

# GOVERNANCE



## OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES IN VIETNAM

# Sector Background & Challenges

Since the adoption of the “Doi Moi” Policy, Vietnam has made continuous efforts to accelerate institutional reform. The strategy on improvement of the legal system and judicial reform have been developed and persistently followed. However, several priority issues of the legal and judicial reform agenda require stronger efforts, including delay in promulgation of legal documents, duplication or conflicts internally or with other legislation and lack of transparency, high ratio of errors in adjudication and the investigation process.

In order to build an action-oriented and facilitating government with integrity, the remaining challenges need to be resolutely addressed. The state administration does not function efficiently due to the cumbersome apparatus and the personnel administration system fails to motivate public employees. Limitations of intergovernmental and inter-provincial coordination lead to fragmented management and loss of efficiency.

## Policy of the Government of Vietnam

Below are the major strategies of Vietnam in the Governance sector.

### • Rule of Law

Vietnam aspires to shift to a modern country ruled by law and establish a socialist-oriented market economy. For this to come true, Vietnam undertakes the establishment of basic laws and reform of the judicial system by 2020, such as improvement of the operation and execution system of legal normative documents.

### • Government Effectiveness

Vietnam focuses on building a streamlined, efficient and effective political apparatus including party, government and socio-political organization until 2020. For that purpose, Vietnam aims at reviewing the function/integration of organizations, reform the civil service system and capacity development of civil servants and party members.

### • Quality of Legislation (National Assembly)

In accordance with the 2013 Constitution, Vietnam strengthens the legislative, representative and oversight function of the National Assembly.

# JICA's Assistance Strategy

## Good Governance for economic development and fair, equal society

JICA comprehensively supports Vietnam's effort toward good governance making the most of the experience and knowledge of Japan accumulated in government/legal reform and capacity development.

### • Rule of Law

JICA supports the reform of the judicial system by institutional capacity development of the legal and judicial organization to deal with inconsistency in legal normative documents as well as undertaking uniform implementation and application of legal normative documents.

### • Government Effectiveness

For effective operation of the political and administrative apparatus, JICA strengthens administrative capabilities of civil servants and Vietnamese leaders. Emerging issues such as cyber security and maritime security are also supported.

### • Quality of Legislation (National Assembly) and people's participation in politics

JICA focuses on capacity development of deputies and the Office of National Assembly (ONA). To promote people's participation in the policy making process, JICA supports ONA's public relations activities and strengthening of capacity of the media such as Vietnam Television (VTV) in terms of content and broadcasting.



## Good Practice (1)

- Project in the Legal and Judicial Field (Phase 1-3)(1996-2007)
- Project for Legal and Judicial System Reform (Phase 1-2) (2007-2015)
- Project for Harmonized, Practical Legislation and Uniform Application of Law Targeting Year 2020 (2015-2020)

### Project Outline

JICA launched the Project in the Legal and Judicial Field in Vietnam in 1996. The core of the project was support for the drafting of legal normative documents in the civil and commercial law fields by Japanese experts and capacity development of legal professionals. JICA has also contributed to the completion of various legislative bills and development of practical manuals in accordance with the Vietnamese plan on legislation for the last 20 years. Along with the development of a market oriented economy and Vietnam's implementation of the strategy for the legal and judicial system reform, the most recent project aims at resolving problems of undeveloped laws and regulations or inconsistency among them in order to create a better business environment in Vietnam.

### Project Outcome

15 fundamental laws have been adopted and more than 650 Vietnamese legal professionals have learned about the law and legal system in Japan, which contribute to form the basis of the legal system in Vietnam. Also, continuous recommendation from Japanese experts resulted in the introduction

of a judicial precedent system in 2014 and this system is the first step for the universal application of the law. Moreover, people's access to justice has improved through the establishment of the Vietnam Bar Federation in 2009, a nationwide association of Vietnamese lawyers.

### Future Prospect

JICA continues to support legal and judicial reform in Vietnam, which will continue to align with the 2013 Constitution and the Resolution of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Also, JICA wishes Vietnam will be a supporter of legal and judicial reform of other countries together with Japan.

### Comment by Dr. Le Thanh Long, Minister of Justice

*"The greatest achievement of JICA's cooperation in Vietnam for over 20 years is the development of human resources. We highly evaluate this cooperation. This is a long-term and sustainable achievement."*

### <History and future chart of Cooperation for Legal and Judicial Reform>



## Good Practice (2)

### Project for Strengthening Capacity of Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Academy of Public Administration in Training of Public Leaders and Civil Servants (2013 – 2016)

#### Project Outline

JICA updated the training methods and management of Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics for capacity development of public leaders and civil servants with a particular focus on the Potential Strategic Leaders Training program. Also, some of the participants joined training in Japan focusing on Japanese experience in priority issues of Vietnam. JICA also supported lecturers of the National Academy of Public Administration to develop a Master of Public Policy Program.



Right: Training participants visit solid waste disposal company in Japan to see recycling technology.

#### Project Outcome

- 511 officials participated in the Potential Strategic Leaders Training program in Vietnam and 113 of them attended training in Japan.
- Lectures at Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics became more practical by adopting an active learning method (blending lecture, group discussion and presentation) and with the Plan-Do-Check-Action (PDCA) cycle.
- National Academy of Public Administration started Master of Public Policy Program.

#### Future Prospect

Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and JICA expert disseminate knowledge on training management to Regional Academies and Provincial Political Schools in 63 provinces.

## Good Practice (3)

### Capacity Development of the Office of the National Assembly of Vietnam (Phase 1-2) (2010-2021)

#### Project Outline

As the roles and functions of the National Assembly (NA) strengthened in the Vietnamese political system, the Office of National Assembly (ONA) has faced the strong necessity to cope with an increasing role in supporting NA deputies and NA discussions. The Project assists ONA to strengthen its capacity in drafting legal documents, doing research in order to equip NA deputies with necessary and sufficient information.

#### Project Outcome

JICA supported ONA to establish Law Making Guidelines for NA Deputies and to amend 5 important laws under the 2013 Constitution. The research function of the NA Library of Vietnam significantly improved through on-the-job training at the National Diet Library of Japan. Library staff launched quarterly reports according to the needs of the deputies and established a new reading room in the NA building.

Supported  
5  
Law reform process of National Assembly

Supported important law making reform under the 2013 Constitution

- Law on the Organization of the National Assembly
- Law on the Organization of Local Government
- Law on Associations
- Law on the Election of Deputies to the National Assembly and People's Councils
- Law on Access to Information

#### Future Prospect

ONA further develops legislative function through on the job training at the Legislative Bureau of the House of Representatives of Japan. Digital library system will enable NA deputies to access necessary information. These contribute to the quality of law making and discussion of NA.



Library opened in 2015

# PROJECTS IN VIETNAM:

	Title	Duration	Beneficiary
<b>Rule of Law</b>			
1	Project in the Legal and Judicial Field (Phase 1-3)	1996-2007	Ministry of Justice, Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuracy
2	Project for Legal and Judicial System Reform (Phase 1-2)	2007-2015	Ministry of Justice, Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuracy and Vietnam Bar Federation
3	The Project for Harmonized, Practical Legislation and Uniform Application of Law Targeting Year 2020	2015-2020	Ministry of Justice, The Office of the Government, Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuracy and Vietnam Bar Federation
<b>Government Effectiveness</b>			
4	Socio-economic Development Planning Reform Project in Hoa Binh Province	2008-2012	Provincial, district and commune planners in Hoa Binh Province
5	Capacity Development Program to Formulate Socio-economic Policy (Central Committee of Personnel (CCOP) , Program 165 Office)	2009-2013	National and provincial officials in charge of policy making and implementation
6	Project for Strengthening Capacity of the Office of the Government	2012-2014	The Office of the Government
7	Project for Strengthening Capacity of Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics and Academy of Public Administration in Training of Public Leaders and Civil Servants	2013-2016	Lecturers of Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, Academy of Public Administration and participants of training programs
8	Training Program for Supporting Civil Service Reform	2014-2016	Ministry of Home Affairs and officers in charge of civil service reform
9	Advisor for Training Management in Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics	2016-2019	Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics
10	Project for Capacity Building for Cyber Security in Vietnam	2018-2021	Ministry of Information and Communication
11	Project to Build Professional and Efficient State Operation for Improvement of Business Environment	2018-2019	The Office of the Government
<b>Quality of Legislation</b>			
12	Capacity Development of National Assembly of Vietnam	2010-2013	The Office of the National Assembly and deputies
13	Capacity Development of the Office of the National Assembly of Vietnam (Phase 1-2)	2014-2021	The Office of the National Assembly and deputies
<b>Voice and Accountability</b>			
14	Vietnam Television (VTV) Program Production Center Construction Project	2000-2011	VTV
15	Capacity Development Program for Vietnam Television (VTV)	2012-2015	VTV and Regional TV
16	The Project for the Improvement of TV Programs of Vietnam Television (VTV)	2014-2020	VTV and Vietnamese Audiences (Broadcasting 500 Japanese TV programs in VTV channels)
17	Capacity Building for Vietnam Television (VTV) to Enhance Production of TV Programs on Agriculture	2015-2017	VTV, Regional TV and related ministries
18	Training for Capacity Development to Raise Public Awareness on Disaster Prevention and Agriculture Through Public Broadcasting	2017-2020	VTV, Regional TV and related ministries
19	Capacity Building for Inspectors of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam in Managing Administrative Complaints	2014-2016	Government Inspectorate of Vietnam and officers in charge of settlement of administrative complaints

# JICA's New Vision from 2017

## Mission

JICA, in accordance with the Development Cooperation Charter, will work on human security and quality growth.

## Vision

### Leading the world with trust

JICA, with its partners, will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potentials.

## Actions

### 1. Commitment:

Commit ourselves with pride and passion to achieving our mission and vision.

### 2. Gemba:

Dive into the field ("gemba") and work together with the people.

### 3. Strategy:

Think and act strategically with broad and long-term perspectives.

### 4. Co-creation:

Bring together diverse wisdom and resources.

### 5. Innovation:

Innovate to bring about unprecedented impacts

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