai Ba (Mr), Deputy Head of Training Division, Personnel Department

Tuoi, Nguyen Thi Hong (Ms), Director General, Personnel Department

## **Supreme People's Procuracy**

Dung, Nguyen Tien (Mr), Deputy Director General, Personnel Department

Hung, Pham Manh (Mr), Rector of Training School for Procurators

Huong, Dang Mai (Ms), Personnel Department

## **Vietnam Lawyers Association**

Anh, Pham Quoc (Mr), President

Toan, Dam Xuan (Mr), vice Secretary General, Director Administrative Office

## **The Bar Association of HoChiMinh City**

Trung, Nguyen Dang (Mr), Attorney-at-Law, President

### **Hanoi Business Association**

Huong, Mai (Ms), Head of Trade promotion Section

Kien, Nguyen Hong (Mr), General Secretary

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Hai, Ha Thi (Ms), Paralegal (graduate from HLU 2008)

Viet, Nguyen Dang (Mr), Partner

### **Indochine Counsel – Business Law Practitioners (HCMC)**

Duc, Dang The (Mr), Managing Partner

Phan, Anh Vu (Mr), Partner

### **The Newspaper of Law of HoChiMinh City**

Hieu, Truong (Mr), Reporter on social issues incl legal education

### **UNDP Vietnam**

Booth, Nicholas (Mr), Policy Advisor, Rule of Law and Access to Justice

## Annex 3 List of Reference Documents

### The Project

#### 1997

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#### 2001

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#### 2006

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#### 2007

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#### 2008

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Lund University, 2009

## **Project Management**

Minutes from Annual Review Meetings 2005–2008

Minutes from meetings of the Board of Directors and Steering Committee of the Project

Minutes from meetings between representatives of the Project and representatives from Sida, Feb 2005

Minutes from meetings between representatives of the Board of Directors of the Project and  
representatives from Sida, Nov 2006

Plans of Operation (annual) and Sida approvals of the same

Lists of Participants in various activities

Class lists HLU and LUHCMC

## **Swedish Development Cooperation with Vietnam**

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Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, April 2007

Country strategy for development cooperation Vietnam, January 2004–December 2008,  
Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

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Promemoria Vietnam, Embassy of Sweden Hanoi, October 2008

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20 October 2008

UD-ASO Dnr 79, Vietnam – kommersiell rapport, Embassy of Sweden Hanoi, 27 October 2008

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27 October 2008

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## **Twinning**

Sida Evaluation 03/39, Sida's Program Twinning Cooperation between Municipalities in Sweden and in Countries of the South, Bo Andréasson, Lennart Königson

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## **Other**

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Outline of UNDP Viet Nam's strategy – Rule of Law and Access to Justice, 2009–2015, draft, 2 March 2009

Plan on implementation of Resolution 48-nq/tw dated May 24, 2005 of the Politburo on the Strategy for the development and improvement of Vietnam's legal system to the year 2010 and direction for the period up to 2020 (2007–2012 phase), Hanoi, 21 March 2007

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Resolution of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam on the Judicial Reform Strategy to 2020, Hanoi, 2 June 2005



## Annex 4 International Assistance to Legal and Judicial Reforms In Vietnam

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project "Assistances to Implementation of the Strategy for Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal system" (VIE/02/015)		<p>Strengthening capacity for management of implementation of the <b>Strategy for Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal system</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance to establishment of Inter Agency Steering Committee and Secretariat for implementation of the Strategy</li> <li>• Assistance to establishment of Coordination Mechanism between Vietnamese agencies and donors concerned in establishing data base on projects sponsored by donors in the legal area</li> <li>• Assistance to establishment and operation of the Legal System Development Fund for implementation of a number of priorities at the central and local levels identified during implementation of the Project pursuant to the Strategy on Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal System, Judicial Reform Strategy and Specific Action Plans of ministries and agencies for implementation of those strategies.</li> </ul>	48	<p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Ministry of Public Security</p> <p>Internal Affairs Committees of the Communist Party</p> <p>Supreme People's Court</p> <p>Supreme People's Procuracy</p> <p>Government Inspectorate</p> <p>Vietnam Lawyer Association</p> <p>A number of Justice Departments</p>	<p>UNDP</p> <p>Sida</p> <p>DANIDA</p> <p>Norway and Ireland</p>
Legislation		Assistances to review and post check legal normative documents pursuant to Direction No 10/2002/CT-TTg dated 19/3/2002 of the Prime Minister	48	Ministry of Justice	
Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement		Strengthening capacity for legal cadres at grass root level by assessment of legal needs and preparation of materials for legal training	48	Ministry of Justice	
Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement		Assistances to strengthening capacity of conciliators at grass root level by developing training materials and manual on skills for conciliators	48	Ministry of Justice	
Legislation		A number of decrees for implementation of the Ordinance on Settlement of Administrative Offenses (completed)	48	Ministry of Public Security	
Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement		Strengthening capacity for police forces in implementation of law on Settlement of Administrative Offenses by assisting implementation of the law for settling administrative offenses	48	Ministry of Public Security	

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project on Assistances to legal and judicial reforms	Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement	Assistances to strengthening capacity for local government in disseminating the law to the public, conciliation at grass root level in a number of selected provinces namely Hải Phòng, Quảng Bình, Đà Nẵng, Khánh Hòa, Tiền Giang, Lâm Đồng	48	Ministry of Justice	
	Legislation	Drafting the Law on Complaints and Denunciation	48	Government Inspectorate	
	Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement	Assistances to strengthening legal capacity for cadres in political system at grass root level in Lang Son province	48	Internal Affairs Committee of the Communist Party	
	Legislation	Drafting Law on Referendum, conducting survey of international experiences and analyzing existing regulations of Vietnam on referendum	48	Vietnam Lawyer Association	
	Capacity building	Organization of study, workshop, seminars and training courses as well as mock court for enhancing capacity of judges, prosecutors, lawyers and judicial officers	48&49	Ministry of Justice, SPP, SPC	JICA
	Institutional building	Enhancing capacity of central judicial authorities and National Bar Association concerning supervision over, providing guidance and support to local judicial authorities and lawyer.	48&49	SPC	
	Legislation	Assistances to amendments of legal normative documents serving the improvement of adjudication and execution works	48&49	SPP	
	Institutional building	Strengthening capacity for training judicial titles	48&49	MOJ	
	Legislation	– Technical assistances in revising the Criminal Procedure Code 2003, Law on Organization of Supreme People's Procuracy and its guiding documents – Assistances to SPP in strengthening capacity for cadres and prosecutors – Assistances to SPP in implementation of commitments in BTA/WTO.	48&49	SPP	USAID (STAR Project)
	Legislation	Assistances to developing new Law on Postal and EMS services, Law on Telecommunication, Law on Wireless telegraphy frequency	48	Ministry of Information and Communication	
STAR Việt Nam Project	Legislation	Assistances to the Government Inspectorate in developing a plan for establishment of administrative tribunal; assistances to drafting the Law on Complaints and Settlement of Complaints	48	GI	

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project on Development of Judiciary and grass root participation (JUDGE)	Institutional building	Strengthening capacity of legal and judicial training and education centers and legal cadres to effectively and fairly ensure and protect legal rights of Vietnamese citizens through 3 components: Judicial title training Reform of administrative procedures and court procedures Enhancing participation of social organizations and access at community level	48&49	MOJ (Including the Judicial Academy), SPC	CIDA
Project on Assistances to Legislation in Vietnam	Legislation	Enhancing efficiency and capacity of general elected agencies (NA and provincial people's councils) in performing legislative function to meet requirements of international integration and transition to market economy	48	ONA	EC
	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing efficiency and capacity of judicial agencies in performing their functions to meet requirements of international integration and market economy</li> <li>Enhancing capacity of Prosecutors, Enhancing technical capacity (IT technology and facilities) to the SPP and Local Procurement.</li> </ul>	48&49	SPP	
	Legislation			MOJ	
	Legislation			SPC	
Project on "Strengthening capacity of general elected agencies" (VIE/02/007)	Assistances to legislation	Strengthening capacity of the National Assembly and Office of the National Assembly in carrying out their roles provided by the Constitution. * Assistances to the process of delegation of management power with focus on Provincial People's Councils.	48	Office of the National Assembly and Provincial People's Councils of ten selected provinces	UNDP, Switzerland and Canada
Project on "Assistances to legal and judicial reforms in Vietnam"	Assistances to Legislation	Assistances to organization of committees of the National Assembly, provision of education to cadres of the Office of the National Assembly and deputies of the National Assembly including master and English education to selected cadres of the Office of the National Assembly as well as provision of training on gender balance; provision of informatics facilities and data base for provincial offices of the National Assembly.	48	Office of the National Assembly	DANIDA

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
	Assistances to Legislation	Assistances to establishment of a system for publishing court judgments, provision of IT assistances for proceeding management and crime statistics, provision of IT assistances to three provinces for experiment including all district courts. Training activities including establishments of material facilities for Mock Court trainings, provision of master and English education to court cadres and training on acceleration of gender equality in the court system.	49	Supreme People's Court	
	Assistances to Legislation	Provision of one system on proceeding management and criminology statistics all over the country, assistances to research on criminology, provision of training to cadres of the Supreme People's Procuracy on legal issues including guidance and implementation regarding keeping custody; and provision of master and English training as well as gender equality.	49	Supreme People's Procuracy	
	Assistances to Legislation	Assistances to establishment of a domestic Lawyers Association, organization of training courses to lawyers including courses on gender equality; assistances to development of legal framework for practice of practitioners and assistances to development of a strategy for long term development lawyer profession in Vietnam.	48&49	Ministry of Justice	
Project on "Assistances to Legal Reforms" sponsored by CIDA Canada	Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement	Assistances to strengthening capacity of legal cadres in charge of economic international integration, studying experiences on international treaties on integration.	48	Ministry of Justice	CIDA
Project on "Assistances to Legal and Judicial Reforms in Vietnam" sponsored by DANIDA and Sida – Stage 3	Assistances to strengthening capacity and law implementation/enforcement	<b>Component 4 (Assistances to Bar Associations – Ministry of Justice):</b> Enhancing professional capacity of lawyers; creating legal framework for practice of lawyers; and assistances to establishment of a National Bar Association on the basis of self-management with high professional knowledge; development of strategy for long term development of lawyer profession in Vietnam	48	Ministry of Justice	DANIDA, Sida
	Assistances to Legislation	Ensuring statistics provided to court cadres and others for usage; ensuring independence of the court; enhancing transparency in operation of courts; enhancing capacity of administrative courts and enhancing gender equality in the court system.	49	SPC	
	Institutional building	Assistances to develop a system of modern and professional prosecution agencies serving the rule of law state and protection of fundamental rights of the people.	49	SPP	

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
"Strengthening capacity for birth registration for children in mountainous areas" sponsored by Plan International	Assistances to to law implementation	Ensuring that birth registration is made to all children, Endeavor to complete birth registration for 95% of children		Ministry of Justice	Plan International
Preventing and Fighting Against sale of women and children, Strengthening protection of victims of woman and child sale sponsored by Asia Foundation (USA)	Legal Aid	Protection of victims of woman and child sale; Strengthening capacity of Legal Aid organizations.		Ministry of Justice	Asia Foundation (USA)
Cooperation Program with KAS Institute- Federal Republic of Germany	Legislation	Assistances to improvement of legal system after economic international integration	48	Ministry of Justice	KAS Institute- Federal Republic of Germany
Vietnam – France Legal House	Legislation	Bilateral Cooperation Program between the Governments of the two countries	48	Ministry of Justice	Government of France
Assistances to National Legal Aid System in Vietnam	Legal Aid	Contribution to ensuring equal access to justice to the poor and beneficiary of social policy to assist them in implementation of their rights provided by Vietnamese law and international treaties on Human rights.	48	National Agency of Legal Aid – Ministry of Justice	
Project on Comprehensively computerizing in public notary	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Assistances to development of the Law on Public Notary</li> <li>– Completion of Software for public notary (MASTER);</li> <li>– Training users of the MASTER software for Public Notary Offices;</li> <li>– Technical assistances to Public Notary Offices</li> <li>– Developing applied website for public notary</li> <li>– Developing security solution for national public notary website.</li> </ul>	48	Department of Judicial Administration – Ministry of Justice	French Solitary and Preferential Fund and French Supreme Council of Public Notary
Project on Assistances to enterprises presided by the VCCI	Assistances to capacity strengthening and law implementation/enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Survey on actual situation of using commercial arbitration in Vietnam</li> <li>– Organization of two workshops on actual situation of using commercial arbitration in Vietnam.</li> </ul>		Department of Quasi-Judicial – MOJ	DANIDA
Institutional Building		<b>Component 4: Commercial Dispute Settlements:</b> Strengthening Capacity of the SPC in Settling commercial disputes	49	SPC	

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Assistances to development of the Law on Lawyer	Legislation	Comprehensive survey on organization and operation of lawyers nationwide.	48&49	Department of Quasi-Judicial – MOJ	SIDA
Project on Assistances to Reviewing Vietnam's Legal system in comparison to its commitments to the WTO	Assistances to law implementation	Assistances to lawyer forces for international economic integration	48&49	Department of Quasi-Judicial –MOJ	DFID and the Commonwealth International Development Agency, Australia
Project TA/2853/VIE on "Training legal cadres of the Government" Stage 1	Assistances to Legislation	Training 1,000 to 1,200 legal experts of Vietnam, providing them legal knowledge regarding market economy and skills in legal operation.	48&49	Judicial Academy – MOJ	ADB
Project on Assistances to Vietnam's Legal System Development to 2010 and Capacity Building for the system of Secured Transactions Registration	Assistances to law implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of mechanism for implementation of the Strategy for development of the legal system</li> <li>Improvement of regulation system on secured transactions and registration of secured transactions</li> <li>Strengthening capacity to staffs of Registry under the National Department on Registration of Secured Transactions</li> </ul>		National Department on Registration of Secured Transactions – MOJ	ADB
Project on Assistances to Improvement of legal frame work and system of secured transaction registration in Vietnam	Assistances to law implementation	Improvement of regulation system on secured transactions and registration of secured transactions and development of the Law on Registration of Secured Transactions and Law on Registration of Real Estates.		National Department on Registration of Secured Transactions v MOJ	
<b>Vietnam – France Legal House</b>	<b>Legislation</b>				<b>Nhà pháp luật Việt – Pháp</b>
Project on "Strengthening prosecution capacity in Vietnam" (Stage 1)	Institutional building	Assistances to develop a system of modern and professional prosecution agencies serving the rule of law state and protection of fundamental rights of the people.	49	SPP	DANIDA UNDP
Project on "Legal reforms" (Stage 2)	Institutional building		49		

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project on Strengthening Overall Capacity of the Police People's Inspectorate to 2010 through the Government Inspectorate	Institutional building	Strengthening capacity of Cardes in charge of inspection work in the Government	48	MPS	Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Denmark and Canada
Project on Providing international experiences in pre-trial detention	Assistances to Law implementation	Organization of 7 workshops for Vietnamese police regarding protection of persons kept in custody prior to trial	49	MPS	The Embassy of Denmark, UK, Switzerland, EC Delegation and Human Rights Institution of Denmark
Project on "Friendly Judicial system to Juveniles"	Assistances to Law implementation	Prevention of crimes and law infringements committed by juveniles, Vietnamese practice and typical model in a number of foreign countries		MPS	UNICEF
Project on Prevention of Money Laundering in Vietnam (VNMS65)	Assistances to Capacity building and Law implementation	Strengthening capacity to legal agencies and law enforcement agencies in prevention and anti money laundering in Vietnam through organizations of training courses on anti money laundering in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi		MPS	UNODC
Project on Management for Law enforcement block in Asia Pacific (ARLEMP)		Cooperation between the Vietnamese MPS and the Federal Police of Australia in organization of three training courses on skills for policemen in Asia Pacific areas		MPS	Federal Police of Australia
Program for Enhancing capacity for master management of ODA Project	Legislation	Development of a Circular providing guidance for conclusion and implementation of international treaties on ODA		MOFA	WB, ADB, JBIC
Strengthening legal awareness of border guards and disseminating legal information to the people in remote, distant, border and island areas (LASRAI II)	Law implementation	Dissemination the Law on National Border Enhancing awareness of national border		MOFA	Australia
Cooperation with the Centre for International Law, University of Freesom, Bruxelles-Belgium		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical assistances to determining border line;</li> <li>Development of ASEAN – China Proposal on border management</li> </ul>		MOFA	



Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Education Program on UN Security Council and International Law on Environment within frame work of the Multilateral Project on Foreign Affairs	Strengthening capacity and law implementation	Enhancing awareness on UN Security Council and International Law on Environment		MOFA	UNDP
Assistances to Implementation of the Master Program on Public Administrative Reforms for the 2001–2010 period" (VIE/01/024)	Administrative reforms	Assistances to the Government in implementing method of programming cooperation approach to develop action plans, steer, organize implementation, monitor and assess continuously the Master Program on Public Administrative Reforms for the 2001–2010 period	48	MOHA	UNDP, Canada, Switzerland, land, Sweden, Norway, Nether-lands
Improvement of Business Legal Environment	Legislation	Assistances to draft and revise: The Law on Cooperative; Law on Enterprises; Law on Investments; Law on State Owned Enterprises	48	CIEM, MPI (2)	UNDP
Technical assistances to strengthen capacity in drafting the Ordinance on Tender	Legislation	Assistances to strengthen drafting of the Ordinance on Tender (1)		National Tender Evaluation Office – MPI	WB ADB
Systemization of system of legal normative documents related to enterprises	Legislation	Systemization of legal normative documents promulgated by central and local agencies related to operation of enterprises and provision of those documents to enterprises.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Project on "Reforming the one contact system of Business Registration".	Administrative reforms	Reducing travel times of enterprises, unofficial expenses and enhancing competitiveness enterprises.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Project on "Reform of Tax Administrative procedures".	Administrative reforms	Facilitating taxpayers, reducing shortcomings of Tax administrative procedures.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Project on "Reform of Custom Administrative procedures".	Administrative reforms	Simplifying custom procedures and facilitating enterprises in following custom procedures.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project on strengthening participation of the people and enterprises in administrative reforms in Nghe An	Administrative reforms	Enhancing transparency and quality of administrative reforms in Nghe An, facilitating production and business of enterprises.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Project on "One Contact Administrative Reforms at the Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development"	Administrative reforms	Making administrative procedures transparent	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Rules on Drafting and Promulgating Legal Normative Documents at provincial level.	Legislation	Making all processes in preparation, drafting, scrutiny, reviewing, promulgation, announcement, and revision of provincial legal normative documents consistent publication	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Procedures for import tax immunity application	Assistances to law implementation	Ensuring implementation of law on import tax immunity and deduction by enterprise community and the State.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Procedures for scrutiny of investment projects from State budget	Assistances to law implementation	Ensuring implementation of law on management of investment projects from State budget by enterprise community and the State.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
One Contact Procedures in Business Registration (granting Business Registration Certificate, Tax Code, and making seal...)	Assistances to law implementation	Ensuring implementation of One Contact Procedures in Business Registration (granting Business Registration Certificate, Tax Code, and making seal...) by enterprise community and the State.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Procedures for granting Investment Registration Certificate in Văn Phong Economic Zone and Industrial Zones.	Assistances to law implementation	Ensuring implementation of law on Procedures for granting Investment Registration Certificate in Economic Zones and Industrial Zones by enterprise community and the State.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
One Contact Procedures in granting Land Use Right Certificate at district level	Assistances to law implementation	Ensuring implementation of land law by enterprise community and the State.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Application of ISO in reforms of investment administrative procedures	Assistances to law implementation	Reducing time and procedures for enterprises	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Application of one contact mechanism in scrutiny of electric dossiers by the Department of Industry and Commerce.	Assistances to law implementation	One contact performances	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Administrative Reforms in Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development	Administrative reforms	Making procedures transparent and reducing times of performance.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Reforming procedures for receiving and dealing with land dossiers	Administrative reforms	Reducing time and procedures for enterprises	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Reforming procedures for receiving applications and granting Certificate of Tourist Guides.	Administrative reforms	Reducing time and procedures for enterprises	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Reforming procedures for receiving and dealing with good import and export dossiers.	Administrative reforms	Simplifying import and export procedures for enterprises.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Project on Simplifying administrative procedures in provincial administrative agencies to 2010.	Administrative reforms	Comprehensively reviewing all regulations on procedures to identify possibilities of maximum simplification administrative procedures applied to enterprises in public transactions.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Continue to improve one contact procedures for receiving and dealing with land dossiers	Administrative reforms	Enhancing efficiency of administrative procedures in granting land to enterprises.	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	Denmark
Assistances to and cooperation in developing Decree No 88 and Circular No 03 on Business Registration	Administrative reforms	Reforming Business Registration	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	UNIDO

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Assistances to development of the Joint Circular No 02/2007/TTLT/BKH-BTC-BCA dated 27/2/2007 Providing guidance for cooperation mechanism among agencies implementing procedures for business registration, tax registration, and granting permission to produce seals for enterprises established and operated pursuant to the Law on Enterprises.	Administrative reforms	Reforming Business Registration	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	UNIDO
Project on Assistances to Development of Medium and Small Enterprises in revising Decree No 91/2001/NĐ-CP on Assistances to Development of Medium and Small Enterprises.	Legislation	Assistances to revise Decree No 91/2001/NĐ-CP on Assistances to Development of Medium and Small Enterprises	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	UNIDO
Assistances to implement Project on Simplifying administrative procedures in state management areas for 2007-2020.	Administrative reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Simplifying administrative procedures to minimize risks and costs for enterprises and the people and enhance competitiveness of the economy.</li> <li>– Developing the transparent administration.</li> <li>– Enhancing Government's capacity in effectively manage market economy by coordination among Government Policies and interaction with citizens and enterprises.</li> </ul>	48	Bureau on Development of Small and Medium Enterprises – MPI	
Project on assistances to enhance NA's capacity on budget supervision	Institutional Building	Assistances to the NA, Economic and Budget Committee of the NA and other general elected agencies in scrutinizing, making decision and supervising issues related to state budget	48	ONA	UNDP
Technical assistances to ONA	Legislation	Enhancing capacity of the ONA in assisting the NA in performing its power regarding development and improvement of the legal system and making orientations for transition period to Market economy in Vietnam.	48	ONA	DANIDA UNDP
Program on Comprehensively Enhancing Capacity of Inspectorate system to 2010	Legislation	Assistances to implement Program on Comprehensively Enhancing Capacity of Government Inspectorate system in Vietnam	48	GI	Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Denmark and Canada

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Small scale technical assistances	Legislation	Enhancing Inspection Capacity in prevention and fights against corruption.	48	GI	ADB
Fights against Corruption	Capacity development and law implementation	Contribution to efforts on national and international fights against corruption	48	GI	UNDP
Small scale technical assistances project	Capacity development and law implementation	Assistances to the Government Inspectorate in prevention and fights against corruption	48	GI	ADB
Loan under Financial and banking Program II, Sub-program 2	Capacity development and law implementation	Assistances to development and enhancement of capacity to manage and supervise insurance, leasing industries, financial market and stock market and construction of financial and banking areas	48	SBV	ADB
Technical assistances for preparation for loan under Financial and banking Program III		Assistances to design and prepare for loan Financial and banking Program III, focusing on development of capital market and non-banking area		SBV	ADB
loan under Financial and banking Program III, Sub-program 1	Legislation	Assistances to create foundations for diversified and dynamic financial and banking market by developing capital market	48	SBV	ADB
Technical assistances for implementation of rule framework and micro financial supervision	Legislation	Assistances to assessment, implementation and supervision of rule framework and inspection in micro financial area	48	SBV	ADB
Development of Legal Foundations for Banking system in Vietnam	Legislation	Enhancement of legal reform capacity of banking area	48	SBV	WB
Tax Policy and Administrative Management of (stage 3)	Legislation	Finalization of Draft Law on Income Tax; strengthening and development of taxation system to be strong enough to meet its duties and requirements set out by new policy; enhancement of taxation cadres' capacity to strengthen taxation inspection; development of system of information serving foreign investors and informatics system to support taxation management and supervision.	48	MOF	Sweden
Budget reform (stage 3)	Legislation	Organizing implementation of the Law on State Budget, assessing implementation and identifying orientations for revision of the Law on State Budget; Developing Financial and Budget Plan for 2001-2005 for submission to the NA	48	MOF	Germany

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Strengthening capacity for ODA management 3722/VIE	Law implementation	Improvement of delegation scheme in financial management by implementation of procedures and financial guidance and projects to ministries concerned by the MOF, ministries and Department of Finance, provincial treasuries and provincial and district project management units; making recommendations for improvement of project financial managements.	48	MOF	ADB
Strengthening legislative capacity on resettlement	Law implementation	Assistances to implementation of policy on compensation, assistances and resettlements in case that the State taking back land areas and to enhance capacity for organizing implementation of compensation and re-settlement policy.	48	MOF	ADB
Foreign Debt Management VIE/01/010	Law implementation	Development capacity for efficient and sustainable managements of foreign debts by: developing legal framework and institution; human resources; collecting, storing and processing information and reports.	48	MOF	UNDP, Government of Australia and Switzerland
Assistances to Competition Management Bureau in enhancing its capacity and developing warning system of anti-dumping cases.	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Enhancing capacity of cadres of the Competition Management Bureau and sharing information with enterprise community.</li> <li>– Developing prompt warning system of anti-dumping cases against Vietnamese export products.</li> </ul>	48	Competition Management Bureau – MOIT	DANIDA
Enhancing capacity for Competition Management Agencies in Vietnam	Legislation	Enhancing capacity of Competition Management Agencies in Vietnam in law and competition policy implementation	48	Competition Management Bureau – MOIT	Swiss Competition Committee – Swiss International Cooperation Agency
Project on assistances to multi-lateral trade phase III (EU-ViEt Nam MUTRAP III)	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Enhancing capacity of the Legal Department – MOIT to ensure consistency of draft legal normative documents on trade and industry and international commitments.</li> <li>– Assistances to drafting and implementing law on consumer protection.</li> </ul>	48	Department of multi-lateral trade policy – MOIT	EU

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
the Program for Cooperation between Vietnam and Sweden on Strengthening capacity in land and environmental management (SEMLA)	Legislation	Assistances to review land and environment law and policy in general and assess their consistency with WTO commitments in particular	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Sweden
	Legislation	Component on Chemical Safety Developing Law on Chemical Substances and its guiding documents	48	Department of Science and Technology – MOIT	Sweden
Assistances to development of the Law on Effective and Economic use of Energy	Legislation	Contribution to development of the Law on Effective and Economic use of Energy	48	Department of Science and Technology – MOIT	ADB
Project on Hunger, Poverty and Environment	Legislation	Assistances to development of the Law on Biological Diversity	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	IUCN
Project on Clean Air phase 1 (SVCAP1)	Legislation	Assistances to drafting Decree on Management of Air Quality	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Switzerland
Project on Strengthening capacity of national contact agency on climate changes	Legislation	Assistances to preparation of strategic Framework for combining, minimizing and climate adapting into National Sustainable Development Plan	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Denmark
Project on Strengthening capacity in water pollution control in Vietnam	Legislation	Assistances to improvement of policy and management manners and enhancement of capacity for environment management agencies	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	WB
Project on Assessment of Water Industry in Vietnam	Legislation	Assistances to legislation in management of water resources to serve national goals and policy and to select and orient sustainable development of water industry in the future.	48	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	The Government of Netherlands, Australia, Sweden and ADB
Development of the Law on Atomic Energy (Project VIE/9/009)	Legislation	Development and finalization of the Law on Atomic Energy	48	Ministry of Science and Technology	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)



Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Project on "Assistances to Program on Administrative Reforms in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development", VIE/98/004	Administrative Reforms	Enhancing functions of the administrative system in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development by assisting the Ministry to establish and implement its own Administrative Reform Strategy. Those reforms will be able to enhance efficiency of economic and social development in rural areas of Vietnam".	48	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	UNDP Netherlands
Project on Forestry Administrative Reforms - REFAS	Administrative Reforms	Overall objective of the Project is to assist the forestry administrative system to be appropriate to requirements of sustainable rural development.	48	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Government of Germany
Project on Assistances to development of Law on Water Resources	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assistances to develop contents of the Law on Water Resources</li> <li>- Assistances to a number of activities for dissemination of the Law in localities.</li> </ul>	48	Irrigation Bureau - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	WB
Project on Law on Aquatic Products	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drafting and revising Laws</li> <li>- Disseminating and Educating Law on Aquatic products</li> <li>- Enhancing law making and implementing capacity</li> <li>- Developing experimental model for implementation of the Law on Aquatic Products</li> </ul>	48	Legal Department - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Government of Norway
Project on strengthening administrative management in aquatic industry	Administrative Reforms	Aquatic product management in all levels is strengthened to be appropriate to state administrative reforms to ensure effectiveness, efficiency and international integration.	48	International Cooperation Department - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Government of Norway
Providing consultancy to Vietnam in developing the Law on Postal services - item 11.51 (one component of the Master Project for many years (MIP) on Development of Vietnam Postal Services	Legislation	Providing consultancy on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization of Postal market - Policy for development of postal market</li> <li>- Adjustment postal market</li> </ul>	48	Ministry of Information and Communication	(UPU)

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Program on Cooperation in Health Care between Vietnam and Sweden	Legislation	Drafting Decree providing detailed guidance for organization and operation of tissue bank and National Coordination Centre on human organ transplant Guidance for practicing healthcare and traditional health care services and private health care equipments (trainings on implementation of the Circular No 07/2007/TT-BYT)	48	Ministry of Health	Sweden
Cooperation with World Health Organization (WHO)	Legislation	Developing outlines of the Law on Medical Examination and Treatment	48	Ministry of Health	WHO
Issues on Rule of Law State in the transition period to market economy	Legislation	Study on Rule of Law State	48&49	State and Law Institute – Vietnam Social Science Institute	State and Law Institute of Russia Federation
Sub-component 2: Forum on Education of Human Rights in tertiary and post education under Program of Public Management and Administrative Reforms 2007-2010.	Access to justice	Strengthening capacity in legal education regarding human rights	48	Vietnam Social Science Institute	Govern-ment of Denmark
Ensuring rights of access to information	Access to justice	Study rights of access to information in a number of countries, contributing to enhance information as foundation for developing and improving law on ensuring rights to be informed of the citizens	48	Ho Chi Minh National Administrative and Politic Institute	UK Embassy
Cooperation with Switzerland		Enhancing general awareness as well as skills for researching and teaching international law on human rights by translating a number of UN documents on human rights and organizing workshops	48	Ho Chi Minh National Administrative and Politic Institute	Switzerland
Cooperation with (VNCI)		Enhancing general awareness as well as skills for researching and teaching international law on human rights by translating a number of UN documents on human rights and organizing workshops	48	Ho Chi Minh National Administrative and Politic Institute	
Enhancing legal consultancy by Trade Union	Access to justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Conducting survey on legal consultancy services provided by trade union</li> <li>– Training cadres in charge of providing legal consultancy of trade union</li> <li>– Providing facilities to Legal Consultancy Centres and Offices.</li> </ul>		Vietnam General Trade Federation	Friedrich Institute – Germany Asia Foundation

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Strengthening legislation related to employees	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Researching, conducting surveys on practice of implementation of law on labor and trade union</li> <li>– Developing comments of the Vietnam General Trade Federation to participate in developing law and policy related to employees.</li> </ul>		Vietnam General Trade Federation	FES, Norway Labor Organization and ILO
Providing experimental legal aid services to farmers in a number of mountainous communes	Legal aid	Enhancing legal awareness and conducts of farmers in solving arising problems during production and lives pursuant to the law in village community to be foundation for economic and social development and development of new rural areas.		Vietnam Farmer Union	Novib
Assistances to disseminate the Law on Gender Equality	Law implementation	Widely and deeply disseminating contents of the Law on Gender Equality		Central Committee of the Vietnam Women Union	ADB
Assistances to developing the Law on Gender Equality and its guiding documents	Legislation	Finalization of guiding documents for implementation of the Law on Gender Equality		Central Committee of the Vietnam Women Union	Finland
Cooperation Program on Human rights		Enhancing awareness of cadres and members of the Union on rights of women pursuant to the Law		Central Committee of the Vietnam Women Union	Australia
Project on: "Strengthening legal education in Vietnam " (3)	Legal Education in Law Universities	Practically Improving legal teaching curriculums and methods at tertiary, master and PhD levels to be appropriate to principles of a rule of law state and requirements reform policy; strengthening legal education capacity by enhancing professional knowledge for teachers, strengthening information and library system and expanding international cooperation.	48	Hanoi Law University and Ho Chi Minh Law University	SIDA
Cooperation between Hanoi Law University and Paris II University in providing master and PhD Education in Vietnam and France	Legal Education in Law Universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing teachers providing legal lectures in French and providing scholarships to outstanding students</li> <li>• Developing Curriculums for common use</li> </ul>		Hanoi Law University	Government of France
Project on: "Assistances to International Trade Law Education " (3)	Legal Education in Law Universities	Assistances to Vietnam in strengthening capacity to legal and judicial cadres to serve integration process of Vietnam into the world economy, especially the negotiation process for accession to the WTO in the coming time.		Hanoi Law University	US – Vietnam Trade Council
Assistances to VLA in providing legal aid services to social groups having difficulties in Ninh Binh and Lam Dong	Legal aid	Facilitating ethnic people and social groups having difficulties in those two provinces to access to the legal and judicial system	48	VLA	SEARCH

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Improvement law and management mechanism for management of migrant labor and their family members	Legislation	Assistances to state agencies in making plans and identifying measures for protection of Vietnamese labor oversea	48	VLA	SEARCH
Friendly Judicial system to juveniles: – Sub-component 1: legal framework and dissemination to children and juveniles on judicial issues. – Sub-component 2: Awareness and commitments of cadres in charge of law enforcement, cadres of court and procuracy system regarding judicial issues related to juveniles	Law implementation	– Enhancing awareness and knowledge of the Community regarding judicial issues related to children – Enhancing knowledge and capacity of administration agencies	48	VLA	UNICEF
Cooperation Program with KAS		Enhancing understanding of the VLA at all levels on a number of newly promulgated legal normative documents.	48	VLA	KAS
Project on “Strengthening Capacity of the VLA”	Institutional development	Enhancing capacity of the VLA in: institutional building; participating in legal and judicial reforms; providing legal aid services and legal dissemination and information	48	VLA	UNDP

## Ad-Hoc Activities

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
Workshop on Law on Adoption of the Republic Federation of Germany	Legislation	Providing knowledge on law on inter-country adoption of the Republic Federation of Germany and its experiences in joining the Hague Convention.	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	ICCO e.V. and AdA – Adoption Agencies (Germany)
Workshop on Inter-country Adoption	Law implementation	Thoroughly grasping contents of a number of newly promulgated legal normative documents on inter-country adoption and training skills for dealing with inter-country adoption cases.	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	Foreign Adoption Agencies in Vietnam
Meetings of all Foreign Adoption Agencies in Vietnam	Law implementation	Discussing status of dealing with inter-country adoption for the past time, identifying obstacles and solutions for those obstacles.	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	Foreign Adoption Agencies in Vietnam
Study tour to Ireland on maintenance situation to Vietnamese Children adopted and discussion of experiences on storing dossiers in computer system	Law implementation	Study tour on maintenance situation to Vietnamese Children adopted and discussion of experiences on storing dossiers in computer system	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	Ireland Adoption Committee and Helping Hands
A Delegation to USA to attend a Conference on Inter-country Adoption	Law implementation	Exchanging experiences on policy and law making regarding inter-country adoption...	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	Hold – USA
A Study tour to Canada on maintenance situation to Vietnamese Children adopted and assessment of experimental program on posting the list of children eligible for inter-country adoption in the Website done by Vung Tau Children Sponsoring Center and the Inter-country adoption Department.	Law implementation	Conducting survey on maintenance situation to Vietnamese Children adopted and assessment of experimental program	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	TDH – Canada
A Delegation attending a Conference on Inter-country Adoption in Paris	Law implementation	Exchanging experiences on policy and law making regarding inter-country adoption.	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	AFA – France

Project/Program title	Areas of support	Objectives and key activities	Resolution	Implementing agency	Donors
A Delegation to Spain discussing measures for accelerating implementation of Bilateral Agreement between the two country on Adoption	Law implementation	Discussing measures for accelerating implementation of Bilateral Agreement	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	AIC – Spain
Summation Conference on Operation of foreign adoption agencies in Vietnam	Capacity development and law implementation	Assessing operation of foreign adoption agencies in Vietnam and discussing a project on strengthening management of foreign adoption agencies in Vietnam.	48	Inter-country adoption Department – MOJ	Foreign Adoption Agencies in Vietnam
International Workshop on “Improvement of legal framework on protection of consumers in Vietnam”	Legislation	Assessing actual situation and learning international experiences to improve legal framework on protection of consumers in Vietnam	48	State and Law Institute – Vietnam Social Science Institute	KAS
International Workshop on “Constitutional Tribunal – the need and prospect in Vietnam”	Institutional development	Exploring international experiences on Constitutional Tribunal – the need and prospect in Vietnam.	48&49	State and Law Institute – Vietnam Social Science Institute	KAS and Singapore
International Workshop “Independence in trial in Vietnam”	Institutional development	Exploring and learning international experiences on improvement of political and legal conditions to ensure independence of the court in trial in Vietnam in current stage.	48&49	State and Law Institute – Vietnam Social Science Institute	KAS

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## SWEDEN'S SUPPORT TO LEGAL EDUCATION IN VIETNAM

The objective of the evaluation is to assess if Swedish cooperation within the area of legal education in Vietnam and the Lao PDR has strengthened the legal education capability of the universities by improving the teachers' qualifications, strengthened the libraries' information system and by improving management and widening international cooperation.

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