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The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
Ministry of Education and Training

Japan International
Cooperation Agency

Viet Nam Support Program For Primary Education Development Phase 2

Final Report Volume 2 (Other Related Documents)



March 2004



Support Program For
Primary Education Development
Phase 2



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Volume 2
March 2004
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THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIET NAM
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
AGENCY

VIET NAM
SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR
PRIMARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT
Phase 2

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**VIET NAM
THE STUDY ON SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR
PRIMARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PHASE 2
FINAL REPORT**

**VOLUME 2
OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS**

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Abbreviation

ABE	Alternative Basic Education
ACER	Australian Council for Educational Research
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BAPI	Broad Area of Possible Intervention
BNMM	BAPI Needs Match Matrix
BPM	BAPI Project Match Matrix
BOET	Bureau of Education and Training
BTC	Belgian Technical Cooperation
CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
COMPAS	Community Monitoring Progress Assessment System
CSPP	Comprehensive School Support Program
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CPRGS	Comprehensive Poverty Reduction Growth Strategy
CPRS	Comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy
CRS	Catholic Relief Service
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
DOET	Department of Education and Training
DV	Domestic Violence
DWG	Donor Working Group
E&T	Education and Training
EC	European Commission
ECE	Early Childhood Education
EDSP	Education Development Strategic Plan
EDSP 2010	Education Development Strategic Plan for 2001-2010
EduC	Education Council
EFA	Education for All
EMIC	Educational Management Information Center
EMIS	Educational Management Information System
EPCB	Education Planning Capacity Building
EU	European Union
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
F&P	Finance & Planning
FSQL	Fundamental School Quality Levels
FTI	Fast Track Initiative
FY	Fiscal Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate
GOJ	Government of Japan
GOV	Government of Viet Nam
GSO	General Statistical Office

HCM	Ho Chi Minh City
HDI	Human Development Index
HRD	Human Resource Development
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IDA	International Development Association
IDT	International Development Target
IM	Issue Matrix
INSET	In-service Training
IRDS	Institute for School Research & Design of School
IT	Information Technology
JBIC	Japan Bank for International Cooperation
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JOCV	Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers
JSE	Junior Secondary Education
LAN	Local Area Network
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
M/M	Man Month
MOC	Ministry of Construction
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MPI	Ministry of Planning & Investment
MTFP	Mid Term Financial Plan
NER	Net Enrolment Rate
NF	Non-formal
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIED	National Institute for Educational Development
NIES	National Institute for Education and Science
NIM	National Issue Matrix
NOK	Norwegian Krone
NORAD	Norwegian Aid Development
NT	National Target
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PA	Prioritized Area
PCM	Project Cycle Management
PE	Physical Education
PED	Primary Education Department
PEDC	Primary Education for Disadvantaged Children
PEDP	Primary Education Development Program
PHC	Primary Health Care
PMIS	Personnel Management Information System
PMU	Program Management Unit
PPBS	Planning-Programming-Budgeting System
PPCs	Provincial People's Committees

PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PRESET	Pre-service Training
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PTA	Parents Teacher Association
PTD	Primary Teacher Development
RIED	Researching Institution of Educational Development
SC-UK	Save the Children, United Kingdom
SCF	Save the Children Fund
SCMF	School Construction and Maintenance Fund
SEN	Special Education Needs
S/W	Scope of Work
T&L	Teaching & Learning
TA	Technical Assistance
TD	Teacher Department
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainer
TPR	Teacher-Pupil Ratio
TTC	Teacher Training College
TTI	Teacher Training Institute
UK	United Kingdom
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPE	Universal Primary Education
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	US Dollar
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VLSS	Vietnamese Living Standard Survey
VND	Vietnamese Dong
VSO	Voluntary Service Overseas
WES	Water Environment Sanitation
WSD	Whole School Development
WB	World Bank

Annex 2 Minutes of Meeting with Donors

Annex 2-1 Minutes of Meetings with Individual Donor Consultation

This section presents the Minutes of Meetings with individual donor consultation during this study period.

Table 1 List of Individual Donors Consultation

	Donor	Donor Present	Date
1	UNESCO	Mr. Shiu-Kee Chu	May 13, 2003
	UNESCO	Mr. Shiu-Kee Chu	July 10, 2003
2	World Bank	Mr. Christopher Shaw	May 12, 2003
	World Bank	Ms. V.T. Binh	July 17, 2003
3	UNDP	Ms. Mihoko Kumamoto	May 19, 2003
4	UNICEF	Mr. Hoang Van Sit	May 21, 2003
	UNICEF	Mr. Erik Bentzen / Mr. Hoang Van Sit	July 23, 2003
5	Asian Development Bank	Ms. Nguyen Nhat Tuyen	July 29, 2003
6	European Commission	Ms. Corrinne Boulet / Mr. Nguyen Huu Thinh	May 20, 2003
7	European C. funded project	Mr. P.D.N. Tien	July 16, 2003
8	French Embassy	Mr. Louis Arsac	May 21, 2003
	French Embassy	Mr. Louis Arsac	July 24, 2003
9	DFID	Mr. Steve Passingham	May 9, 2003
	DFID	Mr. Steve Passingham	July 24, 2003
10	US Department of Agriculture	Ms. Hoang Phung My	May 19, 2003
	US Department of Agriculture	Mr. Henry Schmick / Ms. Hoang Phung My	July 25, 2003
11	Belgian Embassy - BTC	Ms. Anouk Van Neck	June 18, 2003
	Belgian Embassy - BTC	Ms. Anouk Van Neck / Ms. N.L. Giang, Mr. Peter Vermaerke	July 16, 2003
12	VVOB	Mr. Toon De Bruyn / Mr. Do Doan Hai	June 4, 2003
13	Canadian Embassy	Ms. Le Anh Thao	May 26, 2003
	Canadian Embassy	Ms. Le Anh Thao / Ms. Camille Baudot	June 30, 2003
14	Norwegian Embassy - NORAD	Ms. N.H. Giang	June 3, 2003
	Norwegian Embassy - NORAD	Ms. Ragna Fidjestol / Ms. N.H. Giang	July 29, 2003
15	Oxfam Hong Kong	Ms. Nguyen Thanh Ha,	May 20, 2003
	Oxfam Hong Kong	Ms. Nguyen Thanh Ha,	July 23, 2003
16	Oxfam Great Britain	Ms. Vu Thanh Hoa	May 22, 2003
	Oxfam Great Britain	Ms. Vu Thanh Hoa	July 22, 2003
17	Save the Children UK	Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich	May 22, 2003
	Save the Children UK	Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich	July 22, 2003
18	Save the Children Sweden	Ms. Britta Ostrom / Ms. Ta Thuy Hanh	May 16, 2003
19	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Ms. Anat Prag	June 4, 2003
20	NGO Resource Center	Ms. Nguyen Yen Huong	October 23, 2003
21	USAID Vietnam	Mr. Ngo Tien Loi	October 30, 2003

1) UNESCO

Minutes of Meeting held on May 13, 2003 at UNESCO Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Shiu-Kei Chu, Head and Representative UNESCO Hanoi Office

PMU Member Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Hanh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato, Mr. Kanzaki, and Ms. Kitadate

Questions from UNESCO

- *Question:* Was the new project PEDC developed based on the identified needs through PEDP?
- *Answer by MOET:* No. PEDC identified its targets based on "School Census 2000".

- *Question:* Does PEDP include budgeted activities?
- *Answer by MOET:* No. PEDP provides the framework for interventions by GOV and donors based on the needs identified both at the provincial and central level.

UNESCO's Recent Activities

- EFA
 - Provincial EFA Plan: Upon request from MOET (Mr. Le Vu Hung, Vice-Minister) to support the provincial EFA planning, UNESCO has just started to plan on how to proceed. (To be frank, UNESCO is not very keen on supporting further "EFA planning," which may take another few years just to plan, but rather focus on concrete action programs to achieve the targets.)
 - Dr. Klaus Bahr (EFA Lead Consultant) will arrive in Hanoi this week to finalize the proposal for MOET on Provincial EFA planning.
 - PEDP's provincial level work provides a good indication: e.g. how long it will take to cover all the 61 provinces.
 - Challenge: EFA covers the whole range of education sector with very little funding.

- EFA follow-up action areas other than primary education sub-sectors:
 - Early Childhood Education: Support for Early Childhood Care and Education in 3 disadvantaged provinces.
 - Non-Formal Education: Expansion of CLCs (Community Learning Centers) in 4 Central Highland provinces in cooperation with National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ).

UNESCO's Assistance Focus in Education

- Since primary education sub-sector is already strongly supported by other donors, UNESCO's

focus will be on early childhood, non-formal and gender equality as well as technical assistance in management, planning, EMIS and improvement of quality and "Life Skills" (required to live in Vietnam such as work-related skills).

Next Steps

- Meeting will be held once Dr. Bahr arrives in Hanoi to discuss Provincial EFA planning.
- Mr. Chu is interested in joining EPCB training workshop in June.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 10 at UNESCO Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Shiu-Kee Chu, Head and Representative UNESCO Hanoi Office

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato, Mr. Kamiya

- Program Team explained the importance of the use of the Donor Fact Sheet for coordination purposes and presented the donor project matrix now under development. UNESCO expressed understanding of the PEDP role in coordinating primary education projects and promised to verify the Fact Sheets of the projects being undertaken by them in the field of education.
- The Education for All (EFA) document has already been approved and will be in print in the coming weeks. UNESCO is planning to produce a short brochure for dissemination.
- There is a Provincial Education Plan on which UNESCO is working to propose projects to MOET. In principle, from the initial 61 provinces, UNESCO wants to choose just 6. Criteria to select the 6 provinces will be based on the evaluation work done by the JICA Program Team, interviews in the provinces and confirmation of commitment and capability by the implementation unit.
- Also on July 20 a press conference will take place to announce the Action Plan for Education for All (EFA), on August 5 there will be the Annual Meeting of the ministry invited by DOET representatives, complemented by a Central Workshop the next day.
- In late September the regional workshop is planned before a meeting to disseminate the National Plan.

2) World Bank

Minutes of Meeting held on May 12, 2003 at WB Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Christopher Shaw, Principal Human Resource Specialist

PMU Member Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Hanh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato, Mr. Kanzaki, and Ms. Kitadate

Comments from WB

- The PEDP Donor Working Meeting scheduled in July
 - The timing will not be suitable as most of the donors will be away on summer vacation.
 - It has to be coordinated with other MOET departments (e.g. International Relations Dept.) and other meetings (e.g. Education Forum) for possible linkage and partnership.
- The Sector-Wide Program Workshop: The terminology "sector-wide" is misleading as PEDP is only covering primary sub-sector.
- Different initiatives planned at the provincial level: EFA and CPRGS also have plans of activities at the provincial level. All the initiatives should be coordinated to avoid confusion at the receiving end.
 - For EFA, Dr. Klaus Bahr (EFA Lead Consultant) will be coming to Hanoi on mission for 3 weeks from 16th of May.
 - One suggestion: PEDP Donor Working Meeting could be held in early June for the purpose of coordinating among PEDP, EFA and CPRGS on the provincial activities.
 - There is a possibility that Mr. Shaw can attend and observe EPCB workshop held in Da Nang in June.

WB's Recent Activities

- National EFA Plan: should be approved within a few days by the Prime Minister
 - For PEDP, it should to be checked whether BAPIs are properly reflected in the EFA's primary education section. EFA Costing may also be of use.
 - After the official approval, several EFA introduction workshops are planned: 1) for central ministries, and 2) for regional education authorities at 3 locations (in the north, center and south)
 - FTI: discussion on the contents will start after the EFA's approval.
- PEDC: Already approved by all sides and the project will start from June or July once "conditions of effectiveness" (to release the fund) are fulfilled.
- Primary Teacher Development Project: To obtain the results of the current project review, requests

should be sent to MOET.

- ASEM Grant Project (May 2003-Dec 2004): Support to MOET (Planning and Finance Department) with regard to the current budget reform process (i.e. the recent revision of the Budget Law) including MOET's capacity building for planning and preparation of provincial budget.

WB's Recent Activities (other than Education)

- Public Finance Management Reform Project (supporting Ministry of Finance): to cope with the new budget system under the revised Budget Law (The budget will be directly distributed to Provinces without channeling through central Ministries.)

Minutes of Meeting held on July 17, 2003 at WB Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. V.T. Binh Education Officer

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato, Mr.Kamiya

WB's Recent Activities

- The government has allocated VND 225 billion, approximately US\$150 million for Basic Education to eliminate disadvantaged areas in education, in particular for improvement of classrooms, but also for teacher training and curriculum reform. Mr. Ngu, the Deputy Director of Planning and Finance department at MOET, is in charge of this program and will identify what the government is planning.
- The new person in charge of the Human Development Group in the WB Hanoi Office will be Samuel Lieberman, who is an Economist who was previously working in Indonesia. He will start in September.
- The schedule of events of the national EFA will be the following. August 2, Press Conference for the EFA Action Plan, August 6, National Workshops for Dissemination inviting all representatives from departments in MOET and 61 DOETs and August 10-15 for Donor briefing.
- WB plans to support the government through budget channels providing reinforcement to improve the quality of education in conjunction with Fast Track Initiatives (FTI). It may be possible to reduce the financial gap in providing finance by using FQSL (Fundamental Quality of School Level) to be developed in PEDC.
- After the Donor briefing on national EFA, WB plans to specify contents of FTI by forming a taskforce with interested donors.

3) UNDP

Minutes of Meeting held on May 19, 2002 at UNDP Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Mihoko Kumamoto, Program Officer

PMU Member Present:

Dr. Trin Quoc Thai

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

UNDP's Recent Activities

- Environmental Education in the Schools of Vietnam (Mar 1999-Feb 2004)
 - Cost: USD 1,651,864 (funded by Danish Government)
 - Executing Agency: MOET (under Mr. Le Vu Hung)
 - Implementing Agency: Center for Education Technology (CGD)
 - This project is the second phase of an environmental education (EE) project begun in 1995, in which a national policy, strategy and teacher training guidelines for EE was prepared.
 - Phase 2 Activities:
 - (1) Develop National EE Action Plan and Provincial EE Action Plans (of 61 Provinces);
 - (2) Provide EE Training to TTCs clustered into 9 "nodes" (groups) (Hanoi, Hai Phong, Thai Nguyen, Tay Bac -Son La, Vin Nghe, Hue, Quy Nhon-Binh Dinh, HCMC, and Can Tho) and disseminate the training within each "node" for teachers at Primary, Lower Secondary, Upper Secondary levels.
 - (3) Expand grassroots environmental protection activities (such as after-school "Green Club" activities at 38 pilot schools, newsletters, TV/Radio programs, and contests)
 - Plan to coordinate with MOET's National Environmental Education Program starting this year.

Next Step

- Further meeting will be held to learn more about the project in detail.

4) UNICEF

Minutes of Meeting held on May 21, 2003 at UNICEF Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Hoang Van Sit National Programme Officer

PMU Member Present:

Dr. Le Van Anh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

UNICEF's Recent Activities

- Child Friendly Primary Education Project
 - Program Plan of Action (PPA) for 2003 was recently approved by GOV, which includes:
 - (1) Advocacy on Child Friendly Learning Environment (Policy makers, local stakeholders and public)
 - (2) Community participation through PTAs and Education Councils
 - (3) Capacity Building of Principals, teachers and education project staff on management, planning to support School Cluster (Main school and its branch schools) management, run by School Board (1 Principal and 2 Deputy Principals) who share responsibility to monitor and administer all branch schools. Opportunities for exchange among School Clusters (among different districts as well as different provinces) are held annually.
 - (4) Assessing and Upgrading the Child Friendly Learning Environment of all target schools using computer software installed at MOET, UNICEF Office and EMIC Center based on the criteria and indicators focused on quality rather than quantity. Data will be collected by paper questionnaire survey. The first survey was conducted at the end of 2002 and the 2nd survey will be conducted at the end of 2003.
 - (5) Provision of learning materials (textbooks, etc) and essential supplies (water system, and latrines)
 - (6) Training using "10 multigrade teacher training modules" including child rights, teaching Vietnamese as 2nd language, active-teaching, gender, safety and injury prevention.
 - (Pre-service): Train key trainers at 15 TTCs.
 - (In-service): "Central Mobile Training Team" will train "Provincial Mobile Training Teams, " who will then train all the target school teachers.
 - (7) Project Monitoring: Steering Committees are organized at different levels (Central, Provincial, District Levels) and hold monthly monitoring meeting with UNICEF. Every month, UNICEF randomly inspects certain target schools.

Next Step

- Training Module Materials, which are being translated into English, can be shared when they are ready.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 23, 2003 at UNICEF Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Erik Bentzen Senior Project Officer-Education

Mr. Hoang Van Sit National Programme Officer

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from UNICEF

- Mr. Bentzen applauded MOET's efforts to put together dispersed donor information, and also commented about the Donor Project Matrix which will allow a detailed examination to see if there are some overlaps.
- Mr. Bentzen explained about the activities being developed by UNICEF mainly in the field of capacity building, curricula development, teacher training and work with minority groups. Since UNICEF don't have the money nor the intention to work on infrastructure the programs are entirely of software-kind of support.

UNICEF's recent activities

- Four main areas of UNICEF work are
 - Technical advantages of learning support
 - Learning environment / Capacity building
 - Ownership / Direct participation
 - Language problem in minority populations
- UNICEF is also working on the presence of gender and child issues in the new textbooks as well as creating tools for PTA involvement in decision-making.
- With a consulting firm UNICEF is developing Software for evaluation and assessment called "Compass". They will make a presentation for the JICA Program Team. This software permits observing the current situation at provincial and even, for some cases, at district level. This software also shows mapping of facilities and profiles of students and teachers.
- It is easier to manage policies from the central government than from the grass root level. Accessibility to schools and preparation of teachers is actually a big issue. Sometimes one teacher has to teach students from three different grades at the same time.
- The nature of UNICEF's projects are:
 - (1) Advocacy from stakeholders on specific activities.
 - (2) Creating a stronger learning environment, and local self reliance.

- (3) Creating a more transparent environment and self confidence.
- (4) Complementing the current top-down approach with a more cooperative system

Comment on Japanese Proposal

- At the moment it is not known if there will be lessons learnt because until now the child friendly project has been concentrating on building the foundation of individual components, such as training of headmasters, PTA and parents, and the development of the Compass Software. Probably in the next year some ideas and lessons will emerge after the project incorporates all components.

5) **Asian Development Bank**

Minutes of Meeting held on July 29, 2003 at ADB Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Nhat Tuyen Social Development and Gender Office

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki, and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from ADB

- Ms. Tuyen praised the work being done by the PMU supported by our team and spoke about the importance of the PEDP on the ADB work. She mostly explained about the ADB projects, and the characteristics of the future projects to be opened in the next months.
- A detailed explanation of the ADB activities are explained on the Web Site, from where the PDF of the main documents are also available.
<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Profiles/LOAN/28309013.ASP>
- ADB is interested in maintain close links with the PEDP and also with initiatives such as the EFA, to have all projects on a common coordination track to enhance efficiency.

Recommendation on PEDP

- Try to include poverty alleviations map on Donor Analysis and BAPIs.
- Contact GTZ and the World Bank for information
- All information, such as national PEDP, needs assessment, project matrix, should be fed to provincial DOET and authorities.

6) **European Commission**

Minutes of Meeting held on May 20, 2003 at EC Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Corinne Boulet, Team Leader, Social Sectors Cooperation Section

Mr. Nguyen Huu Thinh, Programme Officer – Social Sectors Cooperation Sectors
Cooperation Section

PMU Member Present:

Ms. Nguyen Bich Thai

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

EU's Recent Activities

- Project formulation for the budget of 20 million Euro earmarked for the year 2003 to be used for HRD assistance in Vietnam
 - Project Formulation Mission (which was delayed apparently because of SARS) is planned to visit Vietnam in mid-June.
 - EU Delegation has already identified the outlines of the new 5-year project plan mostly to follow up on the on-going SMOET project. Priority will be given to the management component and the pedagogical component may be discontinued.
 - The Mission will finalize the proposal of the 5-year project plan to be submitted to EU headquarters for approval. 12 million Euro (out of 20 million) is expected to be allocated for supporting education.
 - It is hoped that the plan will be approved before the end of the SMOET project (end of March 2004).
- Discussion is underway with UNESCO to utilize SMOET's EMIS data for EFA monitoring.
- There is a new project with MOLISA to help street children.

Comment from MOET (Ms. Bich Thai)

- SMOET's EMIS, which is currently covering only up to DOETs, should extend to MOET.
- MOET would be happy to share findings from the analysis of Provincial PEDPs on management areas with the coming Project Formulation Mission.

7) The MOET Support Project (European Commission Funded Project)

Minutes of Meeting held on July 16, 2003 at the MOET Support Project Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. P.D.N. Tien, Project Co-Director

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato and Mr. Kamiya

EU Recent Activities

- The European Union is funding two projects, a "MOET Support Project" at a national level (EU1), and the "Son La - Lai Chau - Rural Development Project" (EU2).
- The EU1 has three components:
 - Pedagogical Component
 - Management Component
 - Curriculum Development
- As for pedagogical component, EU has been working on the three phases of this project, the on-going is Phase III, which runs from 2003 to 2007 and is centered basically on the

development of a module for in-service training for upgrading teacher's qualifications, with the goal to improve interactive teaching to cope with the new curriculum. The project manager of this project is Ms. Uyen.

- According to Mr. Tien there is no overlapping because this project is being coordinated at different levels of the government.
- Regarding the Planning Management Information System (PMIS) the objective is all districts reporting to provinces, and provinces reporting to MOET. This is being done on an initial step with 19 provinces as a pilot program. The Financial Management Information System (FMIS) has some difficulties among the 3 Management Information Systems (MIS) components due to the different budget norm used in each province.

8) Ambassade de France

Minutes of Meeting held on May 21, 2003 at French Embassy

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Lois Arsac, Attache de Cooperation

PMU Member Present:

Dr. Le Van Anh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

French Embassy's Recent Activities

- Training of School Inspectors and Education Officers
 - According to the MOET Decree issued in December 2002, school inspection will focus (not only on administrative competence as before) but also on pedagogical competence.
 - Funding from the "Solidarity Priority Fund" which is made by the agreement between French and Vietnamese government. MPI approves the project and instructs MOET to supplement 10 to 15 % of the project cost. (For this project, MOET is covering 15 % of the cost.)
 - The Project is under the responsibility of Mr. Le Vu Hung (MOET)
 - Project Activities:
 - (1) Train 30 General Inspectors in France for a month
 - (2) Train 300 Provincial Inspectors at 61 provinces (Training modality will be decided by MOET.)
 - (3) Train 50, 000 "Cumulative" Inspectors, who are both teachers and inspectors at the same time. (Training modality will be decided by MOET.)
- Attended MOET Seminar held in Nha Trang last month
 - It is a regular assembly (once or twice a year) of MOET and 61 provincial officials (DOET and People's Committees) to discuss and make proposals on educational issues including donor projects.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 24, 2003 at French Embassy

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Louis Arsac, Attache de Cooperation

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

AoF's Recent Activities

- The project for training school inspectors and education officers is not to enforce inspection but to provide training on inspection to school inspectors and education officers. Under this program specialists from France come to Vietnam and train trainers, then some number of Vietnamese are selected to go to France to get training at the International Center for Pedagogical Education. The Vietnamese Government requested France directly for this project. So there is commitment from the local counterpart, and this is shown by the physical office in MOET.
- It is not sure that this project will be extended because, while the Embassy support it, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France has higher priorities in former colonies in Africa.
- This project is directed by Mr. Louis but the issue is that external officers (attaches) can be in post for only a maximum of four years, and, as he is now in his third year, things and priorities may change after he leaves.

Comments on PEDP

- The JICA Program Team explained how to use the Donor Fact Sheet and its importance for Donor Analysis, Gap Analysis and the Donor Project matrix. Also how the work of the JICA Program Team is integrated as a JICA work and MOET approach. In response, Mr. Louis applauded MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- In response to questions from Mr. Louis, the JICA Program Team explained the relationship between EFA and PEDP. Thus, Louis fully understood that PEDP is an official Government document and part of EFA.

9) Department for International Development (DFID)

Minutes of Meeting held on May 9, 2003 at DFID Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Steve Passingham, Senior Education Adviser

PMU Member Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Hanh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

Comments from DFID

- Training Activities at the Regional Level
 - PEDC has a component for capacity building of planning at district level. DFID would like to know more about PEDP's training activities for provincial planning capacity and, if possible, would like to visit and observe PEDP's training session in the province.
 - Training resources at the provincial level: DFID has a project to support Lower Secondary English Teaching in 22 provinces and, for this project, there are teams of trainers based in 15 provinces (at DOETs, TTCs, universities, schools) who are experienced in active training methods and can be a rich resource for different training activities such as PEDP or other projects.

DFID's Recent Activities

- Primary Education for Disadvantaged Children Project
 - The project was just approved by WB's HQs in Washington last Tuesday and the loan agreement with Vietnamese Government will be concluded by the end of this month (approximately).
- Primary Teacher Development Project
 - There will be the first project review by MOET, WB and DFID in the coming 2 weeks. The result will be presented at a workshop in MOET on 23 May. (DFID would be happy to invite the PEDP team to the workshop and share the findings, subject to MOET and WB's consent.)
- Workshop/conference on Multi-Grade Teaching (May 29-31, 2003)
 - Organized by the British Council, there will be a presentation of research findings on multi-grade teaching in 3 countries (Peru, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) (PhD research by a Vietnamese scholar with assistance from the Institute of Education, London). PEDP team is welcome if interested.
- Discussion with Japanese Embassy
 - Recently DFID has been in contact with the Japanese Embassy in Hanoi and mutually agreed to take concrete actions to exchange information and understand each other's activities.

DFID's assistance policy

- DFID has made a commitment not to formulate bilateral projects but to support projects with other donor(s). In Vietnam, DFID's partnership with WB is a starting point and they would like to seek cooperation with other donors as well in the future.
- DFID is in favor of sector approach by which different donors can support the government in a coherent, consistent and effective way. Non-tied money could be pooled for this mechanism or direct budget support could be provided.

Next steps

- Next meeting between DFID and PEDP is scheduled on 27 May to
 - Present PEDP training activities by Training Experts (Suzuki & Tsukagoshi)
 - Receive DFID's feedback on PEDP Guidelines and Fact Sheet

Minutes of Meeting held on July 24, 2003 at DFID Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Steve Passingham, Senior Education Adviser

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from DFID

- There are many donors in this country and the Government is really working on education and also investing a lot of money on the sector. So, for donors to come to Vietnam and work in education is a good investment with quick results.
- Another important reason is geopolitical. This is a very large country with several powerful neighbors, so having good relationships is good for diplomacy and business.
- It is noted that probably Vietnam is one of the few countries that will comply with the Millennium Development Goals.

DFID's recent activities

- There are some projects for this year still waiting for approval. These projects will be a part of bigger World Bank projects.

Comments on PEDP

- The JICA Program Team explained how to use the Donor Fact Sheet and its importance for Donor Analysis, Gap Analysis and the Donor Project matrix. Also how the work of the JICA Program Team is integrated as a joint JICA and MOET approach. In response, Mr. Passingham applauded MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- Asked for confirmation, the JICA Program Team confirmed PEDP is part of the EFA Action Plan. PEDP focus on Primary Education and EFA covers all education fields and policies. Both works have been closely coordinated from the beginning.

Recommendations

- Mr. Passingham underlined that MOET should have all the information about donors and

on-going projects. In addition, tables presented should show MOET project offices so that donors can easily contact the right persons in MOET.

10) **U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service**

Minutes of Meeting held on May 19, 2003 at US DA Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Hoang Phung My, Agricultural Specialist

PMU Member Present:

Dr. Trin Quoc Thai

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

US Department of Agriculture's Activities

- School Lunch Program
 - Finished the activities of 2002-2003 phase. The results were very positive and a report on the program results has been issued.
 - A proposal was submitted to the US Government for approval for the program's extension for the coming school year from September 2003
 - Requesting a donation of US agricultural products (equivalent of USD 9 million)
 - The project cost will be generated by the profit made from the sales of the donated products
 - Non-fat dry milk will be provided to target schools
 - MOET Counterpart: Primary Education Department, MOET (Dr. Thai is in charge of this program)
 - Operational partner: Land O'Lake (US NGO)
 - Approval is pending as this year's priority for donating US agricultural products is given to Iraq
 - MOET plans to extend the program to 32 districts in 6 provinces (representing all regions) and the list of schools to receive the assistance will be prepared by Dr. Thai.
 - Currently negotiating with Ministry of Finance to remove the VAT (trade tax) imposed by the GOV on donated agricultural products.
 - More participation of MOET in the management of the project is recommended for the new phase.
- Other types of support through the sales profit from donated US agricultural products
 - School Construction of Primary and Lower Secondary Schools: 9 billion VND in 20 provinces
 - Health (Construction of Clinics)
 - Agriculture

Minutes of Meeting held on July 25, 2003 at US DA Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Henry Schmick, US Agricultural Attache
Ms. Hoang Phung My, Agricultural Specialist

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from USDA

- As USDA can fund project only through an NGO, so, in this case, confirm the Fact Sheet with Land O'Lake, the Country Manager. Katherine Farley will be the contact person.
- The reason USDA is financing food is because these kinds of projects can be easily approved by the US Congress. The activities of USDA are described on the web page www.fas.usda.gov on Food cooperation and related activities.

USDA's Recent Activities

- Mr Schmick says the current project has just been completed. There are two new proposals being considered, one with Land O'Lakes which is basically the same focused on Milk and Lunches, and another with the American Red Cross, on Mothers and Babies. One of them will be chosen by September and will start in 2004.
- We will also contact Marcie Friedman from the American Red Cross to see if more NGOs are working or will work in Vietnam.

Recommendations

- It was proposed to establish communication channels not only inside MOET but also with the Ministry of Finance, because the MoF finally decides the budget and determines whether a project goes ahead or not.

11) Belgian Embassy-Belgian Technical Cooperation (BTC)

Minutes of Meeting held on June 18 2003 at Belgian Embassy

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Anouk Van Neck, Embassy of Belgium

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Bich Thai

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Ms. Tsukagoshi

Briefing on the Phase 2 Program by Program Team

- PEDP does not include a specific project but it identifies the areas of possible interventions. This does not aim to instruct or restrict donor's activities in any way, but we would like it to be used as a useful tool.
- The provincial PEDP will be integrated into the National PEDP. The province DOET officials are now trained in order to be able to organize/update PEDP on their own in future.

Belgian Embassy's comments on PEDP

- Belgian Embassy finds this a very meaningful and useful tool and wishes the success of the

project.

- Belgian Embassy will comment on the PEDP guidelines and will also fill out the donor project fact sheets.

Belgium's planned "Phase II" project

- The JICA Program Team presented the outline sheet of the "Comprehensive Primary Education Development Program" and explained the current status.
- Belgian Embassy explained briefly about the successful Phase I project. The Phase II contains very similar components although there could be some minor adjustments.
- Phase II is still at the state of "idea", but the proposal has been written and it will target 14 provinces in northern part, including Bac Giang.
- PMU raised the issue of overlaps with World Bank. In response to that, Belgian Embassy suggested that we should share more information to seek some ways to cooperate effectively.
- Belgian Embassy representative suggested that she would have a look at the outline closely, and comment on it by the end of this week (20th) as to how much similarity they think it will have with their project if it is implemented as it is written.
- Their "Phase II" is planned for 4-5 years time span. If all works well, there could be an identification mission at the end of this year and the project could start as early as mid-next year. However, since this has not yet been officially approved, it's still "informal" information.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 16, 2003 at BTC Project Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Anouk Van Neck, Embassy of Belgium
Ms. N.L. Giang Officer. BTC
Pieter Vermaerke, Attache Development Cooperation. BTC

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. N.L. Binh, Expert of Teacher Department
Ms. N.H. Hanh, Expert of Primary Education Department, MOET
Mr. Nguyen Tri, Vice-Director of Teacher Department, MOET

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Dr. Kato and Mr. Kamiya

BCT's Recent Activities

- Ms. Binh, the PMU Director of the Belgian Project, was responsible for the 1st Phase of the project and is already working on preparing the 2nd Phase. She explained Phase 1 activities and planned Phase 2 components. They were working on 7 provinces with beneficiaries, including the principals, practical training schools and teachers.
- These are six components,
 - 1) Master Training,
 - 2) Methodology Training at TTC¹
 - 3) English Training,
 - 4) Computer Training,
 - 5) Provision of Equipment, and
 - 6) Study Tours.

- For the 2nd phase Belgium will expand targeted provinces from 7 to 14 in northern mountainous provinces and also extend the number of programs to Practical Training Schools and also to Colleges. In addition they will include all subjects instead 9 main subjects in Phase 1. Master Training component will not be covered in Phase 2 due to the overlapping identified in ADB lower secondary project.
- Dr. Kato explained teacher training component in Japan's proposal and Ms. Anouk raised the issue of overlapping of some components between the two projects.
- Nguyen Tri (Vice-Director of Teacher Department - MOET) indicated that from the beginning there have been some overlapping in some provinces. However they don't want to reduce or take out one of the donors if that is already happening. Some mechanisms of coordination, without reducing involvement of donors, are desirable. BTC and JICA should both keep working even though projects are overlapping.
- Materials should also be exchanged to avoid duplication of activities and work.
- Ms. Anouk Van Neck (BTC - Embassy of Belgium) talked about similarities and differences in approach of both JICA and BTC projects and indicated the need to have more meetings for briefing and debriefing to achieve more knowledge and understanding of progress.
- Ms. Binh said that one major problem is the time availability of teachers in the provinces to implement the project. This is because of several factors such as in-service training held by MOET during the summer vacation and all the bureaucratic problems that different activities pose to their teaching professions. She said this must be taken into account by donors and MOET officials for any activities.
- Finally Ms. Anouk said next time people from ADB should be invited to the meeting because ADB is supporting lower secondary education. She mentioned also the issue of Per Diem should be based on EU developed guideline and needs consensus among donors.

12) VVOB

Minutes of Meeting held on June 4, 2003 at VVOB Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Toon De Bruyn, Environmental Education Expert
Mr. Do Doan Hai, Vice Director, Hanoi Retraining College for Teachers
& Educational Managers

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki

VVOB's Comments on PEDP

- VVOB welcomes the ideas of PEDP. It recommends that MOET should explain PEDP to the Development Cooperation of the Belgian Embassy in Hanoi.
- VVOB appreciates MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- VVOB is willing to support PEDP and will return the Donor Fact Sheet as soon as possible.

¹ Note: in Methodology training they focus on active learning and implementation of new curriculum and innovation achievements.

VVOB's Recent and Planned Activities

- Planned ICT project
 - The project is scheduled to start this year and continues for 5 years.
 - The project will be implemented in cooperation with Hanoi Retraining College for Teachers & Educational Managers.
 - The objective is to apply ICT to school management. Hanoi Retraining College provides ICT training to principals and teachers in schools in Hanoi.
 - In the first phase, the project will invite participants from 12 schools in Hanoi as pilot schools which will include kindergartens (3), primary (3), secondary (3) and vocational (3).
 - After that, the project will be expanded to other schools in Hanoi.
- On-going environmental education project
 - The objective is to enhance teacher quality and awareness of environmental education by providing training and material support.
 - The project has been implemented in cooperation with Hanoi Retraining College for Teachers & Educational Managers.
 - The Hanoi Retraining College has provided training to invited teachers from schools in Hanoi.
 - Up to September, 2001, pilot activities finished in 5 primary schools in Hanoi.
 - After that, pilot activities have been implemented in 5 lower secondary schools in Hanoi.
 - Forthcoming evaluation will determine whether the project will be expanded to other schools in Hanoi.

13) Canadian Embassy- CIDA

Minutes of Meeting held on May 26, 2003 at CIDA Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Le Anh Thao, Education & Social Sectors Specialist

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki

CIDA's recent activities

- National EFA Planning
 - National EFA will be approved by PM's office soon.
 - Primary Education for Disadvantaged Children
 - This co-financed project will start this June.
 - Planned training for local education officers in this project should be coherent with training provided by PEDP, for example in terms of materials.
- No decision has been made as to whether CIDA will support Provincial EFA.

- There are no other on-going or planned projects.

Comments on PEDP

- PEDP is a useful reference document when CIDA formulates future projects. CIDA puts the first priority on supporting the primary education sector.

Minutes of Meeting held on June 30, 2003 at CIDA Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Camille Baudot, First Secretary
Ms. Le Anh Thao, Education & Social Sectors Specialist

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki, Mr. Kamiya

CIDA's recent activities

- CIDA has allocated 1.5 million Canadian Dollars for UNESCO and World Bank. This is a Trust Fund for Basic Education which focuses mainly on Education Support, Student Achievements and Learning/Teaching of Maths and Vietnamese.
- CIDA is working with UNESCO and the World Bank and therefore wants to put their projects in line with the CPRGS, Comprehensive Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy, and the Fast Track Initiative.
- A mission for Fast Track Initiative will come in August or September.
- Canada has expressed interest in implementing provincial EFA in one of the provinces with UNESCO.
- They are very interested in the "soft" component of primary projects, and expressed regard for JICA work on infrastructure, but with more training of teachers and institutional capacity building.
- CIDA is also working on some other projects such as basic infrastructure, including construction of small schools, rural development, and some support for small enterprises.

Comments on PEDP

- The JICA Program Team explained how to use the Donor Fact Sheet and its importance for Donor Analysis, Gap Analysis and the Donor Project matrix. Also how the work of the JICA Program Team is integrated as a joint JICA and MOET approach. In response, Ms. Camille applauded MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- In response to questions from Ms. Camille, the JICA Program Team explained about the relationship between EFA and PEDP. Thus, Ms Camille fully understood that PEDP is the Government official document and part of EFA.

14) Norwegian Embassy-NORAD

Minutes of Meeting held on June 3, 2002 at NORAD Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Hong Giang, Programme Officer

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki

NORAD's Recent Activities

- Primary Education for Disadvantaged Children Project (Co-financing)
- Education Development Support to Ethnic Minorities in Lai Chau
 - This project is implemented in two districts (Dien Bien Dong, Tuan Giao) of Lai Chau up to the end of 2004 as a pilot project.
 - Main activities are as follows
 1. Curriculum development reflecting local contents or culture
 2. Capacity building of school management, especially teacher development through teacher training and developed teacher training materials
 3. Construction of teachers' accommodation, Provision of equipment and furniture of schools
 4. Support for students' nutrition to reduce parents' financial burden
 - At present, it is unclear whether NORAD will expand this project to other provinces.

Next Step

- As NORAD puts the first priority on the primary education sector in Vietnam, at the end of 2004, reviews of Lai Chau project will be conducted to determine next interventions.

Others

- NORAD is looking for a good project management structure. As NORAD highlights ownership by the Vietnam Government, a local project director has full authority related to project activities. The NORAD's involvement in project management is limited to technical advice by a Chief Technical Assistant. On the other hand, EU projects are managed by co-directors from international consultants and local staff. In addition, NORAD projects do not cover compensation of local staff in Project Management Unit. EU projects seem to cover it partially

Minutes of Meeting held on July 29, 2003 at Norwegian Embassy

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Ragna Fidjestol, Second Secretary

Ms. N. H. Giang, Programme Adviser, NORAD

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Ms. T. T. Lan Anh, International Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Norway's Recent Activities:

- They insisted on the issue of budget and MOET's commitments. And also on priorities to allocate and select provinces and districts.
- Also, since they are working with the World Bank, they insisted the projects should take into account the CPRGS, Country Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy, and the recent Fast Track Initiative.
- Also besides education, the Norwegian Embassy is working on the 1-stop shop model, to reduce time to register businesses, etc. and to create and enhance capacity building and barriers to formality in the CPRGS framework.

Comments on PEDP

- The JICA Program Team explained how to use the Donor Fact Sheet and its importance for Donor Analysis, Gap Analysis and the Donor Project matrix. Also how the work of the JICA Program Team is integrated as a joint JICA and MOET approach. In response, Ms. Fidjestol applauded MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- Ms. Fidjestol raised questions on linkages between Provincial PEDP or National PEDP and MOET budget and planning process.

15) Oxfam Hong Kong

Minutes of Meeting held on May 20, 2003 at Oxfam GB Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Education Project Officer

PMU Member(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Bich Thai

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

Oxfam HK's Recent Activities

- Focus has been on assistance for poverty alleviation in ethnic minority areas.
- Early Childhood Education (ECD)
 - Pre-school teacher training in teaching Vietnamese as 2nd language
 - Plan to include some primary education component to ensure transition from ECD to the primary level by the end of this year
- Small NGO's concern: how to scale up the small project to extend the impact/experience

Comments from MOET

- PEDP is a master program for primary education but MOET plans to extend this framework to other sectors. It is important to cover small projects by NGOs because smaller projects may be more effective from which lessons can be learned for bigger projects.
- Regarding the minority language issue, DOETs are proposing to WB's Primary Teacher

Development Project (in which incentives are given to foreign language teaching), that the same attention should be paid to minority languages.

- MOET welcomes further discussion to assist new project formulation.

Next steps

- Discussion will be held between Oxfam HK and MOET to assist further project formulation.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 22, 2003 at Oxfam Hong Kong Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Ha, Education Project Officer

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. T. T. Lan Anh, International Relations Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from Oxfam Hong Kong

- The analysis of PEDP would be very useful for other donors because they don't usually know the activities of other donors. She understood that inputs from donors are essential for this analysis and promised to check a draft DFS made by the JICA Program Team.

Oxfam HK's recent activities:

- The planned project formulation to deal with minority language issues is delayed. No preparation has been done yet.

16) **Oxfam Great Britain**

Minutes of Meeting held on May 22, 2003 at Oxfam GB Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Vu Thanh Hoa, Senior Program Officers

PMU Member(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Hong Hanh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

Oxfam GB's On-going Education Support

- Teacher Training: Child-Centered Method (CCM)
 - Training is provided by Local Teacher Trainers (6 trainers in Lao Cai, 6 in Ha Tinh, and 26 in Tra Vinh) to the "Model Teachers" (1 teacher per grade) at each school, who then train other peer teachers at their schools.
- Infrastructure
 - School construction (the accurate number of schools constructed is not yet available at the time of the meeting.)
 - Provision of furniture (such as chairs) based on the concept of CCM
- Community Training
 - Activities to mobilize Parent Associations to send children to schools

Future Plan of Support

- For the years 2003 to 2006, the support will continue only in Sapa (Lao Cai Province)
- The new focus areas will be on girls and minority groups to reach the last percentages of the poor/out-of-school children.
- OGB is willing to explore ways to link with other donor projects for complementary effects. For example, Save the Children France (EeD) is providing vocational training in Lao Cai and OGB's support for primary education can be combined with this intervention. If different donors covering different sectors (such as pre-school, vocational training, livelihood or health) can work in the same location together, the impact will be maximized.
- As there are possible links with WB's PEDC project, OGB will stay in contact with PMU/MOET for further discussion of coordination with other projects.

Lessons Learned

- Working with TTC
 - The difficulties in working with TTC have been identified: due to its fixed curriculum and lack of "certification" for new methodologies.
- Support from Local Authority
 - The support from the local authority makes a difference: Among 3 target provinces, DOET of Tra Vinh Province is strongly supporting the project and it is expected to be sustainable after the end of OGB's support, while other provinces with less local support show lower outcomes.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 22, 2003 at Oxfam Great Britain Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Vu Thanh Hoa, Senior Program Officers

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. T. T. Lan Anh, International Relations Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

Comment from Oxfam Great Britain

- Ms Hoa applauded MOET's efforts to complete PEDP. After carefully reading through the PEDP, she realized that PEDP could be a useful document to formulate projects. She also expressed her appreciation to MOET because all project information from Qxfam GB was fully incorporated into the PEDP.

Oxfam GB's Recent Activities

- The Sapa project will be planned to expand for another three years. She asked for the program team comments on educational indications and availability of the data which she is now looking for in the Sapa project. The team promised her to reply within one week.

17) **Save the Children UK**

Minutes of Meeting held on May 22, 2003 at Save the Children UK Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich, Coordinator, Ethnic Minority Education Project

PMU Member(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Hong Hanh

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

Questions about PEDP

- In reply to the question raised by SCUK as to the relationship between PEDP and EFA Action Plan, especially at the province level, Ms. Hanh responded that PEDP provides needs assessment at the provincial level and the results of the needs assessment would fit into the provincial EFA planning and this issue had been already discussed with UNESCO.

Recent Changes in SCUK's Support in Education

- Mainly due to the funding donors' shift of focus areas, SCUK will focus more on early childhood care and development (ECCD).
- A project proposal to receive funds from WB's Japan Social Development Fund has been prepared. This project will support ECCD in Quang Tri, Yen Bai and Lai Chau in partnership with other NGOs (such as the Save the Children Alliance).
- There is another plan to start a project to support primary education in the Central Highland region and Save the Children UK (SCUK) is in contact with the Primary Education Department of MOET (Dr. Thai) to seek advice on the project site selection.
- The on-going Ethnic Minority Education Project in Quang Ninh will continue to support primary education for 2 more years.

Ethnic Minority Education Project (1996 – 2005)

- Teacher Training
 - Working with Teacher Department and Research Center for Ethnic Minority Education MOET, the project provides both in-service and pre-service training.
 - The training involves TTC depending on topics: active-teaching/upgrading teacher qualifications.
 - In the summer, a workshop for MOET officials is being planned on the evaluation of the new curriculum piloted for the minority groups.
- Community Encouragement
 - 3 to 5 SCUK staff members are based at the project site and hold a bi-monthly meeting to invite community people to discuss any issues and to monitor the project.

- EMIS
 - The data to be collected include the “community profile” (children of 0 to 7 years old, facilities and teachers), which can serve as the community database.
 - The EMIS system is installed at the commune level for reporting to the district authority for assessing the situation and planning.
 - SCUK plans to discuss possible coordination with the EU.
 - SCUK proposes to organize Education Forum on the issue of EMIS at the end of the year.

Minutes of Meeting held on July 22, 2003 at Save the Children UK Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. N. T. Bich, Deputy Project Director

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Mr. Kamiya

SC - UK recent activities:

- SC-UK is working hard on minority groups emphasizing Capacity Building, Advocacy, Teacher Training and Parent Awareness. As is known, language is a serious issue for ethnic minorities; the government wants to standardize Vietnamese to apply a common curriculum, so SC is working helping on this.
- This year SC is preparing two new projects for Lai Chau province. As with the previous one, the new project will be in the same field of minority groups and education. Those new projects will be done under the World Bank umbrella, as also are Japan's JICA and US's USAID.

Comments on PEDP

- The JICA Program Team explained how to use the Donor Fact Sheet and its importance for Donor Analysis, Gap Analysis and the Donor Project matrix. Also how the work of the JICA Program Team is integrated as a joint JICA and MOET approach. In response, Ms. Bich applauded MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.

18) Save the Children Sweden

Minutes of Meeting held on May 16, 2003 at SCS Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Britta Ostrom, Regional Representative

Ms. Ta Thuy Hanh, Program Officer, Inclusive Education/CRC in School

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki and Ms. Kitadate

Save the Children Sweden's Activities

- History
 - In Vietnam SCS has been committed to working for disabled children since 1987. Firstly focused on health, and later started Inclusive Education (IE) from 1991. Lately, more

importance has been placed on community participation. The data to be collected includes the "community profile" (children of 0 to 7 years old, facilities and teachers), which can serve as the community database.

- On going project since 1991
 - Counterpart: MOET/NIES/, Provincial People's Committees
 - Target Areas: Tien Giang and Vinh Phuc
 - Activities:
 - 1) Development of IE models for schools, family and community.
 - 2) Inclusion of disabled children into schools.
 - 3) Revitalize Community Base Rehabilitation (CBR).
 - 4) Pre-service teacher training at TTCs
- "Child Friendly Learning Environment": all the SCS projects are geared towards this concept focused on child rights.
- "National Forum of Children: Our Voices in Education"
 - Planned to be held on August 20 by Save the Children Coalition (UK, Australia, Sweden, and Japan)
 - Inviting 100 children representing all walks of life throughout Vietnam (including working children, minority children or disabled children) to voice their views on education and school. (First big event of its kind)

Coordination in the IE field with Other Agencies

- This is relatively easy as we all work with the same partner (NIES), who makes requests to us. Often organizes joint workshops among NGOs (CRS, Pearl S. Buck International, and Education for Development).
- Consultation of WB's PEDC process was good: SCS's experience is well reflected in the PEDC project document.

Comment from SCS

- Save the Children Australia was not happy to find that their project on active teaching & learning to support the new curriculum was not included in PEDP document.
- Small NGOs operating in the provinces are often "forgotten" but they are doing excellent work. There should be ways to make their activities known.

19) Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Minutes of Meeting held on June 4, 2003 at CRS Hanoi Office

Donor Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Anat Prag, Education Program Manager

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kanzaki

Briefing on the Phase 2 Program by Program Team

- PEDP does not include specific projects. PEDP identifies areas of need and is useful as a referring tool for project formulation. PEDP does not restrict donor activities. MOET tries to enhance its role of donor coordination.
- Future procedures of updating the Donor Fact Sheet is under discussion with MOET. One idea is that MOET will update it by itself when ownership of projects are considered.
- Donor information will be utilized when MOET analyzes the progress of PEDP and may be uploaded to MOET Web site. MOET is developing a data bank.

CRS's comments on PEDP

- CRS welcomes the ideas of PEDP and supports PEDP. It could be a very useful document.
- CRS appreciates MOET's efforts to coordinate donor activities.
- CRS had a meeting with the JICA Program Team in the past and provided project information. Now ,CRS expects feedbacks from MOET or the JICA Program Team.
- CRS will fill in the Donor Fact Sheet and return it by 13th June.

CRS's recent activities

- There was no time to discuss this topic. However, CRS strongly promised to send the Donor Fact Sheet back by 13th June.

Others

- In response to the CRS' request, MOET and the JICA Program Team promised to deliver a data bank CD-ROM as the feedback from our side.

20) NGO Resource Center

Minutes of Meeting held on October 23, 2003 at NGO Resource Center

Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Yen Huong, Coordinator

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kamiya

NGO Resource Center's Activities

- Compile information from NGOs working in Vietnam in all fields, including education.
- Publish the annual report NGO Resource Center
- Administer a home page with on-line information on NGOs
http://www.ngocentre.netnam.vn/ngores_e/index.htm
- NGOs themselves submit information to the Resource Center, they check the information and prepare tables for interventions in key areas, adding comments and providing a standard format.
- The NGO Resource Center also houses a small library with resources and publications from NGOs working in Vietnam.

NGOs working in Vietnam on Primary related projects

At the end of October 2003 Fact Sheets have been received from Microprojects in Vietnam and Church World Service. Several NGOs replied indicating their work is with street children or supporting physically handicapped children. Based on the areas of interventions (BAPIs) it is necessary to include their work in this list.

NGOs working or related with Primary Education and children support.

Action Aid (AAV)

Upgrading classroom for primary schools
Book Banks
PTA Initiatives

Adventist Development

Braille training for blind kids
Advocacy initiatives

Affiliate Ltd. (AFFI)

English curriculum development 6-12

Aid to Children without parents, Inc. (ACWP)

Education program for marginalized children
English and PC training for poor children
Scholarship/ tuition assistance

Assemblies of God in Australia, World relief, Inc. (AOGWR)

Educational scholarships for poor and handicapped children
Schooling facilities and provision of clean water

Associazione Italiana Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO)

Support of inclusive education in the public school system for handicapped children

Bread for the World (BfdW)

Vocation school for teacher methodology (Hanoi)
Library and teaching materials (HCMC)

Caritas Switzerland (CARSWI)

Training for teachers of hearing impaired children

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

- Community support for children with disabilities
- Improving basic education quality
- Strengthening of basic education in disadvantage areas
- UXO education for primary aged children

CBM International

- Integrated education, mobility for the blind, daily living skill training

Center for Education Exchange in Vietnam (CEEVN)

- Consultation on program development
- Study missions

Children of Vietnam (CoV)

- Scholarships for night schools and vocational schools

Christian Children's Fund of Australia (CCF Australia)

- Capacity building
- Improving basic education
- Provision of teachings aids, resource materials

The Christina Noble Children Foundation (CNCF)

- Educational assistance for children from destitute families

Church World Service

- Material aid and infrastructure support

Comite Catholique contre la faim and pour le Developpment

- Primary school (not specified)

Compassion International (CI)

- Dropouts support to return to schools
- Sponsoring indigent children to finish basic school

Education for Development (EFD)

- Disadvantage children
- Foreign language training

Food for the Hungry International (FHI)

- Literacy classes
- School repairs

Foundation for International Development (FIDR)

- Construction and infrastructure

Foundation for Microprojects in Vietnam (FMV)

- Construction of primary schools

Global Care in Vietnam (Global Care)

- Sponsoring children

Global Civil Sharing (GCS)

- Provision of school supplies for primary schools

Komitee Twee of the Netherlands (KTwee)

- Support to impaired children

Loreto Vietnam - Australia Program (LVAP)

- Support to impaired children

Mebisch Committee Netherlands - Viet Nam (MCNV)

Community based rehabilitation systems

The Norwegian Mission Alliance (NMA)

Support for primary and secondary school for children with leprosy
Equipping schools with learning and teaching tools.

Oxfam Great Britain (Oxfam GB)

Computerized education management system
Community development

Oxfam Hong Kong (Oxfam HK)

Primary education
School construction

Oxfam Quebec (Oxfam Q)

School construction

Pearl S. Buck International, Inc. (PSBI)

School attendance support

Plan in Vietnam (Plan)

Several programs for primary education, dental health care, training, supplies, etc.

Quaker Service-American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

Scholarships for poor children

Saigon Children's Charity (SCC)

Provision of resources,
Building of small satellite schools

Samaritan's Purse International Relief (SPIR)

Providing meals and scholarships for disadvantaged children

Save the Children Australia (SCA)

Resource support for schools
Furnishing and renovation
Teachers training

Save the Children France (EdD)

"Child friendly environment"
Activities in 6 semi-boarding schools

Save the Children UK (SC UK)

Ethnic minority education
Child rights advocacy

Save the Children Japan (SCJ)

Facility support
Teacher's trainings

Save the Children Sweden / Radda Barnen (SCS)

Inclusion of children and teachers training
CRC training in schools
Child friendly learning schools

Terre des Hommes Foundation Lausanne (Tdh)

Capacity building
Education (in general)

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)

Primary teacher training
Special education teachers training
English teaching

Volunteer Group of Trento (GTV)

Building and equipping one primary school

World Vision International

Support to poor students
Improve quality of education, reduce drop-outs rates

Youth With a Mission (YWAM)

Support for children in difficult circumstances.

21) **USAID Vietnam**

Minutes of Meeting held on October 30, 2003 at USAID Vietnam

Representative(s) Present:

Mr. Ngo Tien Loi, Development Assistant

MOET-PMU Representative(s) Present:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH, Primary Education Department

Program Team Member(s) Present:

Mr. Kamiya

USAID Vietnam's Activities

USAID complained that all their activities were not taken into account in the analysis. It turned out that USAID is providing funds to NGOs and private consulting firms, so they are not directly implementing projects. Also most of the projects are being done with the NGOs to whom we sent request for Fact Sheets, this is the case for example of Pearl S. Buck Foundation (PSBI), Save the Children US, or even through UNDP and UNICEF. So the projects in which USAID are working are already considered through the implementing agency or NGO.

Other

- USAID will inform of primary education intervention to MOET and will be in close contact with the JICA Study Team.
- USAID will help and support to prepare the Donor Coordination meeting next year.

Annex 2-2 Donor Coordination Meeting Minutes

Minute of the Donor Meeting on The National Primary Education Development Program Hanoi, 28 February, 2002

Participants

No	Name	Organization/Department	Position
1.	Klaus Bahr	UNESCO – EFA Team	Leader
2.	Nyan Myint	UNESCO – EFA Team	Consultant
3.	Chris Shaw	World Bank	Principal Human Development Specialist
4.	Vu Thanh Binh	World Bank	Education Officer
5.	Morikazu Ushioji	JICA	Leader of Advisory Committee
6.	Yukiharu Kobayashi	JICA	Staff
7.	Kuniaki Amatsu	JICA	Senior Project Formulation Advisor
8.	Luong Mai Dung	JICA	Assistant Program Officer
9.	Dao To Cam	JICA	Assistant Program Officer
10.	Naoko Tabata	JICA	Project Formulation Advisor
11.	Satoshi Uotani	Embassy of Japan	First Secretary
12.	Hoang Van Sit	UNICEF	National Program Officer
13.	Ngo Kieu Lan	UNICEF	Program Officer
14.	Tran Thien Huong	AUSAID	Program Officer
15.	Le Anh Thao	CIDA	Program Officer
16.	Nguyen Hong Giang	OXFAM	Senior Program Officer
17.	Ta Thuy Hanh	RADDA BARNEN	Program Officer
18.	Agneta Dau Valler	VSO	Vice Director
19.	Nguyen Van Hung	VSO	Program Officer
20.	Marit Roti	NORAD	Chief Representative
21.	Huynh Phuong Ly	British Council	Program Officer
22.	Izuru Kimura	JBIC	Researcher
23.	Phan Thi Thuy Chau	Land O'lakes Company	Program Officer
24.	Nguyen Huu Bach	Education Dept. Party Commission on Science and Education	Vice Director
25.	Nguyen Van Suy	Party Commission on Science and Education	Expert
26.	Le Vu Hung	MOET	Vice Minister
27.	Do Xuan Thu	Personnel Dept. MOET	Director
28.	Nguyen Van An	Planning & Finance Dept. MOET	Director

No	Name	Organization/Department	Position
29.	Tran Kim Lan	International Relation Dept. MOET	Vice Director
30.	Trinh Quoc Thai	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Vice Director
31.	Dang Ba Lam	National Institute for Educational Development	Director
32.	Van Dinh Ung	Students' Affair Dept. MOET	Vice Director
33.	Pham Van Son	Students' Affair Dept. MOET	Expert
34.	Le Khac Hien	Administrative Office MOET	Expert
35.	Dao Thi Binh	Administrative Office MOET	Expert
36.	Nguyen Thi Lua	Administrative Office MOET	Expert
37.	Phan Ngoc Quang	Administrative Office MOET	Expert
38.	Vu Xuan Dinh	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
39.	Do Trong Van	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
40.	Tran Xuan Huong	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
41.	Tran Minh Phuong	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
42.	Tran Kim Chi	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
43.	Bach Thi Binh	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
44.	Le Duc Sang	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
45.	Nguyen Tran Quan	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
46.	Nguyen Huu Hanh	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
47.	Ly Quoc Huy	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
48.	Tran Dinh Thuan	Primary Education Dept. MOET	Expert
49.	Nguyen Van Vinh	Education Newspaper	Reporter
50.	Kim Hoa	Women Newspaper	Reporter
51.	Le Tam	World Education Magazine	Reporter
52.	Huong Giang	New World Magazine	Reporter
53.	Le Tien Thanh	Primary Education Dept. MOET	PMU member
54.	Nguyen Hong Hanh	Primary Education Dept. MOET	PMU member
55.	Vu Van Long	Planning & Financila Dept. -	PMU member
56.	Nguyen Dang Khoa	Administrative Office MOET -	PMU member
57.	Nguyen Thuy Loan	International Relation Dept. -	PMU member
58.	Luong Viet Thai	National Institute for Education Science-MOET -	PMU member
59.	Le Van Anh	National Institute for Educational Development -	PMU member
60.	Norio Kato	JICA	Leader of Consultant Team
61.	Atau Kishinami	JICA	Deputy Leader of Consultant Team
62.	Taizo Shishido	JICA	Consultant
63.	Shinichiro Tanaka	JICA	Consultant
64.	Toku Hirasawa	JICA	Consultant
65.	John Kay	JICA	Consultant
66.	Armand Hughesd'aeth	JICA	Consultant

Contents of the discussion

With an aim to finalizing the National Primary Education Development Program (PEDP), the Donor Meeting on PEDP was held in Hanoi on 28 February 2002. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Le Vu Hung, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET). Representatives from MOET, CIDA, JICA, WB, UNESCO, AUSAID, UNICEF, OXFAM, NORAD, Radda Barnen and VSO participated in the Meeting. (DFID did not attend)

I. Opening remarks – Mr. Le Vu Hung, Vice Minister of MOET

In his opening remarks, Mr. Le Vu Hung briefed the participants on the PEDP and its importance in fulfilling the goals set out in the Education Development Strategy to 2010. He noted that the support of donors in completing and implementing the Program was essential. In this context, he highlighted that the Program would serve as a framework for coordinating donors' support, thus avoiding overlap and inefficiency. Mr. Hung also stressed that the PEDP was open for annual review and updating with a view to keeping it in line with the changing needs of primary education. He finally expressed the belief that the PEDP would soon be completed and become a useful document not only for Vietnam's primary education, but also for donors who are interested therein.

II. Presentation on PEDP – Dr. Trinh Quoc Thai, Deputy Director of Primary Education Dept. and Dr. Norio Kato, Leader of Consultant Team

The presentation provided an overview of the PEDP development process, its content, how comments of donors would be reflected, and proposals on the utilization of the PEDP. The Draft National PEDP development was founded on the Education Development Strategy to 2010 which was officially approved by Prime Minister on 28 December 2001 as well as PEDPs from provinces. The National PEDP will be considered as a part of EFA Action Plan in Vietnam.

1. PEDP Development Process

The development process of the PEDP consisted of five steps: (1) PEDP introductory meetings, which were attended by representatives of all 61 DOETs in six cities and provinces (namely Phu Tho, Nam Dinh, Binh Thuan, Gia Lai, Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Thap). (2) EPCB training aimed at improving planning capacity for officials of DOETs. (3) Development of a draft PEDP document, which identified six key constraints (namely education management, teacher deployment and quality, facility, curriculum and teaching & learning process, student dropout and repetition, and finance and "socialization"). (4) Circulation of draft PEDP to donors for

comments. (5) Submission of the final PEDP document to MOET for approval.

2. Content of PEDP

According to Mr. Trinh Quoc Thai and Dr. Norio Kato, the PEDP document embodies: (1) Situational Analysis, (2) Assessed Needs presentation with National Issue Matrices, (3) Broad Areas of Possible Intervention, (4) PEDP and donor coordination, (5) PEDP process monitoring, and (6) Lessons learned from PEDP project.

3. Donors' comments received by MOET

The presenters informed the Meeting that the draft PEDP was circulated to donors for comments in December 2001. They also informed that the PMU had directly worked with several donors and received written inputs from others. They highlighted some important comments, which were, *inter alia*, the lack of data from many provinces and absence of prioritization. The participants were assured that the PMU would collect all necessary information through sending questionnaires to provinces, and add projections on population, pupils, classrooms etc. to the document. The PMU would likewise exert efforts to develop a system of criteria for ranking priorities.

4. Donors' comments received by MOET

The presentation was concluded by a description on how donors could utilize the PEDP. In this connection, donors could (1) find out about a BAPI(s) of interest, (2) choose one BAPI or combination of BAPIs to formulate a project, (3) consult BAPI matrices to identify possible overlaps with on-going projects, and (4) contact PMU/MOET for further clarification to start the "official" project formulation.

5. Database on donor supported projects in primary education

The database has been developed in order to provide list projects supported by donors for primary education.

This database has been printed out in CD-Rom and distributed to donors in the Meeting.

III. Comments for participants

Donors present at the Meeting gave credit to the PMU for their hard work and for a good draft document. They also expressed their interests in the PEDP, regarding it a basis for their further support for Vietnam's primary education.

However, in the discussion, donors continued to raise issues of concern. They noted that information gaps and errors might exist in the document, and therefore requested that the document be read thoroughly, and committed to providing additional information.

The donors also required the PMU to pay special attention to the coherence of the PEDP, not only within the Program itself, but also between the Program and other education-related programs, namely the Education for All program, the Education Development Strategy to 2010 and the Comprehensive Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (CPRGS). In this connection, the donors were of the view that MOET should take a more active part in formulating the education-related part of the CSPRG.

The donors expressed their concurrence with the six prioritized areas (PAs) presented in the PEDP. However, they proposed adding, *inter alia*, examination issues, two-way information system and education planning.

The donors requested that the PEDP identify PAs to be funded by the Government of Vietnam so as to allow them to select other PAs of their interest.

With regard to the database on on-going projects, donors wished to see more improvements, i.e., make it more interactive and attractive. They also proposed putting the database in the Internet or Intranet to make it more accessible.

IV. Conclusion remarks – Mr. Le Vu Hung, Vice Director of MOET

In his closing statements, Mr. Le Vu Hung reiterated that primary education was a broad and sensitive area, which attracted attention at home and abroad. He recalled that the PEDP analyzed the situation of primary education and put forth solutions to related problems. He stressed that PEDP was an important part of the EFA, the Education Development Strategy to 2010 and the CPRGS. Mr. Hung recapped all the comments made by the participants, and thanked them for their inputs. He pledged to soon finalize the PEDP document, taking into account all donors' comments, and make it available on the Internet. He

also re-emphasized that the Program remained open for review. Finally, Mr. Hung stressed the importance of the effective implementation of the PEDP.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.30 hours on the same day.

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BETWEEN
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND
TRAINING (MOET) OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
AND
THE JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA) PROGRAM
TEAM
FOR
THE SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT
ON
THE DRAFT FINAL REPORT FOR PHASE II**

The meeting between the Program Management Unit (PMU) and the JICA Program Team with JICA Advisory Committee from Japan, was held at 14:00 on the 24th of December 2003. At the meeting, Dr. Norio Kato, the team leader of the JICA Program Team, made a presentation on the Draft Final Report. The presentation included activities implemented in Phase II of the JICA Support Program, changes of PEDP 2004, evaluation of provincial PEDP process and PMU's capacity, and recommendations and lessons learnt. After the presentation, discussions were made.

Following the first meeting, another meeting was held, inviting Ms. Dang Huynh Mai, Vice Minister of Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), on the same day. The presentation and discussion were focused on identified major issues to maintain PEDP activities after Dr. Kato briefed on completed and remaining tasks. In the presentation, there were five issues revealed by the JICA Program Team: coordination between PEDP and EFA, clarification of task descriptions of each PMU member, budget allocation for PEDP activities, donor project coordination mechanism in MOET, and support for newly established three provinces.

Both meetings were chaired by Dr. Trinh Quoc THAI, head of PMU. The discussions are summarized as follows and the list of attendants is attached to this document.

The due date of comments for Draft Final Report was set on January 15, 2004.

1. Discussions in the first meeting

1) Comments on Draft Final Report

After general appreciation by PMU members that the report is well organized and its contents are persuasive. PMU members pointed out that methodologies and results of radar chart analysis should be added in the Final Report.

2) Comments on Sustainability of PEDP Activities and PMU for PEDP

PMU members expressed their concerns about financial arrangements to continue PEDP activities and the technical support for newly established three provinces which had not received any training programs by the JICA Support Program. PMU members mentioned the possibility of continuous JICA

support for PEDP update.

In addition, PMU raised an issue to maintain the current PMU after the completion of the JICA Support Program. The current PMU which is composed of members from different departments will be dissolved at the same time when the JICA Support Program will finish by the end of March, 2004. Then, all PEDP activities will be taken over by the Primary Education Department, MOET. Given this anticipated situation, for future PEDP activities it is important to find out any arrangements to utilize current PMU members who have been trained by the JICA Support Program.

PMU members also expressed the importance of clarifying task descriptions for each PMU member and the necessity of supporting staff to solve time management issues of PMU members.

Prof. USHIOGI, chairperson of JICA Advisory Committee, made comments that he was impressed by PMU members' efforts that they produced the draft PEDP 2004 by themselves. He appreciated that intensive discussions would have been made within PMU members through the process of updating PEDP. Moreover, he emphasized that skills of updating PEDP would be improved and accumulated, and human resources would be developed by repeating the process of updating PEDP.

3) Comments on PEDP and EFA

PMU members pointed out the importance of PEDP coordination with other plans, especially with EFA and expressed that PEDP methodologies would be useful for provincial EFA planning. Dr. THAI expressed that there are difficulties in incorporating Provincial PEDP into Provincial EFA because Provinces EFA has not been formulated yet. He also mentioned that if Provincial PEDP is integrated into Provincial EFA, PEDP/PMU will still be responsible for updating Provincial PEDP documents on the annual basis.

4) Comments on capacity of PMU members

PMU members expressed that their skills of identifying educational needs and making national programs were improved, however there are still needs to enhance skills of statistical data gathering, processing and analysis.

Prof. USHIOGI replied that in any countries, there was a specific section or department responsible for education data in general and the quality of the data had been gradually improved. Based on these international experiences, he suggested that MOET should contact the on-going MOET Support Project funded by EU which had supported the development of EMIS, and he also suggested that MOET should establish a channel of collecting education data from provinces.

5) Donor Meetings

PMU members expressed that agenda and arrangements in donor meetings should be prepared to generate more outputs, rather than information sharing and exchange.

6) Usage of PEDP

PMU members expressed needs for further discussions to seek effective ways to utilize PEDP 2004.

Dr. Kato replied that operational guideline currently circulated to all PMU members for final comments would be the necessary tool to maintain and manage PEDP activities after the support project.

Mr. Sugano, JICA advisory mission member, made comments on the following points. Firstly he explained two objectives of the JICA Support Program that include the support for PMU to make the sub-sector program for the primary education development and to establish mechanisms to coordinate donor activities based on PEDP. Then he also expressed his impression that though there were still needs for further discussions about certain detailed matters between PMU and the JICA Program Team, the objectives have been almost achieved.

Secondly, he pointed out the remaining tasks which should be discussed between PMU and the JICA Program Team. These include effective arrangements of donor meetings, usages of PEDP and skills of data gathering, processing and analysis. In particular he emphasized that JICA had paid a great attention to the effective arrangements of donor meetings which can prevent the reoccurrence of overlapping between JICA-Belgium intervention proposals.

Thirdly, he replied to PMU's comments on further JICA support for updating PEDP, saying that JICA does not have any intentions to continue the Support Program for PEDP because the planned objectives were almost achieved. However, JICA will continue to support the primary education sector in Vietnam through sending a long term-Japanese expert as an advisor and future project(s). In this context, he asked MOET to discuss the details of further support with JICA Vietnam Office.

Fourthly, he asked PMU members' cooperation with another JICA mission which had been staying for one month to formulate the next project.

2. Discussions in the second meeting

After the presentation of Dr. KATO, Prof. USHIOGI requested that the Vietnam government should prepare enough budgets for PMU members to continue PEDP activities, though he admitted that securing the budgets would not be easy tasks for any departments.

After Dr. THAI's reported to Ms. MAI, Vice Minister of MOET, about the discussions in the first meeting, Ms. MAI made comments to reply to the Prof. USHIOGI's comment and to the issues presented by Dr. KATO.

Firstly, if there is an agreement, MOET will continue PEDP activities by allocating its own budgets as Dr. THAI mentioned.

Secondly, the Vice Minister agreed on a proposal that PEDP activities should be integrated into EFA implementation and monitoring mechanisms. As the EFA implementation and monitoring mechanisms have not yet been established firmly, two PMU members who also join a EFA technical support group would play a role to realize the proposal. If there are any difficulties in integrating PEDP into EFA, the Vice Minister would instruct them to solve problems.

Thirdly, the Vice Minister revealed three options to sustain PMU after the completion of the Support

Program. The first option is that current PMU members will be allocated to EFA groups. The second option is that if other donors support PEDP update, current PMU will remain to be a unit that takes responsibility for managing the project. The third option is that PMU should be appointed as a state management unit operated by the budgets of the Vietnam Government.

Fourthly, the Vice Minister also said that the Primary Education Department should issue an official letter to the Planning and Finance Department, asking for support to collect educational statistical data from provinces.

Dr Thai added that if enough budgets for PEDP activities were allocated, current PMU members could provide technical and logistical support for newly established three provinces to produce PEDP documents by the participatory approach.

HANOI , 26th of December 2003

Mr. Tran Ba Viet DZUNG Director General International Cooperation Department Ministry of Education and Training
Dr. Norio KATO Team Leader JICA Program Team for the Support Program for Primary Education Development
Prof. Dr. Morikazu USHIOGI Chairperson of JICA Advisory Committee

LIST OF ATTENDANTS

Vietnamese Side

Ministry of Education and Training

Ms. Dang Huynh MAI Vice Minister, MOET
Dr. Trinh Quoc THAI Acting Director, Primary Education Department, MOET
Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong HANH Expert, Primary Education Department, MOET
Ms. Nguyen Bich THAI Expert, Personnel Department, MOET
Mr. Nguyen Viet HUNG Expert, Continuing Education Department, MOET
Ms. Tran Thi Lan ANH Expert, International Co-operation Department, MOET
Mr. Luong Viet THAI Researcher, National Institute of Educational Strategy and Curriculum
Dr. Le Van ANH Head of General Education Board / National Institute of Educational Strategy and Curriculum

Japanese Side

JICA advisory Misson

Prof. Dr. Morikazu USHIOGI The chairperson of Advisory Committee, Professor, Obirin University, Graduate School of International Studies

Mr. Yuichi SUGANO Country Officer (Vietnam), Indo-China Division Regional Department I,
JICA

JICA Vietnam Office
Dr. Hiroshi SHIRAKAWA Deputy Resident Representative

JICA Program Team
Dr. Norio KATO Team Leader
Mr. Hiroyuki KANZAKI Deputy Team Leader

Observer
Mr. Akira MATSUMOTO, JICA Project Formulation Mission member

**Minute of PEDP Dissemination Seminar
Hanoi, 13th February 2004**

1. Introduction by Mr. Bui Cong Tho, Deputy Director of the International Cooperation Department
 - Welcome participants to the Seminar
 - Describe current state of the Vietnamese education system: the approval of the Education Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) and Vietnam's commitment to improve its education
 - The goals of the Seminar: disseminate information on Primary Education Development Program (PEDP), introduce the PEDP Pack, and mobilize support from donors and interested people
 - Introduce participants: representatives from international organizations (SIDA, UNICEF, Oxfam Hong Kong, Oxfam UK, UNESCO, NIRAD (Norway), ADB, New Zealand Embassy, French Embassy, plus others) and representatives of relevant departments from MOET
 - Apologize for the absence of the Vice-Minister and introduce Mr. Trinh Quoc Thai, Head of the PMU

2. Presentation by Mr. Trinh Quoc Thai, Head of the PMU
 - What is PEDP?
 - PEDP is an overall action plan with a target of realizing objectives set in the EDSP by 2010. The program covers almost all aspects of primary education, which need to be worked on.

 - How is PEDP developed?
 - The lead agency responsible for setting policies and compiling the National PEDP Document is the PMU. Input comes from local Departments of Education and Training, in the form of Needs Assessment Documents. This process is also supported by donors, who have ongoing or future projects in primary education.

 - Overall activities of PEDP since 2002
 - In 2002, six provinces were chosen for pilot Provincial PEDPs (Nam Dinh, Binh Thuan, Tay Nguyen, Gia Lai, Dong Thap, and Ho Chi Minh City), leading to the National PEDP for 2002. The following year, the remaining 55 provinces were involved. Based on the PEDPs of the 61 provinces and comments from stakeholders, the National PEDP for 2004 was compiled.

 - Provincial PEDP Document
 - Provincial PEDPs reflect local outstanding issues, which are comparatively different from one province to another. Data and statistics also vary significantly.
 - The preparation of these documents was given great support from local

authorities. It was submitted by the DOET to the People's Committee for approval.

- A Provincial PEDP Development Seminar was held to support advancement. Since January 2004, three additional provinces have been added to the program, requiring more resources and efforts.
- The PMU opened training courses and worked to elicit feedback from localities regarding the main objectives of PEDP.
- The Provincial PEDP is to be updated every two years.
- The National PEDP Document is based on Provincial PEDP Documents
- The National PEDP is closely linked with the EFA Action Plan, which has four components. It is also based on provincial documents, which focus on the six key constraints, plus on-going projects in education.

- National PEDP Document

- The National PEDP Document consists of six sections.
- BAPI Matrices prioritize and offer solutions to outstanding issues at the provincial and national levels.
- The National PEDP is a result of great efforts by the PMU, local DOETs, agencies, and donors. It is used by the PMU to coordinate interventions of donors and helps to avoid overlapping of projects and duplication of effort.
- Donors should work with us to make their projects and programs as effective as possible.

- Primary Education Databank

- An education databank calls for a lot of work, including designing, maintaining, and updating.
- With support from the EU, the MOET Website is under construction and the Databank will be a part of it.
- The Databank covers a wide range of issues for your reference, particularly during the design and implementation phases of the project.
- The National PEDP was first drafted in December 2003 and finalized in February 2004. Therefore, it currently contains only the statistics and data of 61 provinces.
- There should be a separate part of PMU for this program, not EPA as a whole.

3. Presentation by Mr. Luong Viet Thai, PMU Member from the Institute of Education Strategy and Program, on PEDP Operational Guidelines

- Quantitative Analysis

- The Provincial PEDP documents are compiled after the Provincial PEDP Workshops, whose participants include DOET, BOET officials, and headmasters.
- A tree diagram for the Needs Assessment is drawn to identify core issues, first-level causes, second-level causes, and consequences.
- Participants describe the situation and find data to prove it. They also make

- comparisons between MOET and on-going or recently finished projects (BAPI Project Match Matrix).
 - Changes will then be made to the BAPI Statement and contents, leading to the Revised National PEDP.
- Qualitative Analysis
 - Provincial documents contain indicators and statistics that the PMU uses as a reference in needs assessment and priority setting.
 - Overall Activities
 - Please see Slide 5 (Page 3) in the handout document
4. Presentation by Mr. Nguyen Viet Hung, PMU Member from the Department of Non-Formal Education on PEDP Operational Guidelines
- Overall organization framework of PEDP
 - Organization of six PA Task Forces
 - Overall functions of PMU
 - Functions and tasks of stakeholders
 - Relationships between outcomes of key functions of PMU
 - PEDP Operation Work Schedule (six main tasks)
 - Tentative PEDP Operation Work Schedule (2007)
5. Presentation by Mr. Vu Van Long, Department of Economic and Financial Affairs, on Updating PEDP 2004
- The education system is changing: MOET organizational restructuring, national standards (organization, teacher qualifications, etc.), new curriculum, teacher training, financial mechanism for Revenue Raising Unit, and education bonds.
 - PEDP 2002 turned out to be out-of-date. At both the provincial and national levels, demands and situations changed.
 - It is necessary to update the Databank.
 - Relevant agencies at local and central levels were consulted and it was agreed that the PEDP should be updated every two years. In the meantime, regular updating work will be carried out, if new issues arise.
6. Presentation by Mr. Trinh Quoc Thai, Head of PMU, on Direction of PEDP in Relation to EFA and Other Plans
- Links between PEDP and EFA are needed to ensure the success of the program.
 - Donors can refer to the BAPI matrices (the BAPI Project Match Matrix and BAPI Needs Match Matrix) to determine priorities and avoid overlap.
 - CD-ROMS with all the relevant information and data are available to donors.

- It is preferable that donors provide us with information about their projects and access the PEDP and the MOET Websites for necessary information.

Question and Answer Period

Comment by Mr. Chu Shiu-kie, Representative of UNESCO in Vietnam

- Expressed his pleasure at attending the Seminar, sharing experiences, and seeing concrete results of the program
- Appreciated the cooperation of the PMU and local staffs
- Noted that the capacity of officials and stakeholders has been greatly enhanced
- Hoped to see more follow-up activities and enhanced cooperation with local agencies

Ms. Giang, Norway Embassy

- Question 1: Is there any link between the Databank of PEDP and the MOET Website Project funded by the EU?
- Question 2: Are there any information restrictions in accessing to MOET Website? If so, could you please identify some of them?
- Question 3: While the Provincial PEDP is updated every two years, the PEDP Operation Work Schedule will last until 2007. Therefore, information in the latter periods may no longer be valid.

Response from Mr. Thai

- The PEDP Website will be a part of the MOET Website. It is the case of two websites containing the same information.
- There are no restrictions on information. Updating frequency of PEDP document is every 3 years (by 2007 and 2010); within the span of 3 years, there would be changes in the needs and situation and therefore the provincial level would be requested to report these changes to MOET.

Response from Mr. Tien

- The EU is carrying out a project to set up a website for MOET. The website will provide general information about the education system of Vietnam. The PEDP Website will be linked to from the MOET Homepage.

Mr. Christ Kerry, the World Vision

- Question: There are six areas of priorities. Is there any order of importance, or does each province have its own order of priorities?

Response from Mr. Thai

- Although we have six priorities for all areas, the order of importance varies locally. Local needs are the first to be considered. For example, teacher performance may be the main problem in the Central or Central High Land Provinces, but not for provinces in the Mekong River Delta Region.

Comments and questions from Ms. Binh of the World Bank

- PEDP is a set of tools that donors can use to coordinate their actions and avoid overlap.
- Today's presentations give the impression that PEDP does not have a strong link with other MOET projects and programs, while donors prefer to offer their assistance through the State budget plans.
- It is necessary to integrate PEDP into other MOET programs and involve all MOET agencies.
- The MOET Website should have information on all on-going and completed projects.

Response from Mr. Thai

- PEDP is a concerted effort by all education agencies and departments at both the central and local levels. We have engaged different departments of the MOET, DOETs, and BOETs in 61 provinces.
- PEDP is a program of the MOET, not the Department of Primary Education.
- Our webpage will provide full coverage of all projects and programs in primary education.
- We hope to receive information from project owners for our webpage.

Mr. Steve Passingham, British Government Education Development Department

- Thanked the PMU for the PEDP Pack
- Question: There are many programs to be implemented such as PEDC, PEDP, EFA, etc. with different sets of priorities and standards. It would be difficult for local agencies to marry all of them into their five-year plan and for donors to render their assistance. How can we solve this problem?

Response from Mr. Thai

- That depends on whether donors would like to have individual or joint projects.
- It is useful for us to have discussions with donors in seeking support for the State Five-Year Plan.
- Information sharing is especially needed to translate policies into actions.

Comment from Mr. Arika Matsumoto from JICA

- The seminar should be called "Experience Sharing" rather than "Dissemination."
- Further explanation of financial mechanism, especially revenue raising mechanism.

Response from Mr. Long

- The Government Decree on budget-blocking to public service agencies was put in place.
- Agencies have full autonomy in deciding the budget for their programs and projects.

Closing Remarks by Mr. Thai

- Thanked participants for their comments.
- The PEDP Pack was a useful tool.
- MOET should act as a contact point for donors, especially for information sharing. We need the support of donors to successfully implement the program by 2010.
- It is necessary to closely link EFA and PEDP and perform effective roll-out, at both the central and local levels.
- In the near future, we are going to organize a review meeting with the 61 provinces and maintain training courses.
- We hope for further cooperation and information-sharing.
- Apologized for the absence of the Vice-Minister.

Donors and Related Organizations Present at the PEDP Dissemination Seminar

No.	Name	Organization	Position
1.	Luong Viet Thai	National Institute for Educational Strategies and Curriculum	Researcher
2.	Bui Cong Tho	International Cooperation Department, MOET	Deputy Director
3.	Nguyen Viet Hung	Continuing Education Department, MOET	Expert
4.	Vu Thi Le Thanh	Plan in Vietnam	Project Coordinator
5.	Yayoi Segi	UNESCO	Program Specialist
6.	Do Van Hiep	SCUK	Project Officer
7.	Steve Passingham	DFID	Education Advisor
8.	Nguyen Hong Giang	NORAD	Program Advisor
9.	Chu Shiu-Hee	UNESCO	Representative
10.	Nguyen Thi Xuan Huong	Plan in Vietnam	Education Advisor
11.	Pham Do Nhat Tien	MOET office	Minister Assistant
12.	Thu Ha	TNVN –The Voice of Vietnam Radio Station	
13.	Nguyen Lam Giang	Belgian Technical Cooperation	
14.	Hiroshi Shirakawa	JICA	
15.	Dang Thi Dong Phuong	Land O' Lakes	Program Director
16.	Akira Matsumoto	JICA	Education Consultant
17.	Agnestadau Valler	VSO	Program Officer
18.	Camille Baudot	CIDA	First Secretary
19.	Phan To Mai	UNICEF	Sr. Program Assistant
20.	Martin Weish	Embassy of New Zealand	Officer
21.	Yasushi Hirosato	ADB	Sr. Education Specialist
22.	Pham Thi Hong	OXFAM GB	Project Officer
23.	Louis De Arzac	Embassy of France	Attache de Coopération
24.	Chris Herink	World Vision	Director, Programs
25.	Nguyen Thanh Ha	OXFAM HK	Edu. Project Officer
26.	Ta Thuy Hanh	RB/SCS	Officer
27.	Vu Thanh Binh	World Bank	Officer
28.	Van Anh	JBIC	Officer