



Inter-Parliamentary Union

Technical Cooperation Programme

PROJECT PROFILE: VIET NAM

(PHASE 3)



Created 20/09/2006

Project details

Title:	Development of the Centre for Information, Library and Research Services
Status:	Closed
Duration:	3 Years (1996-1999)
Budget:	CHF 870,735.35 (US\$ 531,392.16)
Donor partner:	Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

Background

In line with the recommendations of a technical expert mission fielded to the National Assembly in 1991, a Centre for Information, Library and Research Service was created within the Office (secretariat) of the National Assembly (ONA). This Centre was entrusted inter alia with the task of developing the use of technology to facilitate and support documentation, drafting and information-searching activities. It was also responsible for linking the information and reference services of the National Assembly to the provincial parliamentary delegations.

Between 1991 and 1996 (phases 1 and 2) the IPU and SIDA organized several activities to provide assistance, including the compilation of a core reference collection, for the Centre's library, provision of basic office equipment, and training of staff.

From 1996 onwards, the final phase of assistance was implemented. As during the previous phases, the IPU was in charge of the activities, while SIDA provided the necessary funding.

Areas of activity

This third phase of cooperation with the ONA (phase 3) related to the Office's task of establishing an electronic communication network (ECN) and developing various databases relevant to the work of the National Assembly.

The project itself was divided into two parts. The first part consisted of basic preparatory investments for the establishment of the network. This included hardware and software as well as staff training.

The second part covered additional investments and the start of integrated production of documents as well as the creation of databases.

Target beneficiaries

The most direct beneficiaries of the computerization of the Parliament were its members, whose work was facilitated considerably.

Enhanced access to information and the integration of the Parliament into new communication networks also benefited Vietnamese civil society.



The Vietnamese National Assembly, Hanoi

Results

The outcomes of the project may be summarized as follows:

- The ONA was equipped with a local computer network, having a potential capacity of 165 workstations, 77 of which had been installed during the project duration. Due to favourable conditions on the local hardware market, this number could be increased from the 60 PCs initially planned for.
- The ONA's staff was trained in Viet Nam, and abroad, including via internships at the Swedish Parliament. Consequently, the ONA developed the capacity, both in terms of equipment and human resources, to develop and manage databases. By 1999, it had already created a number of databases and applications relevant to the work of the National Assembly.

Experts providing advice to the project included:

- Mr. Jan Zetterdahl, deputy head of the Computer Department at the Swedish Parliament.
- Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuong-Khanh, Senior Foreign Law Specialist, Library of Congress of the United States.

Parliaments supporting the project were:

- Parliament of Sweden

VIETNAM: BOX 1

Project details	
Title:	Development of the Centre for Information, Library and Research Services
Status:	Closed
Duration:	2 Years (1991-1999)
Budget:	US\$ 713,699.81 (Total for 3 phases combined)
Donor partner:	SIDA
Documents archived:	<u>Admin. and Finance: Box 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports (Missions, Project)• ToRs• Project documents• Correspondence (UNDP, SIDA)• Finance (scattered, in the boxes 1 and 2) <u>Activities: Box2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for the Centre for Information, Library and Research Services• Study Tours (Sweden, Denmark, France),• Creation of a computer network <u>General: Box2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press and background material

ARCHIVED September 2006

VIETNAM: BOX 2

Project details	
Title:	Development of the Centre for Information, Library and Research Services
Status:	Closed
Duration:	2 Years (1991-1999)
Budget:	US\$ 713,699.81 (Total for 3 phases combined)
Donor partner:	SIDA
Documents archived:	<u>Admin. and Finance: Box 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports (Missions, Project)• ToRs• Project documents• Correspondence (UNDP, SIDA)• Finance (scattered, in the boxes 1 and 2) <u>Activities: Box2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for the Centre for Information, Library and Research Services• Study Tours (France, Denmark, Sweden)• Creation of a computer network <u>General: Box2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press and background material

ARCHIVED September 2006