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**ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2009**  
Project "Support to the preparation of National Millennium Development  
Goals Reports 2008 and 2010"  
ATLAS Award ID: 00049131



**UNITED NATIONS  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM**

**MINISTRY OF  
PLANNING AND  
INVESTMENT**



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## INTRODUCTION

*Support to the preparation of National Millennium Development Goals Reports 2008 and 2010* was launched in January 2008 to contribute to the development, implementation and monitoring of national pro-poor policies and SEDPs. This will be achieved through the support to strengthening national capacity for MDGs/VDGs monitoring and reporting, comprising support to (i) the participatory and inclusive process of national monitoring and reporting on the progress towards achieving MDGs; and (ii) dissemination, advocacy of and policy dialogues pertaining to the findings and recommendations of national MDGRs, including aiming at further awareness raising and contributing to the reviews and development of national pro-poor policies and SEDPs, especially at local levels. The project, therefore, has two key outputs:

*Output 1.* The progress towards achieving MDGs by 2008 and 2010 analysed and reported with high quality, in close linkage with the process of review of SEDP 2006-2010 and development of SEDP 2011-2015, and in a participatory and consultative manner.

*Output 2.* MDGR findings and recommendations widely disseminated, advocated and debated to support further MDGs awareness raising and localization as well as to feed into national pro-poor policy development process.

The Project is being implemented by Ministry of Planning & Investment; in close cooperation with Ministries: Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs; Health; Education & Training; Natural Resources and Environment; Foreign Affairs; Culture, Sports and Tourism; Information and Communication; Home Affairs; National Committee for the Advancement of Women; Committee for Ethnic Minorities and Vietnam Learning Encouragement Association and all provinces and cities over the country.

The expected Project outputs comprise four of six of the output targets of the Country Programme (CP) output "Needs-based and participatory framework for more effective monitoring of and advocacy on poverty reduction, VDGs and MDGs with a gender perspective" under expected CP outcome "Improved monitoring and evaluation of the progress in socio-economic development, towards achieving VDGs/MDGs and meeting the commitments of Viet Nam under international agreements, with special attention to situation of poor ethnic people, children, and women".

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The duration of the Project, which is being managed under the National Execution (NEX) arrangement, is January 2008 – December 2010.

This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

**I. PROJECT PERFORMANCE – CONTRIBUTION TO THE CP OUTCOMES**

The annual work plan for 2009 consisted of 7 activities with a proposed budget of USD 145,770 (see Annex 1).

This progress report evaluates the Project performance based on the annual work plan. Out of the 7 activities planned for 2009, 5 activities have been fully completed, 2 activities have been partially completed, amongst which 01 activity are “on-going”-- meaning that they will be carried over to 2009. The budget spending rate is 95%.

Activities by Completion Type			Number of Activities	Percentage
On time	2	28.6%		
Delay/completed	3	42.9%		
Delay/to be completed	2	28.6%		
Delay/on-going	1	14.3%		
<i>Total</i>	7	100%		
<i>Budget Spending Rate</i>				95%

**1. Update on Project achievements**

Expected CP outcome and output	Project outputs	Achievements of the Project in outputs
<p><b>CP Output 1.3.</b> Improved monitoring and evaluation of the progress in socio-economic development, towards achieving VDGs/MDGs and meeting the commitments of Viet Nam under international agreements, with special attention to situation of poor ethnic</p>	<p>Output 1. The progress towards achieving MDGs by 2008 and 2010 analysed and reported with high quality, in close linkage with the process of review of SEDP 2006-2010 and development of SEDP 2011-2015, and in a participatory and consultative</p>	<p>1. The plan for maintaining and updating MDGs/VDGs database (preferably using VietInfo) necessary for the preparation of following MDGRs at central and local level was developed. The list of MDG indicator applied for Vietnam was suggested.</p> <p>2. Skill of VietInfo using and administration was trained for involved ministries.</p> <p>3. A consultation workshop on preparing MDGR 2010 in close linkage with the formulation process of 5-year SEDP 2011-2015 was held in Bavi, Hanoi with participants from involved ministries/agencies and international organizations. MDGR 2008 was finalized, peer reviewed and edited.</p> <p>5. Final MDGR 2008 was translated into English.</p> <p>6. The lessons learned in preparing national MDGR 2008 was documented and discussed with involved partners with recommendations for mainstreaming</p>



<p>people, children, and women.</p>	<p>manner</p> <p>3 activities were implemented under this output in 2009</p>	<p>MDG reporting process into national planning and monitoring process.</p> <p>Output 2. MDGR findings and recommendations widely disseminated, advocated and debated to support further MDGs awareness raising and localization as well as to feed into national pro-poor policy development process</p> <p>3 activities were implemented under this output in 2009</p>
		<p>1. MDGR2008 was printed in Vietnamese and English.</p> <p>2. Pamphlets on MDGs in Vietnamese and other 5 ethnic minority languages was developed, designed and printed, ready for deliver to all provinces/cities, districts and communes over the country.</p> <p>3. One training course for mass media staff of major mass media channels was held in Hoa Binh.</p> <p>4. The launching ceremony for MDGR 2008 was held in Hanoi with participants from national and international stakeholders</p> <p>5. A 12-15 minutes documentary on Vietnam progresses in MDGs/VDGs for national and international audience was produced. The film will be completed and ready for broadcast early 2010.</p> <p>6. 01 workshops in national level and 03 workshops for 3 regions was held to introduce the MDGR 2008, discuss the findings of MDGR as well as implication of these findings/recommendations.</p>

## 2. Update on partnership

Similar to previous years, coordination played a very important part of the Project activities. This was also the area that consumed most of the Project's time and was the main reason for the recorded delays in achieving some targets.

Coordination work in this Project had to be done at three different levels: with donors, within MPI, and with 11 ministries.

### 2.1. *With donor*

The Project was strongly and effectively supported by UNDP, from the Leader to the directly involved persons. In 2009, the UNDP PO of the Project was changed, however, the Project still work smoothly as the new PO – Mrs. Nguyen Bui Linh catching well the information of the Project and continue to support the Project in very effective way.

### 2.2. *Within MPI*

With activities cutting across different departments of MPI, it was not very smooth sailing for the Project. While the Project was working according to a tight monthly timetable with an eagerness and seriousness to achieve every planned activity on time, some departments were not able to match their priorities in activities with the project's schedule. That ended up causing delays in conducting activities.

In the middle of 2009, the Project Implementation Partner have some personnel issue when some persons are in charge of preparing MDGR was retired, and it's also the case of the NPD of the Project. This situation leading to some delay when new Project personnel need some time to update information for project implementation.

### 2.3. *With Ministries*

In 2009, involved ministries still cooperate well with MPI to implement necessary activity of the Project. But there are also many changes in personnel issues as directly involved persons have change their position and some new persons were assigned to monitoring the MDG progress in some ministries (MOFA, MOLISA, NCFAW)

## II. PROJECT PERFORMANCE – IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

### 1. UNDP Support

Even having the change in the Programme Officer of the Project as mentioned above, the arrangement set between UNDP and the Project from the beginning of the Project continued to work well during the year. It is expected that this will continue until the end of the Project.

### 2. Consultants

In 2009, the Project hired 6 national consultants, a much lower number than previous years. Given the Project's experience in recruiting the consultants from previous years and close coordination with UNDP PO, the Project encountered minimal problems in recruiting and managing consultants.

### 3. Others

In 2009, the Project was introduced new Procurement procedure from UNDP, and it makes the Project sometime confuse with the procedure for hiring consultants as well as firms for some activities. The Project hope that in 2010 don't have to face these problems as the Project was consulted closely by UNDP in charged persons and using the experience and lessons learned in 2009



Expected Output	Output of Key Project Activities in 2008	Was target achieved?
<b>Output 1.</b> The progress towards achieving MDGs by 2008 and 2010 analysed and reported with high quality, in close linkage with the process of review of SEDP 2006-2010 and development of SEDP 2011-2015, and in a participatory and consultative manner		
	<b>1.1. Collect and process available and new data and information needed for analysis on MDGs progress</b>	Yes
	<b>1.1.4.</b> Develop a plan for maintaining and updating MDGs/VDGs database (preferably using VietInfo) necessary for the preparation of following MDGRs at central and local level	Yes
	<b>1.1.5.</b> Organize training for ministries and provinces on using VietInfo to maintain and update data necessary for MDG/VDG monitoring and reporting (in coordination with SEDM project and other relevant UNICEF-supported projects/activities)	Yes
	<b>1.3. Draft, conduct wide consultations on, finalise and publish national MDGRs in 2008 and 2010</b>	Yes
	<b>1.3.5.</b> Organize consultation workshops on MDGR 2010 in a close linkage with the formulation process of 5-year SEDP 2011-2015	Yes
	<b>1.3.6.</b> Finalize, per review and edit full and executive MDGRs 2008 and 2010 (reported activity 2008, final payment for consultant)	Yes
	<b>1.3.8.</b> Translate full and executive MDGRs 2008 and 2010 as well as MDGs/VDGs database (in Vietnamese, English, and French)	Yes
	<b>1.4. Document and disseminate good practices and lessons learned in preparing national MDGRs for further MDGR preparation</b>	Yes

**RATING ON OUTPUTS**

For outcomes: The Project is expected to contribute to the achievement of the outcome "Improved monitoring and evaluation of the progress in socio-economic development, towards achieving VDGs/MDGs and meeting the commitments of Viet Nam under international agreements, with special attention to situation of poor ethnic people, children, and women" by facilitating necessary skill to in charge persons, disseminate the MDGs from the leaders at different levels to every people, raising their awareness and make them actively involve to the progress of MDG achievement of the country. On the basis of the progress towards delivering Project outputs, as detailed below, it may be said that the Project has contributed to a **positive change** in relation to achieving this outcome.

For outputs: The table below summarizes ratings on each activity as well as each output in general.

**III. RATING ON PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS**



Output 1		Output 2	
Yes	1.4.1. Document the lessons learned in preparing national MDGRs from key stakeholders at national Level	Yes	2.1. Widely disseminate the national MDGRs 2008 and 2010
Yes	1.4.3. Organize roundtable discussion with key stakeholders at National Level on lessons learned on (i) using the MDGR preparation procedure (ii) lessons learned during the process for future MDGR preparation including (iii) recommendations for mainstreaming MDG reporting process into national planning and monitoring process	Partial	2.1.2. Print full and executive MDGRs 2008 and 2010 as well as MDGs/VDGs database (hard copies and CDs) (in Vietnamese, English, and French); publish on websites (reported from 2008, subcontract is signed)
Yes		Partial	2.1.3. Design and produce small brochures, pamphlets on MDGs in Vietnamese and ethnic minority languages; publish on websites (reported from 2008)
Yes		Partial	2.2. Implement a wide advocacy and propaganda campaign on MDGs and MDCs progress/MDGRs at national and especially local levels
Yes		Yes	2.2.3. Organize training courses for mass media staff (at central and local level) on skills to cover MDGs and MDGRs
Yes		Yes	2.2.4. Organize MDGR launching event
On going, to be completed in 2010		Yes	2.2.5. Develop a 8-12 minutes documentary on Vietnam Progresses in MDGs/VDGs for National and International audience
Yes		Yes	2.3. Involve wide ranges of stakeholders in policy debates and discussions about MDGRs 2008 and 2010's findings and recommendations and their use in (i) the SEDP reviews, implementation at both national and local levels, and formulation of new SEDS/SEDP/pro-poor policies, and (ii) further monitoring and adaptation of VDGs/MDGs to national and local level
Partial		Yes	2.3. Involve wide ranges of stakeholders in policy debates and discussions about MDGRs 2008 and 2010's findings and recommendations and their use in (i) the SEDP reviews, implementation at both national and local levels, and formulation of new SEDS/SEDP/pro-poor policies, and (ii) further monitoring and adaptation of VDGs/MDGs to national and local level
Output 2. MDGR findings and recommendations widely disseminated, advocated and debated to support further MDGs awareness raising and localization as well as to feed into national pro-poor policy development process			

#### IV. LESSONS LEARNED

It is thought that the Project team should make sure that the 2010 work plan, once devised, is looked at as a contract with the stakeholders for the year, with that team held accountable for performance at the end of 2010. As demonstrated in previous years, strict adherence to work plan and a continuous drive to implement monthly deliverables would be the most effective way to manage activities.

The experience in 2009 has given the Project a few lessons that the Project should think over in devising the 2010 plan:

- The annual work plan 2010 should change the order of activity, not exactly following the order in the DPO of the Project, than the management and implementation of activity will follow an reasonable order.
- With regard to coordination activities with ministries (and possibly with provinces), it is suggested to use LOA to mobilize in-charge persons from involved ministries for preparing MDGR 2010 instead of hiring consultants.