

**PROJECT: “SUPPORT FOR THE FORMULATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2011 2020”**

**PROJECT FINAL REPORT**

**A. PROJECT BACKGROUND**

The Project “Support for the Formulation of Socio-Economic Development Strategy 2011-2020” funded by UNDP starts in July 2008 with an aim to support the Government of Viet Nam to formulate an evidence-based ten-year development strategy through a broadly participatory and consultative process. The project will provide assistance directly to the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)/ Development Strategy Institute (DSI) to deliver two outputs: (1) SEDS 2011-2020 developed based on sound evidence and best international experience and knowledge; (2) SEDS 2011-2020 formulated in a participatory and consultative manner.

Through the consultation process with several national and international workshops/conferences SEDS 2011-2020 has been completed and played an important part in policy making and macro-economic management of the Government, especially the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI).

By the supposed ending date at the end of 2010, the project was supporting MPI very actively in successfully conducting many consultation workshops to collect valuable inputs for the formulation of direction framework and materialization some major tasks under the Socio-Economic Development Strategy after approved. Therefore, the project was extended one year more to completed remain necessary activities.

**B. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS**

After more than three years of operation the project has gained a lot of achievements and successfully achieved its proposed outputs.

1. The Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) has been developed and completed with great support from the project. SEDS serves as the top-most national development document of Vietnam. It provides a system of policies for national socio-economic development at the overall, holistic, fundamental and long-term level.

2. The Project management, in conjunction with UNDP Vietnam, organized a study tour to two European countries (Norway and Finland) for selected members of the SEDS Drafting Team, MPI/DSI Working Group and representatives of relevant Ministry and Institutes. The study tour aimed at helping Viet Nam's SEDS Sub-Committee and its Drafting Team learn experience and practices of these countries in several industries such as oil exploitation, sea-way transportation, agriculture and forestry.
3. Many consultation workshops, international workshops, round-table discussions have been organized to identify issues that need addressing in the Strategy as well as the provision strategic policy recommendations for Vietnam. Through these workshops, the PMU also got view/consultation and learn experiences from a wide range of stakeholders supporting for the formulation of the SEDS. Furthermore, these workshops have provided many valuable inputs for the formulation of the Action Programme and the materialization some major tasks under the Action Programme.
4. Three members, including one member of the Project management (Project manager), one member of the MPI/DSI Working Group and one UNDP project officer, were sent to a short training course entitled "How to Influence & Consult Strategically" in the UK. The participants' attained skills and international experiences are proved useful in the facilitation of the SEDS Draft consultations in 2010.

Members of PMU, Project staff and carders from DSI have participated in many training courses organized and financed by UNDP to enhance their capacity in project management, accounting etc.

5. The PMU has published the Call for Expression of Interests for 18 research papers on many media channels which attracted a large number of expressions of interest from domestic and international institutions.
6. The review of received EOIs and the evaluation of technical and financial proposals from bidders were conducted. Qualified international institutions were selected to conduct the research papers # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 11. All research papers were conducted by internationally prestigious institutions such as Fulbright Economics Teaching Program and the Harvard Kennedy School, Oxford Policy Management, UK, Development and Policies Research Center, National University of Singapore (NUS) etc.
7. The completed research papers (1, 2, 3,4,5,7,8,10 and 11) were printed (500 copies in English and 1000 copies in Vietnamese) and copied into CD. The printed books and CD have been sent to all MPI agencies, other

relevant Ministries' agencies, domestic and international institutions and stakeholders such as research institutes, provincial people committees and provincial and municipal department of planning and investment in order to disseminate the project's research results to be served as references for all concerning stakeholders.

8. With the support from the project, in 2011, several consultation workshops have been conducted to collect feedbacks and inputs for the development of the Master Planning Plan Law led by Department of Master Planning (MPI). Besides, under this activity, a Report on Impact Assessment (RIA) and a pre-RIA survey have been conducted.

### **C. KEY FIGURES**

1. Sectoral strategies, socio-economic development master plans for regions and territorial areas, sectoral development master plans and five-year and annual socio-economic development plans workshops, conferences and round-table discussions: The project has organized 36 international and national conferences/workshops/meetings.
  - In 2008: 05 brainstorming meetings and 01 international workshop
  - In 2009: 10 international workshops and roundtable meetings/discussions
  - In 2010: 04 international workshops and roundtable meetings/discussions
  - In 2011: 17 international workshops and roundtable meetings/discussions
2. Researches/thematic papers: Under the project, 77 research and thematic papers have been conducted by national and international prominent experts.
  - In 2008: 16 research and thematic papers have been conducted
  - In 2009: 14 research and thematic papers have been conducted
  - In 2011: 37 research and thematic papers have been conducted
3. Publications: 9,000 copies of Vietnamese version and 4,500 copies of English versions of 9 completed research papers have been published and several CDs of the research papers have been disseminated to concerning stakeholders.

### **D. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

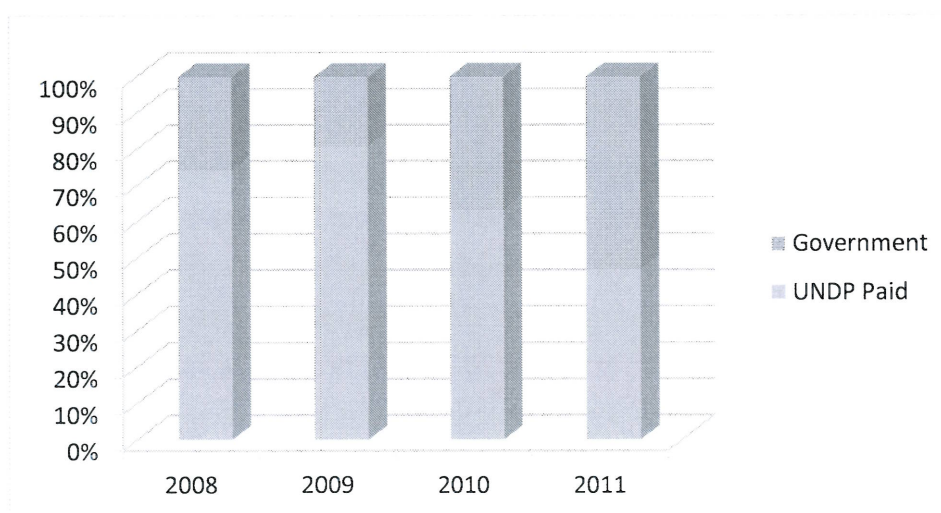
As of 31<sup>th</sup> December 2011, the total project expenditure is USD 1,343,638.16, accounting for 67% of the total project budget. On the basis of the funds disbursed and the Annual Work Plan for more than three years, the

total expenditures for each year as well as for each activity under the Project are as followed:

*Table 1: Total expenditure from 2008 - 2011*

	<b>CDR</b>	<b>UNDP Paid</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Total UNDP &amp; Government paid</b>
<b>DPO Approved</b>	<b>1,998,400.00</b>			
<b>2008</b>	<b>58,698.23</b>	<b>43,578.43</b>	<b>15,119.80</b>	<b>58,698.23</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>393,319.04</b>	<b>317,960.48</b>	<b>75,358.56</b>	<b>393,319.04</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>389,634.54</b>	<b>246,557.18</b>	<b>143,077.35</b>	<b>389,634.53</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>501,986.35</b>	<b>234,976.01</b>	<b>267,010.35</b>	<b>501,986.36</b>
<b>Total 2008-12/2011</b>	<b>1,343,638.16</b>	<b>843,072.10</b>	<b>500,566.06</b>	<b>1,343,638.16</b>
<b>Remaining</b>	<b>654,761.84</b>			

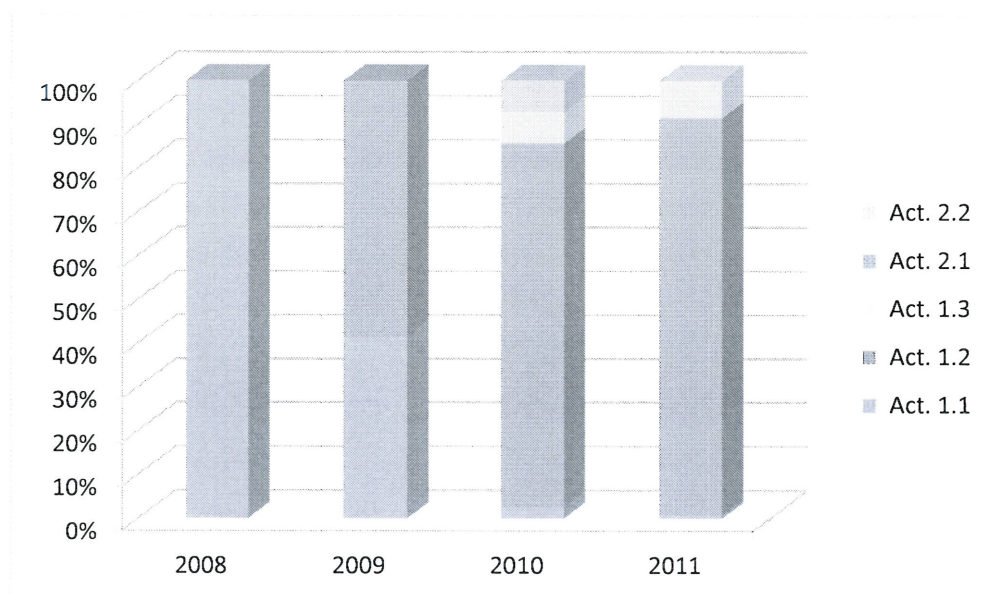
*Chart 1: Percentage of contribution from Government and UNDP to the Project*



*Table 2: Expenditures for each activities from 2008 - 2011*

Year	Act. 1.1	Act. 1.2	Act. 1.3	Act. 2.1	Act. 2.2	GMS & Project management	Total
2008	17,204.38					41,493.84	58,698.23
2009	131,876.41	185,877.49				75,565.15	393,319.04
2010	7,018.86	222,999.15	19,294.79		19,189.93	121,131.80	389,634.53
2011	2,858.53	365,925.77	34,270.75			98,931.31	501,986.36
2008-2011	158,958.18	774,802.41	53,565.54	-	19,189.93	337,122.09	1,343,638.16

*Chart 2: Percentage of expenditure for each activity*



## E. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In fact, the project was very actively providing valuable support for MPI in developing sectoral strategies, socio-economic development master plans for regions and territorial areas, sectoral development master plans and five-year and annual socio-economic development plans through its activities. Therefore, an extension for the project should be made. This will be a very realistic channel for policy makers

especially MPI to refer to during their current and future development policy or decision making.

2. The project should cover a wider area of action and take over more activities similar to the support for the formulation of Master Planning Law. With its professional channels, reference sources and management as well as financial capabilities, the project could be able to support many other activities related to the socio-economic development.
3. All 18 proposed research topics should be completed instead of only 9 topics.