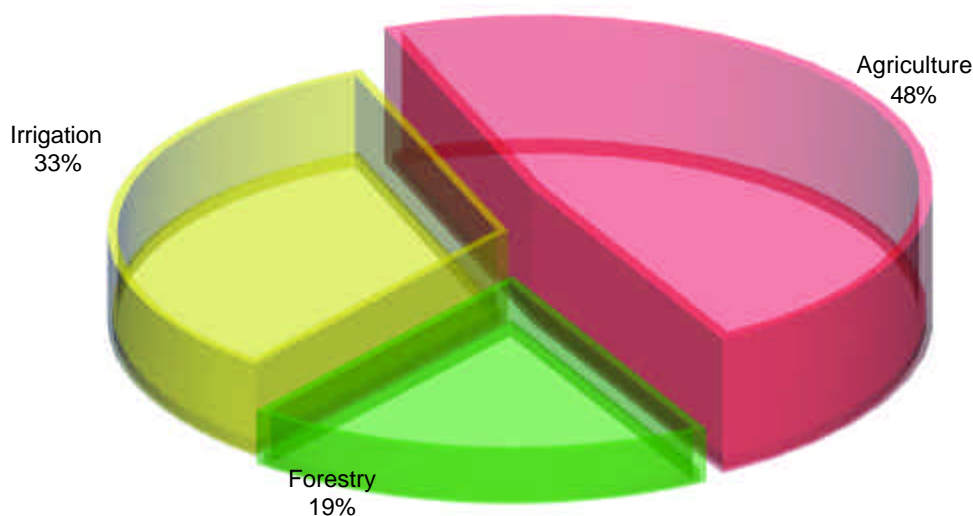




Focus

International Cooperation in Agriculture and Rural Development:  
**Past and Next Decade**

**Page 8**



ODA Synthesis categorised by sector (1991 - 2000)

**Inside**

**Partnership Activities:**

Forestry Sector Support Program starts operation. Page 2

**Natural Disaster Mitigation**

Set up NDM Steering Committee Page 3

**Management Information System:**

Public Administration Reform Support Page 4

**Thematic Activities:**

TAG 1: Further supports to agriculture integration Page 6

TAG 2: Action Program 2002 - 2003 Page 7

For the realization of the Resolution No. 07 by the Political Bureau on International Economic Integration:

**MARD introduces its action programme**

*MARD's Action Program for the realization of the Resolution No. 07-NQ/TW by the Political Bureau and The Government's Action Program on International Economic Integration was introduced at the meeting of the TAG 1 held 18 April 2002.*

**I. Objective of the Program**

To prescribe specific activities and a road map for the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector to achieve a successful implementation of the Resolution No. 07 of the Political Bureau and a response to the government action plan on International Economic Integration.

**II. Main contents**

**1. Tasks regarding Ideology, Information, propagation.**

1.1. Thoroughly grasp the intentions, viewpoints and orientations toward international economic integration reflected in

the Resolution No. 07 by the Political Bureau.

1.2. Set up specific programs aiming at transmitting the knowledge on international economic integration.

1.3. Organize seminars, and discussions about the international economic integration with Clubs for Agriculture and Rural Development Entrepreneurs.

**2. Revision, supplement of the legal documents, the mechanism, policies in Agriculture and Rural Development sector relating to commerce:**

Review and compare the legal docu-

*(More page 6)*

Comments are welcome at:

ISG Secretariat  
 Room 209 - 210, A9,  
 2 Ngoc Ha, Hanoi  
 Tel: 733 6610  
 Fax: 733 6624  
 E-mail: isgmard@fpt.vn

## Forest Sector Support Program and Partnership

# The Partnership Structure has been set up

After the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement on Forest Sector Support Program and Partnership, the following activities have been carried out:

1. Two workshops under the framework of the FSSP&P were held, one being the Forestry Research Workshop (20-22 November 2001), and the other Forestry Training and Extension Workshop (21-22 March 2002). Both Workshops were aimed to identify priorities in their respective domains.

2. The Partnership Structure has been set up, which includes

(i) Partnership Steering Committee to provide effective

leadership to the implementation of the Memorandum of Agreement and the operation of the contained Partnership. The PSC convened its first meeting on 18 March 2002;

(ii) the Technical Executive Committee whose operational objective is to provide guidance (day-to-day, month-to-month) to the implementation of the MoA, the first meeting of the TEC was held on 9 April 2002 where it set a regular timing of its monthly meetings every first Friday of the month; and

(iii) the Forest Sector Support Program Coordination Office to support the development and integration of FSSP coordination

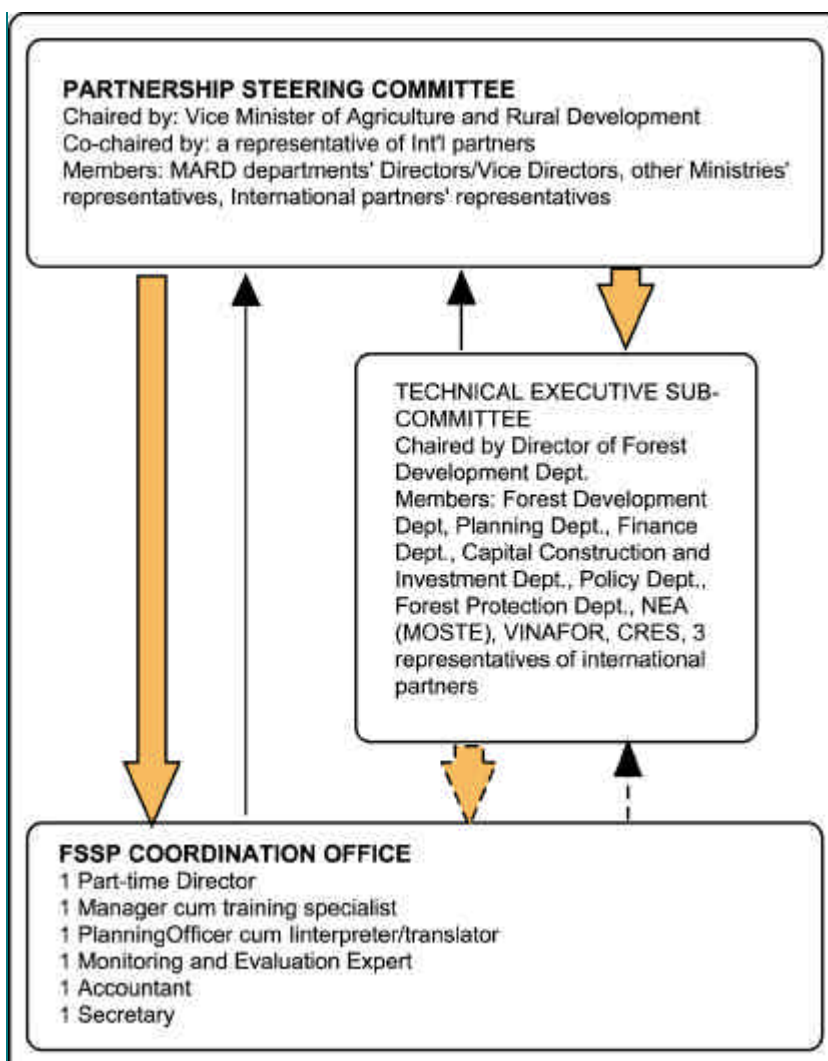
and monitoring capability into concerned institutions. The FSSP CO come into operation from 21 March 2002.

### On-going activities

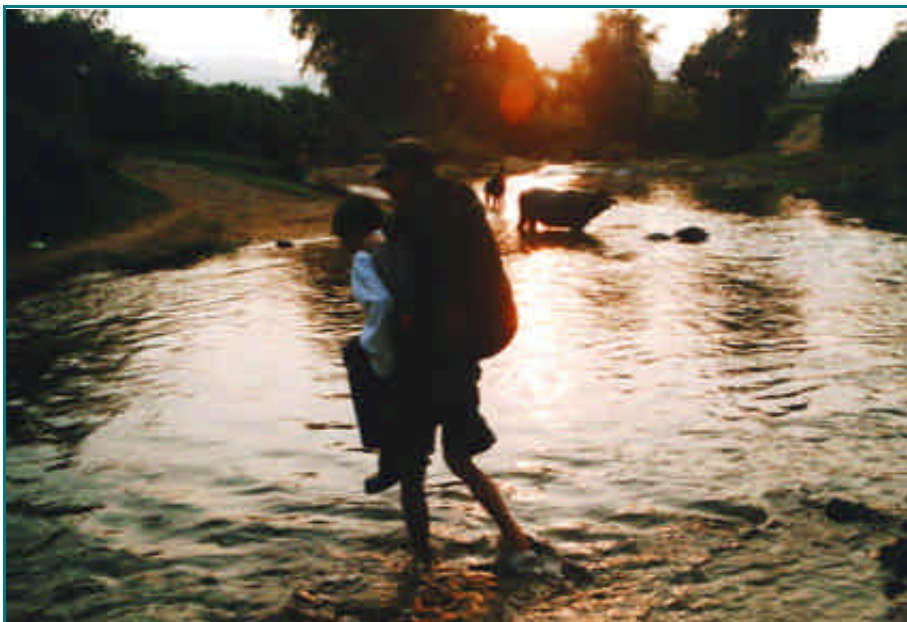
Development of the Matrix of National and International Affiliations: in this regard, a Donor Round Table Meeting is planned for earlier June 2002. The departure point for discussion would be the draft Matrix of Affiliations, and it is expected that donors' specific commitments to the FSSP Program Framework and how they are to coordinate among them would result from the Meeting.

Development of the Common Work Program: a layout of the CWP is being prepared, and will be presented in the next TEC Meeting for approval. CWP will be used as a basis for common monitoring and evaluation of the projects/programs under FSSP.

Study on Forestry, Poverty and Rural Livelihood: will be carried out in a participatory manner in two provinces to better inform policy-making and project / program formulation at both national and provincial levels on the actual and potential contribution of forests and forestry development to poverty reduction and rural livelihoods. The study would also provide an analytical framework, methodology and indicators with which to monitor and evaluate impacts in the future.



## NDM Partnership: Steering Committee starts its job



**“ISG process should encourage partnerships between MARD, other concerned ministries, NGOs, and donors...”**

The Natural Disaster Mitigation Partnership for Central Vietnam (known as NDM-Partnership) was established with the Memorandum of Agreement signed in June 2001 with 11 signatories. In November 2001, there were further 2 signatories added to the MOA. The activities of the NDM Partnership have attracted the concern of the community of donors, with some agencies having expressed their interests to be members of the NDM Partnership such as: Asian Development Bank, World Vision and Catholic Relief Services.

At the NDM Partnership Forum in November 2001, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), the Royal Netherlands Embassy (RNE), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the World Bank (WB) were selected as the members of the Steering Committee of the Partnership.

The community of International Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) have also met and agreed that SNV would be the representative of the NGOs in the NDM Partnership Steering Committee. SNV will therefore be the Vice chairman of the Committee.

Also, in November 2001, the Preparatory Assistance Document (the PA) was approved by the NDM Partnership. This is a very important document, guiding the activities of the NDM Partnership in its first year.

RNE committed to support MARD to implement the PA of the NDM Partnership through cost sharing with the UNDP.

UNDP incorporated the PA into its project "Capacity Building for Disaster Mitigation in Vietnam". Through this project, UNDP, RNE and the Government of Luxembourg based in China will offer funds for the implementation of the PA for the NDM Partnership.

The project has already been submitted to the Ministry of Planning and Investment for few months and still waits for approval. The signing of the PA has been delayed for few months due to the appraisal procedures for the UNDP project.

In preparation for the implementation of the PA of the NDM Partnership (MARD, RNE and UNDP), the International Facilitator, National Co-ordinator (1 year) for the PA have been recruited, the National Director for the PA -NDM Partnership appointed, the Secretariat in Da Nang established, Department of Flood Control and Dykes Management (DFSC/DMC) appointed to be as an implementing agency, and the 1st quarterly Work Plan for the PA implementation has also been prepared.

The first Steering Committee of the NDM-Partnership is scheduled to take place around May 2002.

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*On April 15, 2002, the Signing Ceremony for the UNDP-VIE/01/014 document for Capacity Building for Disaster Mitigation in Viet Nam (including the PA-NDM-P), co-funded by UNDP, the Netherlands and Luxembourg Governments to support the NDM-Partnership and other disaster mitigation efforts in Viet Nam, took place in MARD. In the margin of this event an additional Signing Ceremony of the NDM-Partnership Memorandum of Agreement was organised. The new signatories are ADB, World Vision, Catholic Relief Services and Canadian Centre for International Studies and Co-operation (CECI).*

# Support PAR Action Programme in MARD

**Soren Davidsen** - Program Officer, Growth and Governance Unit, UNDP

The project "Support to PAR in MARD" supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Netherlands is in a favorable position to serve MARD in the implementation of the PAR Master Programme.

According to the new Law on Organisation of the Government passed by the National Assembly in November 2002 and the PAR Master Programme 2 on "Programme on roles, functions, organisational structures of the agencies in the administrative system" all ministries and provinces will undertake a number of organisational reforms. For MARD and other ministries, this will involve the following,

- a) Define and implement a new structure of central Government by redefining roles and functions of Government, ministries, ministerial level agencies and agencies under Government in line with the new management mechanism
- b) Based on new overall structure of central Government, identify internal organisational structures of ministries and remaining government agencies with a view to avoid overlapping, remove unnecessary tasks and decentralise tasks and delegate authority to local governments
- c) Formulate relevant government decrees on functions, tasks and structures of ministries and agencies

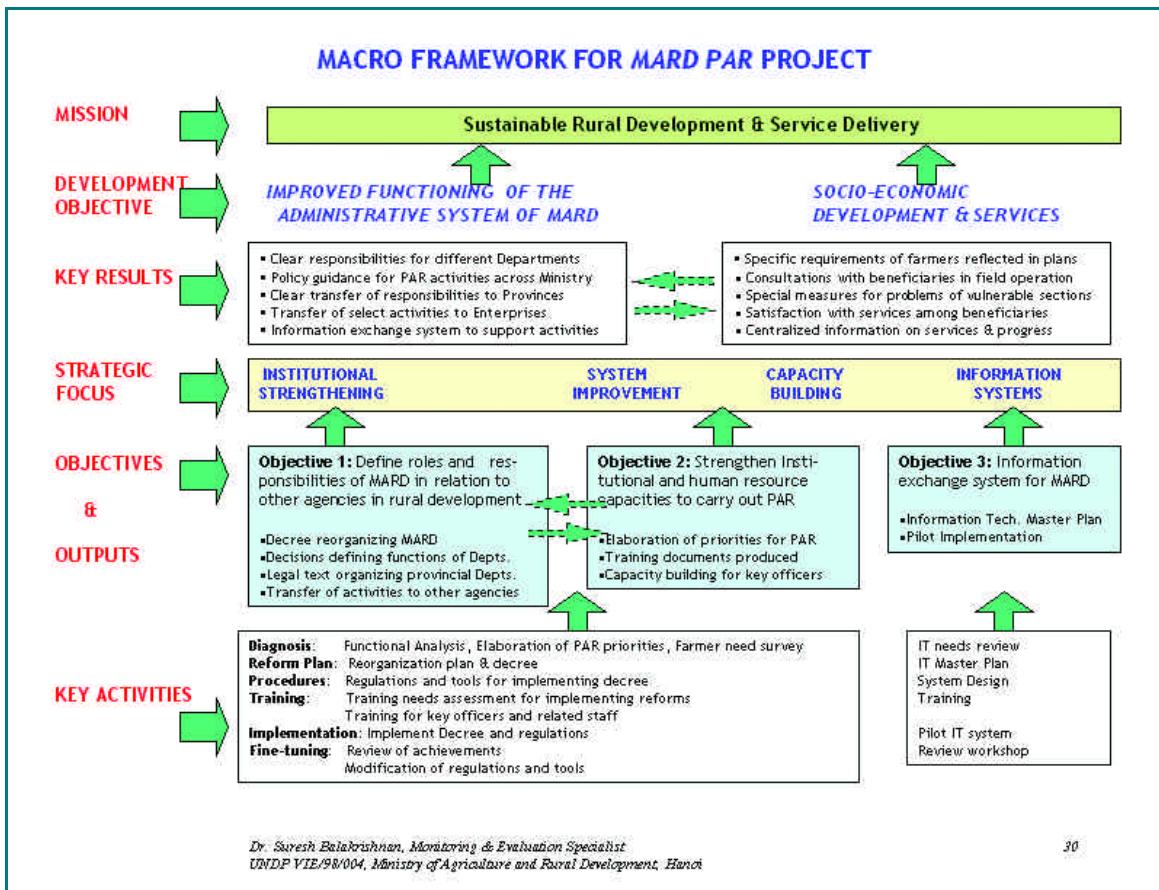
d) Define and implement appropriate roles, functions and structures of local governments at different levels according to the new mechanism established at central level. Differentiate clearly between urban and rural governments.

e) Implement decisions on decentralisation of tasks and authority from central to local levels in different areas and sectors.

The project "Support to PAR in MARD" constitutes a solid mechanism not only for MARD but also GCOP to implement the Government's PAR Master Programme and in particular the point a-e listed above. Hence, the project is assisting GCOP in redrafting decree 15/CP "Defining Duties, Powers and Organisational Structure of Ministries", which is a prerequisite for MARD before it can redraft decree 73, which is the decree outlining the current organisational set-up of MARD. The project has through an extensive functional analysis provided the baseline to redraft decree 73 and restructure the MARD.

However, the project "PAR in MARD" is not only assisting MARD to formulate the plans for future reform. It will also implement some pilot activities, the implementation of the IT Strategy will help MARD to realize the objectives set out in Programme 7 of the PAR Master Programme "Modernization of the administrative system".

Thus to conclude, the project constitutes a good example of the benefit that technical cooperation and support from development partners to the Government can bring about when the support is closely attached to the Government's own reform agenda and programme. The synergetic partnership is consequently instrumental in bringing MARD at the forefront of the Government's PAR efforts.



How the project "Support to PAR in MARD", VIE/98/004, will help MARD to be at the forefront of the implementation of the PAR Master Programme

Macro framework for MARD PAR project

Dr. Suresh Balakrishnan, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, UNDP VIE/98/004, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Hanoi

The Local Area Network (LAN) of the International Cooperation Department (ICD) has officially come into operation since March 2002. This is one of the results achieved from the activities funded by the Danish Government in support of development of the Management Information System through ISG.

ICD LAN establishes links to 50 computers of the ICD officers, the staff of the related programs/projects within MARD. This LAN also has a possibility to be developed into a Wide Area Network (WAN).

As planned, ISG Secretariat held two training workshops (in Do Son and Bac Kan in April 2002), for all the ICD officers and staff of the related programs/projects on the skills on use of the LAN and the PCs connected to the LAN.

ISG Secretariat is completing a user-friendly inter-face for the LAN. Through this inter-face, all the computers of the net (maybe the ones outside it in the future) can have access to the news, shared resources and data (including the database of the ODA programs/projects).



## ICD Local Area Network gets into operation



## First CD-ROM on International Cooperation in Agriculture and Rural Development Published

In April 2002, ISG Secretariat officially published the first version of the CD-ROM on international cooperation in the sector to all the members of the Steering Board.

The most important content of this CD-ROM is the ISG website including the database of ODA programs/projects, providing information of over 300 programs/projects completed and being implemented from 1990 till now. After the publication of the demo CD-ROM at the end of 2001, ISG Secretariat received many precious comments and suggestions for the completion of this first official version.

Together with the introduction of the CD-ROM, ISG Secretariat also updates the ISG website at the address

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development  
International Cooperation Department

ISG WEBSITE  
<http://www.isgmard.org.vn>



A Forum on Agriculture and Rural Development  
ISG could serve as a catalyst in achieving an open exchange of information and showing the benefits related to information sharing.  
ISG 2002

<http://www.isgmard.org.vn>

It is intended that CD-ROM on international cooperation will be updated and published once a year.

### DANIDA SUPPORTS ISG TO IMPLEMENT TAG 2 AND MIS

MARD and Danish Embassy already signed the project document, in support of coordination of international assistance and information in water resources management in Vietnam through the development of ISG Management Information System and the activities of TAG 2 for three years (2002-2004). The financial assistance of DKK 750,000 (equivalent to USD 90,000) was transferred to the ISG Trust Fund in December 2001.

The expected results include:

- ISG Management Information System, including ISG quarterly Newsletter; ISG Website, CD-ROMs and reports; A database on ODA projects; A Local Area Network (LAN) serving the ICD with a view to share the information between units of the ICD, ISG Secretariat, Partnerships, and related programs/projects located within MARD.

- Strengthened donor coordination within ISG TAG 2 on Support Water Resources Management, including Haft-annual TAG 2 coordination meeting; Assist TAG 2 Chairmen in preparation and organization of meetings; Reports on monitoring and evaluation of the external assistance in water sector; Workshops on selected topics specified by TAG 2 or ISG Steering Board.

**TAG 1:**

# MARD introduces its action programme

(from page 1)

ments and the existing mechanism, policies in the sector in order to make appropriate recommendations for revision, supplement, and issuance of new suitable documents, specifically is perfecting and proposing to approve early the below documents:

- Ordinance on Seed- Plant-Domestic animals, Decrees and Circulars guiding the implementation of the Decree on Protection of new seeds and plants, the Law on Forest Protection and Development, Ordinance on Veterinary.

- Finalize the Decrees, regulations regarding implementation of the Law on Water Resources.

- Review and sign agreements relating to veterinary and plant protection with all the countries having trading in Vietnamese agricultural products.

- General regulations and specific management regulations regarding agro-product trading make recommendations for amendment and supplements appropriate to the regulations by ASEAN, APEC, and WTO.

### **3. Formulation and implementation of themes, projects and action plans in service of international economic and trade integration, international trading in the area of agriculture and rural development**

3.1. Establish a road map for international economic integration and implement the action programs:

- Open the market of goods and services, domestic support and export subsidy in agriculture.

- Formulate and implement the action program to realize agreements: Sanitary; Phyto-Sanitary Agreement (SPS); Technical Barriers for Trades (TBT); trading aspects relating to the new Trade Reservation and Intellectual Properties (TRIP); and Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs).

3.2. Set up sector specific projects in service of integration.

- Identify the list of products with predominance;

- Enhance the approaches and product marketing in the domestic and overseas markets;

- Develop rural industry, especially the processing and post-harvest technology;

- Implement plant structure shift and crop-pattern oriented to goods production and exports.

- Review the technical standards, prepare supplements and new formulation, and intensify the application to production, harmonize the technical standards and quality ones.

### **4. Organizational mechanism and staff training**

4.1. Consolidate and strengthen the International Economic Cooperation Board under MARD, in there the ICD is the focal point and each unit under MARD, Provincial Departments of Agriculture and Rural

Development, enterprises under the Ministry should have at least one leader and expert take part in.

4.2. Study and supplement the term of reference and staff for the International Economic Cooperation Board.

4.3. Training the board's staff working in international economic cooperation.

4.4. Strengthen the capacity in international economic integration for the Ministry, localities and enterprises.

### **5. Implementation arrangement**

5.1. Thoroughly grasp the Resolution of the Political Bureau on international economic integration in the whole sector; International Cooperation Department to coordinate with the MARD party committee office, Ministry Office, Information Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (ICARD) and the colleges under MARD organise to implement.

5.2. Consolidate the Thematic Ad-hoc Group (TAG1) on International Agro-economic Integration, including officers working in below fields:

- Agriculture policies.

- Organization and Personnel;

- ASEAN, APEC, ASEM, WTO integration, and Vietnam-USA Trade Agreement...



- ODA, FDI management;

- Trade promotion, export-import;

- Professional techniques: agro-forestry product quality, technical standards, intellectual properties and sanitary and phyto-sanitary;

- Office of the Vietnam National Mekong Committee.

Main tasks of the working group consist of:

- Review what have been done so far relating to integration.

- Set up overall strategy and a road map for the sector.

- Recommend needs and demands for integration: amendment and supplement and issuance of new policies, training, organizations and personnel.

# Action Program 2002 - 2003 to be submitted to ISG Steering Board

<b>TAG2 Objective is to strengthen MARD ownership and capacity in building partnerships for effective and efficient utilization of external assistance (ODA) in water resource management and development.</b>		
<b>TAG2 Action Program</b>		
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Verifiable Indicators</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>
1. Initiate and supervise studies to promote improved coordination and cooperation; assist in supervision, financial assistance and review of study results. Promote water resource policy dialogue between MARD and donors	1a. Where appropriate, contract with departments or other agencies in MARD or other ministries to undertake studies and present reports to TAG2. Invite reports from other ongoing policy-related studies. 1b. Facilitate discussion on important policy issues and policy / legislation needs.	Reports to ISG, study reports, information dissemination activities
2. Share information regarding water resources management and development activities	2a. Regular exchange of project and other information between donors and with MARD and other ministries through i) reports at regular meetings, ii) project data base and website, iii) other means as appropriate 2b. Organize an International Water Conference to be held in Hanoi, October - November 2002	2a. TAG2 minutes, reports to ISG, updated project data base and website 2b. International conference held
3. Recommend actions to improve program and project coordination between MARD and donors and among donors	3. Appropriate recommendations forwarded to ISG Steering Board, NWRC and donors	3. TAG2 minutes, reports to ISG Steering Board

## Preparation for Hanoi International Water Conference October 2002 in Hanoi: "Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment"

TAG2 within the ISG framework is carrying out activities in support of MARD in its preparation for Hanoi International Water Conference tentatively to be held in Hanoi in October 2002.

With the theme "Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment", the conference will be a good chance for sharing of knowledge and experience between the nations in the region and the globe. The conference will also discuss and agree to the contents to be prepared for the World Water Forum to be held in Tokyo (Japan at the beginning of 2003).

It is intended that, the conference will be 3-day long, with the participation of the international guests and representatives of Vietnamese agencies and organizations who are involved in water resources management and development.

A secretariat for the conference will be established within MARD (ICD) in a very short time and will be assisted by ISG

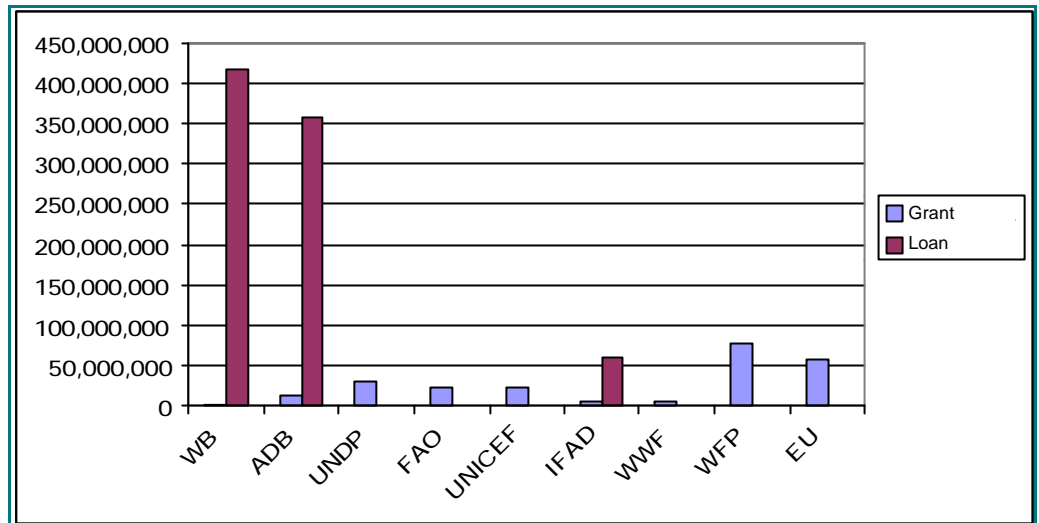
Secretariat and Dialogue Secretariat (located at the International Water Resources Institute in Colombo, Sri Lanka) in its coordination with the national and international related agencies and organizations. Some donors are discussing co-funding for this important event.



# International cooperation in agriculture and rural development: Past and next decade

MARD's International Cooperation Department (ICD) in coordination with other related Departments drafted a report on summation of the 10 years of international cooperation in agriculture and rural development and orientations in the next 10 years. The report was completed, had consultations with the related agencies and was presented at the Meeting of Implementation of the Work Plan 2002 of MARD on 31st October 2001.

The main contents of the report focus on the results achieved in the international cooperation over the past ten years from 1991 to 2000 and the orientations for international cooperation in the next ten years (2001-2010). Additionally, the report puts forward some recommendations and proposals in order to further enhance the role of international cooperation in the development of the sector, continuing good implementation of the six tasks in international cooperation. The report reviews the results of the international cooperation activities of the sector, draws the strengths and weaknesses, and at the same time puts forward recommendations regarding orientations for development of international cooperation activities in the time to come. (Please contact ISG Secretariat for details of the report)



MARD ODA Synthesis, categorised by donor (1991 - 2000)

In agriculture and rural development, international cooperation over the past ten years and in the time to come must well translate into reality the six following tasks:

- 1. Mobilization of funds to carry out big issues of agriculture and rural development. These sources are mainly ODA, FDI and receipt of new technologies.**
- 2. Support to the Strategy of active integration of the agriculture and rural development sector, regionally and internationally.**
- 3. Searching for and getting access to markets for exports and imports of agro-forestry products.**
- 4. Exports of techniques, experts and labors.**
- 5. Expansion of agriculture and rural related cooperation relations with the world.**
- 6. Security in external relations.**

(Extracted from the report on *Summation of the past 10 years and orientations for the next 10 years*).

## 4 newly signed projects at the beginning of 2002

Up to the end of April 2002, in the framework of cooperation between MARD and international donors, 4 projects have already been signed.

The biggest project signed "Second Red River Basin Project" is an ADB-funded loan project worth USD 140,000,000, including a partial grant of USD 10,200,000 from the Netherlands.

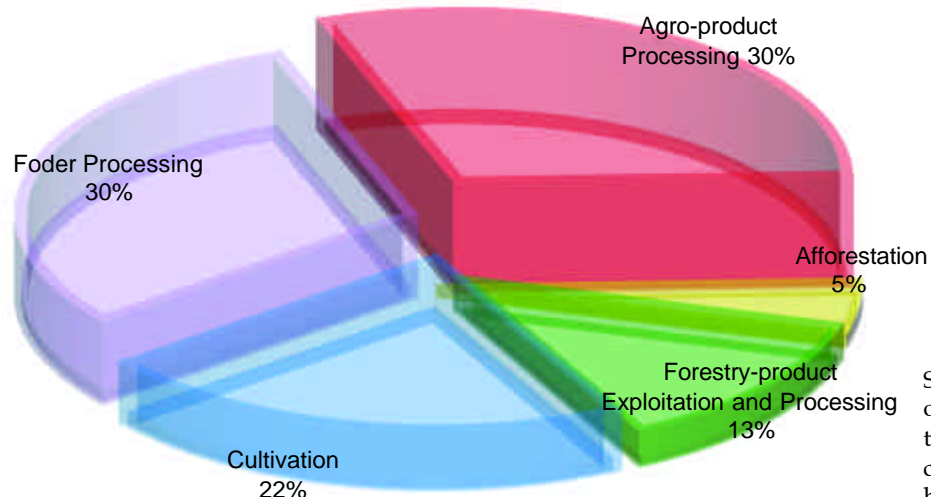
The rest projects include:

- Support to Globalization and Agricultural Development in Vietnam (Danida)
- Capacity Building for natural disaster mitigation in Vietnam - VIE/01/014 (UNDP, Netherlands and Luxemburg).
- Support to the natural disaster mitigation system in Vietnam-Phase II-VIE/97/002 (UNDP).

The total grant for the four projects is USD 14,007,032. It is intended that in the months to come the other committed projects will be further promoted for signing and implementation

## Mobilization and utilization of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in agriculture and rural development 1991 - 2000:

**Total: 382 projects**  
**USD 2.37 Billion**  
 In which:  
**100%-foreign invested: USD 1.25 Billion**  
**Joint venture: USD 1,17 Billion**  
**Business Cooperation Contract: USD 23.54 million**



Synthesis of registered FDI, categorised by sector