(4) Hanoi - Ho Chi Minh City Railway Line Bridges Safety Improvement Project (III)

Background and Necessity
The Hanoi - Ho Chi Minh City Railway Line (approx. 1,700km long) is one of the most important lines in Vietnam, connecting the northern, central and southern parts of the country. On this line, there are many sharp curves, steep inclines, old bridges and culvers. Moreover, its tracks, roadbeds, signals, communication equipment, etc. are also in a poor condition, due to lack of appropriate maintenance and management. In particular, the bridges are severely deteriorated requiring a speed limit of 40km/h or less to ensure the safety. Therefore, it has become an urgent issue to rehabilitate those bridges, in order to ensure the safety and to strengthen the transportation capacity of the railway.

Objective and Summaries
The purpose of this project is to ensure the safety of railway service, shorten passenger and freight transport time, and boost transport volume by replacing 44 severely deteriorated bridges on the railway line between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, thereby contributing to the sustainable economic growth of the region along the railway line. Japanese ODA Loans have been provided for this project as Phase I (8.222 billion yen, approved in March 2003) and Phase II (11.737 billion yen, approved in March 2007). This Japanese ODA Loan will be provided as Phase III.

The loan funds are used to rehabilitate the 44 bridges and the approach sections, to construct ancillary facilities (removing railroad crossings and replacing them with overpasses, etc.), to procure equipment for operation maintenance, to pay for consulting services, etc.

The Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) will be applied to this project, and Japanese technology will be utilized.

Executing Agency
Vietnam Railways
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Planned Implementation Schedule
(i) Completion of project: March 2016 - when the facilities are put into service
(ii) Issuing of letters of invitation for consulting services: Already employed
(iii) Tender announcement of initial procurement package for international competitive bidding on project construction: Already signed

(JICA's contact point)
For more information on the procurement schedule of this project, please contact the following contact point.

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