

Vietnam

Project 1 Strengthening the Capacity of the Inspectorate System

1 Project Summary

Project Title:

Program to Comprehensively Strengthen the Capacity of the Inspectorate System to 2010

Priority Area for Reform:

The priorities of the program are the indicators defined by national programs and strategies:

- Reforming institutions
- Reinforcing organization
- Upholding qualification and competence of public employees
- Blocking and repelling corruption and bureaucrats

Implementing Institution:

Departments, agencies of the Government Inspectorate, inspectorates at administrative levels and inspectorates of branches or sectors

Contact Person:

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thanh, Project Director

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Beginning and End of the Project:

Beginning: January 2006

End: December 2010

2 Project Context

Which deficiencies and/or problems that allow corruption to proliferate does the project address and aim to resolve? Please outline the related current legal or institutional framework and its weaknesses or the exact circumstances that require improvement:

The "National Strategy for Economic and Social Development up to the year 2010" and the "Overall Program on Public Administration Reform in the period of 2001 to 2010" of Vietnam include the following objectives:

- "Further reforming the organization and operation of state apparatus, promoting democracy and enhancing the Rule of law";
- "Building a democratic, ethical, strong, professional, modern administration that operates effectively and efficiently according to the principle of the socialist rule of law led by the Party;
- "Creating qualified public servants who are capable of meeting the requirements of national building and development".

The functions and duty of the Government Inspectorate System include:

- Conducting inspections within a state agency at the same level;

- Providing assistance to him/her the head of an agency in complaint and denunciation settlement;
- Monitoring the prevention, detection and settlement of corrupt acts under the purview of his/her authority;
- Participating in the formulation and improvement of policies and inspection regulations, including complaint and denunciation settlement, and the prevention and suppression of corruption.

On November 28, 2005, the Vietnam National Assembly passed the Law on Prevention and Suppression of Corruption. Based on this law, the Government Inspectorate is also responsible for formulating laws and policies on anti-corruption, and synthesizing and reporting the results of the government's anti-corruption programs. The Government Inspectorate of Vietnam is therefore entrusted with the demanding tasks of preventing and suppressing corruption.

3 Expected Outcome of the Project

In relation to the above mentioned deficiencies and/or problems, which concrete improvements are expected to be achieved through the project? In which way does the project help to curb corruption?

The Program will support the Inspectorate System from 2006 to 2010 in realizing targets in the following fields: inspection, complaint and denunciation settlement, and preventing and fighting corruption. Expected outcomes of the program are:

1. An improved set of legal documents regulating the operational areas of the Inspectorate System;
2. A streamlined organizational structure and operation of the Inspectorate System in response to its operational requirements;
3. Strengthened capacity of the Inspectorate System (by administrative levels and by branches/sectors) through personnel training, equipment modernization and computerization of professional regulations and administrative management.

4 Components – Main Activities – Method

What are the project's components, implementation steps, main activities and/or methods to achieve the above mentioned outcome and objectives?

At the administrative and sectoral levels, every state inspectorate is divided into functional departments/units covering inspection, complaint and denunciation, and anti-corruption. As a result, the capacity-strengthening of the inspectorate system should simultaneously involve three inter-related areas. The Program consists of three main projects:

Project 1: Building and perfecting the legal framework on inspection, complaint and denunciation settlement, anti-corruption

Project 2: Reinforcing the organization and streamlining the operation of the inspectorate

Project 3: Building and enhancing personnel capacity of the inspectorate system, in conjunction with reforming the personnel management mechanism

These Projects include several sub-projects specific to each Department, agency of the Government Inspectorate, inspectorates at the administrative, branches and sector levels. Sub-projects will be designed after the Program had been approved.

5 Involvement of non-governmental actors and donors

In which way does the project involve civil society actors or other stakeholders and have they been consulted during the project development phase?

International donors have provided seed capital for the Program. In particular, Sweden has USD 3.2 million for the program's implementation.

6 Related Projects under the 2nd Implementation Cycle

Is the project linked to reforms accomplished under the Action Plan's 2nd Implementation Cycle? In which way does this project follow up previous activities?

The Government Inspectorate has not comprehensively strengthened its capacity before this Program. Some divisions of the Inspectorate System have undertaken individual activities:

- Cooperation with STAR: Project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and executed by the Steering Committee on Technical Assistance for the implementation of the U.S.-Viet Nam Bilateral Trade Agreement of the Government of Vietnam.
- Cooperation with the Asia Development Bank (ADB) on (1) an assessment of the mechanism on Oversight, Auditing and Inspection in Vietnam – Current Status and Suggestions for Reform; and (2) Workshops on the Strategy to Prevent and Fight Corruption in Vietnam.
- Cooperation with the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) on the research and assessment conducted by the Advisory Group of the Inspector General on the ratification of the UN Convention Against Corruption.
- Cooperation with the UNDP to support the initial anti-corruption efforts of Vietnam

7 Project Financing and Budget

Approved or estimated overall project budget:

An estimated USD 11.1 million is needed to achieve the Program's expected outcomes and outputs. The scheduled items are the resources necessary to achieve the specific expected outcomes and outputs each year. The total budget is based on the donors' contributions.

Is external funding required?

Yes

If external funding is required, have donor organizations been approached yet, and have any commitments been made?

The governments of Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands and Norway have been committed USD 2.2 million to fund the Inception Phase of the Program (2006-2007)

If external funding is required, what percentage of the total project costs requires external funding?

90%

8 Technical Assistance

Is external technical assistance required? Have relevant agencies been approached and have they made any commitments?

The Program relates to a number of sub-programs and projects, such as the PAR Master Program. It also relates to past and ongoing programs, such as the diagnostic study on corruption modalities

in Vietnam conducted by the Central Committee of Internal Affairs and funded by Sida. Therefore, it would be useful if all experience, lessons learnt and results achieved in these programs/projects could be used to implement this Program. This is especially so in terms of regulation building and implementation, reinforcing the state apparatus, improving the qualification and professional skills of cadres and inspectors, as well as raising the effectiveness and efficiency of anti-corruption work. Moreover, the participation of local and international consultants in the areas of inspection, complaint and denunciation settlement, and anti-corruption, will significantly strengthening the capacity of the inspectorate system.

The Program has a budget for technical assistance. International consultants/chief advisors are selected through tendering procedures for consulting services or at the request of donor representatives with the agreement of the Joint Steering Committee.

Project 2 Supporting the Implementation of the UNCAC

1 Project Summary

Project Title:

Supporting the implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption

Priority Area for Reform:

Monitoring and evaluating the UN Convention Against Corruption

Implementing Institution:

Government Inspectorate Research Institute (GIRI), Government Inspectorate of Vietnam

Contact Person:

Nguyen Tuan Anh, Government Inspectorate Research Institute

Tel: 84 4 7470457

Beginning and End of the Project:

Beginning: January 2007

Duration: 2 years

2 Project Context

Which deficiencies and/or problems that allow corruption to proliferate does the project address and aim to resolve? Please outline the related current legal or institutional framework and its weaknesses or the exact circumstances that require improvement:

The objective of this project is to put in place a national system for the effective and participatory monitoring of the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). Specifically, the project will support the development of an indicator system, and a data collection and analysis methodology for measuring progress in the implementation of the UNCAC.

The project will also support a series of annual national corruption/UNCAC reports. An advisory committee, including representatives of socio-political organizations, the media, the private sector, select provincial inspectorates, and UNDP, will ensure high quality and broad-based participation in all stages of the preparation of the reports. The reports will be disseminated through the media, a series of policy seminars, a dedicated website, and related awareness-raising activities as outlined by an integral advocacy/communication strategy.

3 Expected Outcome of the Project

In relation to the above mentioned deficiencies and/or problems, which concrete improvements are expected to be achieved through the project? In which way does the project help to curb corruption?

Legal framework and institutional mechanisms established in support of the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption.

4 Components – Main Activities – Method

What are the project's components, implementation steps, main activities and/or methods to achieve the above mentioned outcome and objectives?

The project will support the development of an indicator system and a data collection and analysis methodology for measuring the progress of the implementation of the UNCAC. The project will also generate a series of annual national corruption/UNCAC reports.

The project will use UNDP's NEX Manual.

5 Involvement of non-governmental actors and donors

In which way does the project involve civil society actors or other stakeholders and have they been consulted during the project development phase?

Currently, GIRI is cooperating with UNDP to draft the project document.

6 Related Projects under the 2nd Implementation Cycle

Is the project linked to reforms accomplished under the Action Plan's 2nd Implementation Cycle? In which way does this project follow up previous activities?

Yes, this project will use the budget remaining from the previous UNDP project.

7 Project Financing and Budget

Approved or estimated overall project budget:

US\$ 400,000

Is external funding required?

The project will be a component of the Program on Strengthening Comprehensive Capacity of the Inspectorate System up to 2010 funded by Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands and Norway.

If external funding is required, have donor organizations been approached yet, and have any commitments been made?

The Governments of Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands and Norway have committed to support for the Program on Strengthening Comprehensive Capacity of the Inspectorate System up to 2010.

If external funding is required, what percentage of the total project costs requires external funding?

100%

8 Technical Assistance

Is external technical assistance required? Have relevant agencies been approached and have they made any commitments?

Yes, a technical counselor will be selected through tendering procedures for consulting services. A short-term international consular will be recruited for specific technical issues. A part-time senior technical advisor may also be appointed to assist the development of training programs and perform certain quality assurance functions.