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GOVERNANCE FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAM (GIG)

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April 1 – June 30, 2014

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADB	ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
APS	ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENTS
ANSI	AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE
APD	ACADEMY FOR POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT
ASEAN	ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AUSAID	AUSTRALIAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CDI	CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION
CEMA	COMMITTEE FOR ETHNIC MINORITY AFFAIRS
CEPEW	CENTER FOR EDUCATION PROMOTION AND EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN
CFAW	COMMITTEE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN
CGFED	CENTER FOR GENDER, FAMILY AND ENVIRONMENT IN DEVELOPMENT
CIEM	CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT
CPP	CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PLAN
CSO	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION
CSIP	CENTER FOR SOCIAL INITIATIVE PROMOTION
DEPOCEN	DEVELOPMENT AND POLICIES RESEARCH CENTER
DFID	DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (U.K.)
DTA	DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
EM	ETHNIC MINORITY
FOG	FIXED OBLIGATION GRANT
FTA	FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
FPT	PRIVATE SECTOR ICT COMPANY
GAO	GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE (U.S.)
GVN	GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM
GIG	GOVERNANCE FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH
GLIN	GLOBAL LEGAL INFORMATION NETWORK
GPAR	GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM COOPERATION
GUC	GRANTS UNDER CONTRACT
IBP	INTERNATIONAL BUDGET PARTNERSHIP
IPL	INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND LAW
ISDS	INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

IPSARD	INSTITUTE OF POLICY AND STRATEGY ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
ISEE	INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES OF SOCIETY, ECONOMICS, AND ENVIRONMENT
KRA	KEY RESULT AREAS
LAA	LEGAL AID AGENCY
LANDA	LAND ALLIANCE
LGBT	LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER
LND	LEGAL NORMATIVE DOCUMENT
LURC	LAND USE RIGHTS CERTIFICATE
M&E	MONITORING AND EVALUATION
MOF	MINISTRY OF FINANCE
MOIT	MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE
MOJ	MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
MOLISA	MINISTRY OF LABOR, INVALIDS, AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
MOST	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
MP	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
MPI	MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INVESTMENT
NA	NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
NAFTA	NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AREA
NASC	NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE
ONA	OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
PMU	PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UNIT
PPP	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
Q	QUARTER
QPR	QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
RIA	REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT
RFA	REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
SAV	STATE AUDIT OFFICE OF VIETNAM
SO	SOCIAL ORGANIZATION
STAMEQ	DIRECTORATE FOR STANDARDS, METROLOGY, AND QUALITY OF VIETNAM
STTA	SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
TBT	TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE
TFA	TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT
TOT	TRAINING OF TRAINERS
TPP	TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

UNDP	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
USAID	UNITED STATE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
VCCI	VIETNAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
VJA	VIETNAM JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION
VUSTA	VIETNAM UNION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATIONS
VWU	VIETNAM WOMEN'S UNION
VWEC	VIETNAM WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS COUNCIL
WB	WORLD BANK
WIPPA	CENTER FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
WTO	WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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INTRODUCTION

Driven by USAID’s Country Development Cooperation Strategy for Vietnam 2014-2018, the USAID Governance for Inclusive Growth (GIG) program is USAID’s primary activity for cooperation with the public and private sectors in Vietnam. The program aims to enhance areas of governance expected to facilitate broader-based growth, with an emphasis on the legal framework and systems for accountability. Toward this goal and led by our prime counterpart, Ministry of Justice (MOJ), GIG supports the mandates of six key counterparts: MOJ, Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), National Assembly (NA), Ministry of Finance (MOF), State Audit Office of Vietnam (SAV), and Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI).

Working at the intersection of economic growth, governance, and civil society, GIG works in three distinct but integrated technical areas. These are:

- Component 1: Improving legal and regulatory frameworks through a dynamic, inclusive policy-making process.
- Component 2: Improving accountability of public institutions.
- Component 3: Improving inclusion and equality for marginalized groups.

This quarterly report describes significant impacts and key events for each of these technical areas during the period of April 1 through June 30, 2014, which is USAID’s Quarter 3 (Q3). This report also reflects on challenges and opportunities encountered during the course of implementation and looks to forthcoming activities in Q4.

The primary hallmark for the entire GIG team during the Q3 reporting period was approval of the Project Document by the MOJ Vice Minister, Dinh Trung Tung, on June 23. The Project Document serves as Vietnam’s official framework and reference for defining GIG’s technical objectives. Prior to the Vice Minister’s approval, the Steering Committee engaged in the drafting process to include GIG’s goal, key result areas (KRAs), organization and management, the process for annual work planning, implementation, and

reporting, as well as finances, grants, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). This document is the platform upon which the GIG team will work with key counterparts for the life of the GIG program through 2018 on activities such as those described in this report.

A significant technical milestone for the entire GIG team during the reporting period was finalization of the annual work plan on May 31. This document defines specific technical activities to be implemented by the GIG project team during Year 1, which ends on September 30, 2014. Many of the activities launched in Year 1 are anticipated for continuation in future years of GIG's technical assistance. With this fundamental roadmap in place, the final month of the reporting period was a springboard for GIG directors to launch several consultancies and events as initial steps to achieving GIG's expected results.

A second milestone was that the GIG team began settling into permanent office space in late May. The new office is located at 115 Tran Hung Dao (6th floor) in Hoan Kiem district, Hanoi. The space was designed with offices, meeting space, and equipment, and began to function as productive space for GIG staff, counterparts, and USAID representatives.

This reporting period was also marked by significant turnover in leadership. The original GIG program director departed Hanoi in the second half of June. USAID approved a new program director, Jonathan Simon, who is scheduled to arrive to post on August 8. An acting program director, Sarah Meyer, led the project from the last week of this reporting period until Mr. Simon's arrival in August, when she will return to Chemonics' home office in Washington, DC and continue to backstop the Hanoi-based team for the life of the project. In addition, the original director of both Components 1 and 2 departed post in May. For Component 1, Quang Phan continued as team director. For Component 2, short-term consultant, Margarita Seminario, served as acting director during the reporting period while a long-term replacement was competitively recruited. USAID approved a new Component 2 director, Brian Giacometti, who will arrive to post in early August.

The technical activities presented in this reporting period indicate a program in its technical nascence, wherein key documents were finalized, new leadership was designated, relationships were cultivated, and some significant events were launched. This quarter's work set a course for more rapid technical implementation in the forthcoming years.

SECTION I: PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS

Component 1 works in close coordination with Components 2 and 3 to support our Government of Vietnam (GVN) counterparts to improve legal and regulatory frameworks by identifying challenges, strengthening public consultation and engagement, and improving capacity for drafting, debating, and enactment.

COMPONENT 1: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3

During the reporting period, GIG's Component 1 team supported activities that cultivate an environment for sustainable reforms, planting seeds that raise public awareness and strengthen political will for change. With support from GIG, the MPI's Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) organized an event (CIEM001) in June to kick-start its technical assistance on improving the business environment in Vietnam and the country's competitiveness. The event was attended by almost 120 participants, including 69 from 19 government agencies, 13 from the business community and associations, and 35 from media. This event generated substantial interest in reducing the number of documents and time to pay taxes and clear Customs. Subsequent to this event, the Prime Minister visited the Vietnam Tax and Customs Departments and encouraged the two agencies to reduce to regional averages the time required to pay taxes and clear Customs. Following this event, Vietnamese press covered this issue quite extensively, impacting public opinion and raising expectations for these important reforms.

On another front, Component 1 supported the development of important trade commitments that will serve as a blue print for future reforms and modernization of Customs (CUST001). With GIG support, Vietnam Customs gathered views and opinions of key state agencies, international consultants, and local business representatives on classification of 41 Customs reform measures into three categories¹. Category A will be submitted to the World Trade Organization (WTO) at the end of July to meet Vietnam's obligation under the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), which was concluded in December 2013 and contains provisions for faster and more efficient Customs procedures through cooperation between Customs and other appropriate authorities on trade facilitation and Customs compliance issues. GIG discussed with Customs a set of specific technical assistance to realize these commitments and developed an action plan to enable Customs to track progress of specific Customs reforms.

¹ Category A will become effective immediately upon entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), which is expected to take place on July 31, 2015. Category B will be phased in according to a three-year timeframe. Category C will be phased in over five years with technical assistance from WTO. Categories B and C are to be submitted to the WTO upon entry into force of the TFA.

Component 1 also encouraged a sense of responsibility among NA decision-makers to understand the benefits and challenges of key trade agreements to facilitate positive impacts for the Vietnamese economy. During the reporting period, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the NA with the support of GIG organized workshops (NA001; NA002; VCCI001) on the role of the NA in negotiating and ratifying Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). The workshops were an opportunity for FTA negotiators and international and local experts to share their views with law makers on key issues in FTAs, including how Vietnam can benefit from and address challenges in the FTAs. Speakers at this event included the chief negotiators for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the former chief negotiators on Vietnam's accession to the WTO and bilateral trade agreements. In April, under activity NA001, GIG supported the attendance of a former Senator from Mexico, Silvia Hernandez, who shared her country's experiences with the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA). Following this event, the Foreign Affairs Committee asked for GIG's ongoing support to publish a book on FTAs as a quick reference for the NA to make better informed, critical decisions in reviewing and approving new general FTAs, including the highly anticipated TPP. The book will inform law makers of some of the key legal and institutional changes needed to implement these FTAs and thus help inform the law making process of the NA. The development and finalization of the book is an opportunity for GIG to build the capacity of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Department on technical issues in FTAs, such as labor and environment.

COMPONENT 1: KEY EVENTS IN Q3

Below are the key consultations that the GIG Component 1 team conducted during the reporting period with GVN counterparts and non-government partners, and their impact upon future programming.

Toward the goal of developing high-quality laws and regulations, the Component 1 team engaged the MOJ and non-state stakeholders in inventorying laws and regulations for GIG's support, as shown in Annex 1. During the reporting period, Component 1 started by developing key laws needed to implement the new Constitution, including:

- The Law on Laws, which revolutionizes Vietnam's law- and rule-making toward greater transparency, specialization, inclusiveness, and evidence-based policy making. GIG supported the drafting of a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) report on this law, by contracting a local consultant and facilitating a workshop (MOJ001) in June 2014. The RIA will be completed in August 2014.
- The Civil Code, which enhances citizens' rights, was a focal point for discussions between GIG and counterparts to determine the required technical assistance for developing a RIA for the Civil Code (Component 1 through MOJ009; Component 3 through MOJ008).
- The Law on Administrative Decisions introduces discipline and transparency in the making of administrative decisions and rulings. The use and abuse of administrative decisions, including official letters, is a challenge for developing a clear and transparent legal and regulatory framework and rule of law in Vietnam. GIG consulted with the MOJ Criminal and Administrative Legislation Department to plan activities in the forthcoming quarter.

Toward the goal of improving transparency of laws and regulations, the Component 1 team also facilitated collaboration between the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST's) Directorate for Standards, Metrology, and Quality of Vietnam (STAMEQ) on development of a work plan for capacity building, including assessment and upgrade of the IT system, training on international best practices on standard-setting procedures, and development of technical standards in certain sectors including health and cosmetics.

Toward the goal of establishing innovative partnerships to advance a clear legal and regulatory framework, GIG supported a workshop on developing new Customs-to-business partnerships for compliant traders and brokers (CUST002). Currently the authorized economic operator regime is only for large traders. As such, a significant number of smaller businesses, including woman-owned, are not included. Once adopted, the new mechanism will benefit traders and customs brokers that consistently follow the rules and meet the conditions for priority treatment. Customs organized the workshop to seek input of businesses on the design and criteria of the program. In May, GIG contracted international consultants, Leonard Ginocchi and James Sutton, to share their experiences and benefits of this program at U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service, among other international lessons learned (CUST001; CUST002).

During the reporting period, Component 1 reached agreements on action plans for technical assistance for several key activities to be delivered in Q4, including a RIA training-of-trainers for the MPI's Academy for Policy and Development (APD) (MPI002); a 2014 seminar for policy analysts of the APD (MPI003); and self-certification of origin with MOIT (MOIT003).

COMPONENT 1: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN Q3

No noteworthy challenges impacted Component 1 during the reporting period, beyond the delay in finalizing the Year 1 annual work plan. Following the approval of GIG's annual work plan, Component 1 launched discussions with several counterparts to develop a portfolio of activities to support ongoing and evolving reform efforts. Counterparts welcomed GIG's assistance, requesting both short-term support, as well as activities that will span several years during GIG's five-year life.

A very significant opportunity is, of course, the new Constitution and negotiation of new FTAs, such as the TPP, all of which intensify the need for reforms in Vietnam. This wind of change creates a very good environment for GIG to engage with counterparts on critical reforms to build a more inclusive and responsible Vietnam.

The emergence of the newly established Committee on Constitutional Implementation presents significant opportunities for GIG to offer specialized training on FTAs and related legal and regulatory revisions. The Component 1 team recognizes this rare conducive reform environment and will seize the opportunities at hand.

COMPONENT 1: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN Q4

GIG will move into full operations in Q4 with the following major activities:

Enhancing Vietnam Competitiveness: GIG will support CIEM and the Vietnamese agencies of tax, Customs, social insurance, and electricity to review the current number of procedures, documents, and time required to pay taxes, trade across border, and get electricity. GIG will engage an international consultant and assemble a team of local consultants and stakeholders to work with authorities to identify problems and propose solutions. Following the international consultancy, GIG will organize a series of survey visits to local tax and Customs offices and local businesses in selected provinces to promote understanding of the issues and work on implementation, both in terms of changing laws and regulations as well as adapting procedures and culture. The technical team consisting of representatives of CIEM and local non-state stakeholders will work to support authorities on implementation, progress monitoring, and actionable feedback. An important result of this work is a partnership between tax and customs authorities with business associations that participated in the implementation of the initiative. GIG will work with CIEM, tax, and customs authorities to develop a public outreach strategy to encourage and buttress this reform initiative.

Supporting Legal and Regulatory Reforms: GIG will support the development of major laws in support of the new Constitution, including the following activities:

- A workshop to review key issues for the RIA report of the Civil Code (MOJ003) and a series of consultation workshops with stakeholders, including vulnerable groups;
- A consultation workshop with lawyers and local legal offices on key issues for the RIA of the Law on Laws;
- A technical workshop on the Law on Administrative Decisions and a series of surveys and consultation workshops (MOJ016); and
- Exploration with the NA Law Committee to conceptualize a law forum to gather input from stakeholders on laws under review by the Committee and NA. The first forum may be organized in September 2014 to review the Law on NA and Law on Laws.

Component 1 will also plan to support the MOJ to develop a manual on codification to enable ministries and agencies to start codifying laws and regulations according to the ordinance and decree on codification that were developed with USAID technical assistance.

Also during Q4, Component 1 will support the MOJ's Agency for Administrative Procedure Control to conduct a survey and consultation workshop on how best to provide for administrative procedures in legal documents. GIG will support the MOJ to review an internal rule on organizational structure and delegation of authority to strengthen regulatory coordination. GIG will also work with consortium partner, Tulane Public Law Center, and Hanoi Law University to develop a partnership on legal reform and capacity building.

Supporting Trade Liberalization: GIG will support MOIT and Customs to develop several regulations and capacity-building activities that are important to facilitate trade liberalization, including:

- A series of surveys and consultation workshops on self-certification of origin (MOIT003);
- A series of surveys and consultation workshops on regulations on environmental protection in manufacturing and regulations and standards on unsafe goods (MOIT002);
- Three workshops to disseminate information on the benefits of the Bali package, which is the latest, significant agreement at the WTO to support development of the business community and local officials (MOIT001);
- Development of a reference book on FTAs to enhance understanding and awareness among members of parliament (MPs) about FTAs, especially on technical issues such as labor and environment (NA008);
- Support to Customs to develop capacity in risk management (CUST003), single window, etc. to modernize Customs to prepare for implementation of FTAs; and
- Review of STAMEQ's IT system from the perspective of meeting Vietnam's WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) commitment (STAM001).

Training on Evidence-based Policy Making: GIG will implement a number of activities to support evidence-based policy making. These activities include:

- A training-of-trainer activity on evidence-based policy making for teachers of the APD of MPI, Hue University, and Da Nang University (MPI002); and
- The seminar for policy analysts organized by MPI and delivered by a team of international and local instructors from the Fulbright Economic Teaching Program in Ho Chi Minh City (MPI003); and
- A training on evidence-based policy advocacy for interested civil society organizations (CSOs), as appropriate.

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The transition from central planning to a market economy requires Vietnam to tackle core challenges, including modernizing, strengthening, and developing public institutions such as the NA, to improve its oversight role; the State Audit of Vietnam, to improve its control and audit roles; and relevant ministries to increase transparency in policy development and implementation; hence, directly contributing to improved accountability of public institutions.

In order to achieve these goals, Component 2 is working in close coordination with Components 1 and 3 to support GIG's GVN counterparts to improve accountability of public institutions with a focus on improving communications and implementation, as well as oversight and evaluation.

COMPONENT 2: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3

During the third quarter of 2014, GIG's extensive consultations facilitated greater definition in the program's niche areas of technical assistance in key counterpart institutions. Component 2 focused front and center on the NA because this institution plays such a significant role in developing a transparent legal and regulatory framework, overseeing the Government to enhance accountability of public institutions, and in ensuring inclusive growth. Also, as a result of the constitutional reform process, the NA obtained well-defined formal powers that provide the constitutional basis for greater independence and a real opportunity to play a more substantive role in developing inclusive public policy and enhancing policy-making processes.

COMPONENT 2: KEY EVENTS IN Q3

In April, Component 2 fielded to Hanoi a senior legislative specialist, Margarita Seminario, to collaborate on a seminar (NA002) titled the Roles of the NA in Ratification and Implementation of FTAs, which placed a legislative development lens on the GIG Program. The findings of the assignment are available in the consultancy report that documents key entry points that contribute to increased legislative oversight and that delineates a programmatic way forward for GIG to work with the NA. The concrete result was a road map that advances, in tandem, the scope and expected results of the GIG Program and legislative modernization and strengthening. Furthermore, the consultant suggests in her report that this exact implementation approach -- legislative modernization and strengthening -- will yield program legacy results by moving forward quality implementing legislation for the TPP and by significantly strengthening the NA's ability to perform legislative oversight and law implementation more effectively.

This three-week exercise was the result of Component 2 organizing working meetings with every single department of the Office of the National Assembly (ONA), the Ethnic Affairs Council, the Institute for Legislative Studies, and the People's Petition's and Complaints Commission. This canvassing approach obtained very detailed information on the current

situation in the NA and provided the GIG team the opportunity to ground-truth the multiple requests received by GIG from the local partners through the MOJ.

This exercise contributed to informing the report but more importantly positioned the GIG Program as a trustworthy partner with technical depth in legislative development and with timely and relevant information and contacts worldwide that would be put to the service of the NA. Specific relevant examples include introducing the NA Library Department to the Law Library of the Library of the US Congress and the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN). Further, the GIG consultant provided information packages after a good number of meetings. The information included comparative tools, methods, and processes that strengthen parliamentary operations that contribute to more effective oversight; and information on e-parliament and technology applications that advance transparency and good governance in general and best practices from other countries – etc. In addition to the expected outcomes of quality and timely information that contributes to informing decision making, this action cultivated a great deal of good will with the NA staff.

The consultant was asked to return to Hanoi in mid-May, after participating in the biannual World E-Parliament Conference in Seoul, to meet with NA leadership and present findings. The findings were appreciated and deemed timely, specific, and well informed. These findings smoothly translated into scopes of work for activities that will be implemented in Q4.

In June following the departure of GIG's original Component 2 director, GIG appointed the same senior legislative specialist as Component 2 acting director, who launched a similar, but not nearly as comprehensive, ground-truthing exercise with GVN partners, including the General Affairs and Law Development Department of the MOJ; the Finance and Monetary Department of the MPI; and the International Cooperation Departments of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam and of the SAV.

Among the key events with GVN partners in Q3, Component 2 established linkages to promote information and peer-to-peer exchanges between the State Audit of Vietnam and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO); and, between the Library Department of the NA and the Law Library of the Library of Congress and the International Federation for Library Association. On the SAV-GAO relationship, the GAO's international programs department committed to identify current GAO employees available to support GIG activities and provide names of retired GAO employees who could consult; facilitate engaging SAV and GAO staff in subject-specific exchanges via Skype; and potentially host two SAV staff in to participate in the four-month long GAO auditor fellowship program in Washington, DC under the upcoming SAV001 activity. The librarian of the Law Library of the Library of Congress expressed great interest in welcoming the Library Department of the NA into the GLIN and conducting regular exchanges that would benefit both libraries.

Component 2 canvassed for partners in the non-governmental sphere to advance citizen participation and a more inclusive monitoring of policy implementation process. GIG identified a good number of potential future candidates but zeroed-in on two during Q3,

nurturing collaborative relationships with the Vietnam Journalists Association (VJA) and the Center for Development and Integration (CDI). The two were chosen for their potential to serve as local capacity builders and centers for excellence in their specific fields. The VJA is an umbrella organization that has a very well established training center through which GIG can conduct capacity building and engage journalists both at a national and regional level; hence improving accountability of public-sector actors, such as the MOJ, and increasing access to information on key legal normative documents (LND). CDI is the local partner of the International Budget Partnership (IBP) (<http://internationalbudget.org/>). The IBP is the worldwide hub and most effective network for global research and advocacy programs to promote public access to budget information and the adoption of accountable budget systems. GIG's strategy forward with CDI is to leverage the multi-donor effort, strengthen their capacity to transform them into a leading local capacity builder for other social organizations (SOs), and strengthen their knowledge-based research on transparency and accountability.

Finally, Component 2 made a point to meet with international actors including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Department for International Development (DfID), and World Bank (WB) among others to inform the international community of GIG's objective and planned work, learn about their priorities in strengthening public sector accountability, avoid duplication of effort, and leverage each other's investment in Vietnam. This effort was particularly useful in delineating and focusing GIG's technical assistance at the NA and SAV. For example, with the NA Finance and Budget Department, GIG decided to conduct budget analysis training to the staff that will be followed by complementary training by the WB Institute on the same subject. With SAV, the exercise of mapping ongoing interventions of international actors gave GIG a niche that is centered on the nuts and bolts of public sector auditing.

COMPONENT 2: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN Q3

A major challenge for Component 2 was the turnover in technical leadership. Following the departure of the original Component 2 director in April, USAID approved in June the transition of the short-term legislative specialist to acting Component 2 director to lead GIG's accountability initiatives. Component 2 got a very late start and, in consultation with USAID, conducted a ground-truthing exercise of the proposed activities by previous leadership. This latter element was time well spent because it identified necessary adjustments. This challenge also forced the Component 2 staff to prioritize resources strategically to cover ground with minimal staff and build a path to as many significant results as feasible within Q3 and early in Q4.

A second challenge has been in striking the right balance between introducing grants too early with launching this important work as soon as possible to complement technical assistance to government counterparts. Grants should, if at all possible, go hand-in-hand with internal institutional reforms in order to yield greater synergy and deliver higher-quality results through strategic partnerships with CSOs to increase transparency of policy implementation and improve citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation.

Externally, challenges include multiple donors in GIG's key counterpart institutions, which create a greater need to coordinate in order to avoid duplication. In the SAV, in particular, the Canadians, the European Union, the WB, and other donors are collaborating with the SAV. This causes a certain competition in practical terms. A positive side effect of this donor saturation is that it forces GIG to think strategically and to find its comparative advantages. For example, at SAV, GIG's advantage is that it can help bridge and establish a solid institutional relationship between the SAV and the GAO; hence, leaving in place a project legacy and operating a peer-to-peer exchange program, initially funded by GIG, but later self-sufficient, similar to the U.S. House of Representatives House Democracy Partnership with legislatures (www.hdac.house.gov).

The opportunities that emerged in Q3 were a direct result of GIG's Component 2 deep-dive approach and its focus on relationship-building with the NA, which has resulted in positioning GIG as a trusted partner with whom the institution is willing to discuss priorities and work comfortably side-by-side advancing key reforms in oversight. In a relatively short amount of time, similar relationships have been developed with the MOJ General Affairs and Law Development Department and the MPI's Finance and Monetary Department. With this firm foundation in place, GIG will collaboratively identify for Year 2 meaningful and very timely activities that contribute to institutional development objectives as well as the Program results. Further, Component 2 must reflect on these opportunities, draw lessons learned, and apply them to advance relationships with other relevant ministries and the International Cooperation Departments of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam and of the SAV.

Opportunities in program development come about through networking and having in place a good line of communication. Such is the case on contributing to possible amendments to the State Budget Law. The Finance and Monetary Department of MPI requested specific support to review the capital investment elements of the draft State Budget Law. GIG encouraged the staff leadership of MPI to inject an element of inclusion and equity into the review process. On a similar note, GIG was asked to train the Finance and Budget Department staff on the nuts and bolts of budget review and analysis. After some conversations with the department staff, an add-on element of the consultancy is to provide input to the draft State Budget Law on how to strengthen the oversight function of the Finance and Budget Committee by improving its staff capacity and its internal operations – a very similar process to the one that brought about the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 in the US. Finally, another such program development opportunity came about during conversations with the General Affairs and Law Development Department of the MOJ and its activity to disseminate the circular on law implementation at a sub-national level. Component 2 proposed doing an activity in parallel to that of the MOJ for journalists, through the VJA, that would entail both training the sub-national print journalists on skills to cover legal news stories more effectively and on the content of the MOJ circular on law implementation, hence contributing to more citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation.

COMPONENT 2: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN Q4

Efforts by Component 2 with regard to relationship building and delivering quality assistance will bear fruit in Q4. Some of the upcoming activities include:

- July 14-15 and 17-18: MOJ General Affairs and Law Development Department - Dissemination of Circular No.14/2014/TT-BTP in Hue and Binh Duong. The total number of participants is estimated at 300, including staff from General Affairs in the Law Development Department of the MOJ; legal staff from the provincial Departments of Justice; staff from the district's Judicial Division; staff from provincial Departments of Industry and Trade, Health, Agriculture and Rural Development; and close to 50 journalists representing about 30 provinces (MOJ007).
- July 21: MPI Finance and Monetary Department – the State Budget Law and Capital Investment in Hanoi. Total participants are estimated at 100, including MPI national and sub-national level staff representing 27 provinces; staff representatives from the Office of the Government, relevant ministries, the NA Finance and Budget Committee, the State Bank of Vietnam, and the National Finance Supervision Committee. International actors are also invited, including USAID, WB, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and DFID (MPI001).
- July 28-30: NA Finance and Budget Department – Strengthening the NA Budget Oversight Capacity in Da Nang. The total estimated number of participants is 30, including the Finance and Budget Department staff, ONA/committee department staff who conduct the budget review, Office of the MP delegation in Da Nang staff, Office of People's Council staff, Budget Staff of the Department of the Central Highland Affairs in Da Nang, and an MP delegation in Quang Nam (NA003).
- July-September: GIG will collaborate with the Library Department of the ONA to design, develop, and implement a comprehensive legislative library reference information technology solution called Instant Support System. The Instant Support System will serve as a reference one-stop shop for NA deputies and staff and will make available quality, reliable, and timely information almost instantly that will support oversight and legislation functions and directly contribute to a more effective and inclusive policy analysis and ultimately a more inclusive policy-making process (NA005).
- July-September: GIG will collaborate with the Oversight Support Department of the ONA to draft the implementation tools and methods for all the oversight mechanisms outlined in the NA including oversight hearings, question period, etc. (NA010).
- July-September: GIG will work with the CDI to strengthen their internal capacity to serve as a knowledge organization and to serve as a local capacity builder for

other SOs to improve the SO's capacity to play a more effective role in policy making and contribute to a culture of transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness.

- July-October: SAV International Cooperation Department – GIG is aiming to support two Vietnamese staff of SAV to participate in the four-month GAO Auditor Fellowship Program in 2015. This investment will be directly linked to advancing specific elements of the SAV strategic plan. During GIG's Quarter 4 (July–September), GIG will work with SAV management to tailor the participants' class projects to target advancing public sector accountability challenges currently faced by the SAV (SAV001).
- August-September: Assess potential collaboration with the NA Judicial Committee and the Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Government Inspectorate.

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS

Component 3 works in close coordination with Components 1 and 2 to ensure GIG builds inclusive and sustainable partnerships throughout this process. Component 3 also draws on Component 1 and 2 results to integrate the issues facing women, ethnic minorities, and other traditionally disadvantaged groups, from analyzing policy impact on women to tailoring communications to consider the needs of minorities in rural areas.

COMPONENT 3: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3

Throughout the reporting period, Component 3 supported the delicate process of building a foundation of trust between CSOs and government departments in policy dialogues and legal drafting processes. Following a series of GIG-sponsored meetings focused on revisions to the Civil Code (MOJ008), Mr. Tran Huu Huynh, member of the MOJ Drafting Committee of the Civil Code remarked, “We are encouraging social organizations to provide input and recommendations to the government while we draft the revised Civil Code to reflect the voices of disadvantaged groups, and to ensure an inclusive law making process.” Participants in this series of meetings included a representative from the MOJ drafting committee and CSOs, think tanks, lawyers, and mass organizations², who shared perspectives of the most vulnerable groups (women; ethnic minority [EM]; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender [LGBT]; people living with HIV/AIDS; and the disabled). Initial dialogues resulted in a position paper for the RIA of the Code that illustrates the requirements from the CSOs on different issues to be mainstreamed into the revised Code, such as citizen rights for vulnerable groups, the right to association, the right to have protection in court, etc. This input may be actualized in the revised Civil Code. This collaboration strengthened positive perceptions of value derived from an inclusive code-drafting process, as Vietnam embarks on several other legal and regulatory revisions.

² iSEE, ISDS, IPL, CEPEW, LERES, VWU, FA, CDI, PLD, CEMA

COMPONENT 3: KEY EVENTS IN Q3

On June 30, GIG brought together leading CSOs, research institution, activists and mass organizations (e.g. iSEE, ISDS, IPL, CEPEW, VWU, Farmer Association³) to discuss issues to focus on for the Civil Code and ways to further enhancing citizen's rights in the Civil Code (MOJ008). The meeting was facilitated by one representative of the Civil Code Drafting Committee and Dr. Vu Cong Giao, a Fulbright Scholar in Law. Dr. Vu was recruited to help review of the Civil Code, facilitate different roundtable meetings with selected CSOs, and consolidate their inputs on the vulnerable groups' citizen rights into a position paper. This paper will be sent to the Drafting Committee of the Civil Code and related stakeholders.

Component 3 met with related departments of MOJ (the Legal Aid Department, Committee for the Advancement of Women [CFAW]; Legal Dissemination and Education Department, Institute for Legal Science), NA (Social Affairs Committee, Library, Council for EM), Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs (MOLISA) (Department for Gender Equality, Department for Social Vices Prevention), and the Committee for EM Affairs (CEMA) (International Department). In addition to obtaining ideas and needs to promote inclusion in requested activities and to find new niches for GIG, Component 3 used GIG's KRAs as a framework for discussion among these stakeholders about inclusiveness. The team also provided technical inputs to MOJ and the NA departments and committees to bring inclusiveness into their proposed activities (e.g. bringing CSOs into the dialogues for citizen's participation in local governance (MOJ)) and mapping of social feedback mechanisms for utility of MPs (NA Library).

During this quarter, the Component 3 team also conducted more than 17 meetings with SOs, SO coalitions, research institutes, and mass organizations. The purpose of these meetings was to synthesize new policy issues and policy advocacy approaches, create networking opportunities for organizations, and identify a pool of potential partners for the implementation of related activities throughout the life of the GIG program.

COMPONENT 3: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN Q3

The primary challenge during the reporting period is that CSOs are unclear about how to respond to a grant. They require basic training and support to demonstrate capacity to manage grant funding.

Many opportunities are presented due to the fact that the MOJ and NA staff are young, highly educated, and open, and they are looking forward to having technical support to make a difference through their work. They have high respect for GIG's technical inputs and are open to GIG's suggestions. Similarly, SOs have the resources, expertise, and proven approaches to fulfill their missions and work on policy advocacy, social entrepreneurship development, gender and diversity promotion, women's empowerment,

³ Institute for Studies of Society, Economics, and Environment; Institute for Social Development Studies; Institute for Public Policy and Law; Center for Education Promotion and Empowerment of Women; Vietnam Women's Union.

legal aid support, policy research, and business skill development. They will be strong partners for GIG to implement activities to empower vulnerable groups.

COMPONENT 3: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN Q4

Component 3 will focus its efforts during the upcoming quarter on the following:

- Bringing the full extent of inclusiveness to GIG's three technical components: Mrs. Roselle Agner will come in the month of August 2014 to facilitate the process to make inclusiveness more mainstreamed and explicit for the Year 2 work plan for all Components. This will assist all three teams to design support activities that incorporate inclusiveness (GIG005).
- Bringing gender expertise into law making and women empowerment: An local legal/gender expert will help MOJ mainstream gender into law making processes using legal background and approaches. This assignment, in coordination with the MOJ Committee for Women Advancement, is targeted for September 2014 and will focus on a mapping exercise of gender mainstreaming procedures and a workshop for CFAW staff on gender mainstreaming in law making (MOJ002).
- CSOs contribution to the drafting of the Civil Code: Component 3 will continue the roundtable meeting series in July 2014 and finalize the position paper to send to the Civil Code Drafting Committee and related agencies. This position paper will lay the groundwork for GIG to continue to work with Component 1 on other related laws (MOJ008).
- Effective participation of citizens in local governance: A consultative meeting will be organized with CSOs on the participation of citizens in local governance and the conditions for effective mechanisms that facilitate citizens to participate in local governance. The results of this meeting will be documented and presented in a GIG support event to MOJ on similar topic (also MOJ008).
- Bringing social work skills into legal aids services: Component 3 will provide support to the MOJ Legal Aid Agency (LAA) to consult with CSOs and public agencies in September 2014 on international and national practices, mechanisms and procedures that utilize social work skills in legal aid activities (legal counseling, identification of target groups, screening of social status, reconciliation, etc.) to vulnerable groups (MOJ014).
- Making the access to judicial systems more effective: Component 3 will provide support to MOJ to have highly diversified expert input through public consultation (in August and September 2014) for the finalization of a training manual that defines (a) the standards for legal access of local citizens (commune, township, living unit), and (b) measurements for performance evaluation and rewards for all levels involved (communes, district, cities) for providing adequate legal access to citizens. The training manual will cover eight criteria and 41 indicators to measure

effectiveness and efficiency in solving administrative and legal cases, legal document making, legal awareness raising and dissemination, legal aid support, grassroots democracy, access to legal services, mechanism that serve public services provision and availability of infrastructure for legal access. Following the finalization of the manual will be a series of TOT training for a pilot group of trainers in a selected province on how to use the manual to start the assessment process (MOJ012).

- Mapping of social feedback mechanisms and civil society coalitions: Component 3 will support the National Library to map and document all social feedback mechanisms and CSO coalitions available in Vietnam. These maps will be shared with all MPs and people's elected bodies to make use of these mechanisms during public consultation processes. This activity is expected to be carried out in September 2014 (NA006).
- Women's empowerment: Component 3 will support the Vietnam Women Entrepreneurs Council (VWEC) to facilitate an empowerment process for women leaders of enterprises through series of workshops to provide valuable updates, information and know-how through multilateral discussions on trade integration and issues/opportunities/challenges of the new markets relating to institutional (current policy and laws) and organizational (corporate governance) levels (VCCI002).
- Legal awareness-raising: Component 3 will facilitate a land-rights campaign to set the foundation for the development of an effective mobile legal training program. This activity was initially planned as a communication program to be carried out by a civil society grantee. Should it be realized as a grant under contract (GUC), competition will be generated through the release of RFA001. Other approaches can be explored with the LAA; recently the LAA launched a project to reform legal aid activities, which require innovative approaches in mobile legal training and awareness-raising.

SECTION II: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

COORDINATION WITH GVN COUNTERPARTS AND THE PMU

GIG engages with its six GVN counterparts through a centralized Project Management Unit (PMU), appointed by the Minister of MOJ. The PMU coordinates outgoing requests, with the Deputy Director General of the MOJ International Cooperation Department, Mr. Bạch Quốc An, serving as GIG's primary point of contact. GIG's Deputy Program Director is responsible for coordinating with the PMU.

The MOJ chairs the PMU Program Steering Committee, an entity established to provide high-level guidance and input to the program with USAID involvement. The GIG Program Director oversees this process, and serves to provide technical input, programmatic direction, and strategic guidance for GIG activities and partner stakeholders.

During the reporting period, GIG worked with the PMU to finalize the official Project Document, resulting in approval by the MOJ Vice Minister, Dinh Trung Tung, on June 23. The Project Document serves as Vietnam's official framework and reference for defining GIG's technical objectives. This document is the platform upon which the GIG team will work with key counterparts for the life of the GIG program (through 2018) on activities such as those described in this report.

The PMU also provided GIG with a plan for technical activities to be included in 2014.

CONTRACT DELIVERABLES

Contract deliverables submitted to USAID during the reporting period include:

- Grants Manual: Approval received April 29, 2014.
- Year One Work Plan: Approval received on May 31, 2014.
- Contract Performance Plan (CPP): Approval received on May 31, 2014.
- M&E Plan: Approval received on May 31, 2014.

Annex 1: Laws, Regulations to be Supported by GIG

Status of Legislative and Regulatory Changes Supported by GIG (as of June 30, 2014)				
No	Legislation/Regulation	Responsible Authority	Status	Expected Review / Adoption
1.	Consolidated Law on Laws	MOJ	A local consultant was identified to work with the MOJ on finalizing the RIA report. A first workshop on RIA for the Law on Laws was conducted. The current draft and RIA report proposed major changes to the current practice that would strengthen significantly evidence-based policy making and specialization of the drafting function.	November 2014 / May 2015
2.	Revised Civil Code	MOJ	Discussed with MOJ a technical assistance program to support the development of the RIA and engagement of CSOs in the process.	November 2014 / May 2015
3.	Revised Law on NA	NA	GIG has not started working on this.	May 2014 / November 2014
4.	Revised Law on NA Oversight	NA	GIG has not started working on this.	May 2015 / November 2015 (not yet confirmed)
5.	Revised Law on State Audit	SAV	GIG discussed with SAV technical assistance on this Law, but has not implemented any activity.	May 2015 / November 2015

6.	Revised Budget Law	NA, MOF, MPI	GIG discussed with NA, MPI some technical assistance on developing this Law and capacity building activities.	November 2014 / May 2015
7.	Law on Local Government	NA	GIG has not started working on this.	November 2014 / May 2015
8.	Law on Administrative Decisions	MOJ	GIG discussed with MOJ a plan for technical assistance on this Law to strengthen transparency and discipline in the use of administrative decisions and rulings. CSOs will be encouraged to participate in the policy development of this Law.	
9.	Customs-Business Partnership Rule	MOF	GIG discussed with Customs technical assistance for developing a customs-business partnership. In May 2014, GIG conducted a first workshop in Hanoi on the proposed rule on the compliant-trader program and customs broker program with participation of over 100 local and foreign businesses and two international consultants provided by GIG.	2014
10.	Implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement (Submission of Category A to WTO in July 2014.)	MOF	In May 2014, GIG supported customs to conduct a four-day intensive workshop on classifying 41 trade facilitation measures under the TFA into Category A, B and C ⁴ . Vietnam submitted its Category A before July 31, 2014 but WTO members could not agree on a protocol.	July 2014
11.	Revised Enterprise and Investment Law	MPI	GIG has not started working on this. Under the work plan approved by the Steering Committee, this activity was excluded.	November 2014
12.	Rule on Self-certification of Origin	MOIT	GIG has discussed with MOIT a plan for technical assistance.	2014

⁴ Category A is supposed to be submitted on or before July 31, 2014 and these measures will become effective upon entry into force of the TFA in July 2015. Categories B and C will have a longer phase-in period, and Category C will be phased in with technical assistance.

13.	Implementing Regulations on Law on Public Procurement	MPI	GIG has not started working on this. This activity is excluded from the work plan approved by the Steering Committee.	2014-15
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Annex 2: GIG long-term personnel – Level of effort totals, used, and balance (Person days)

Position	Name	Q3 Total LOE	Total LOE Expended through June 2014	Total LOE Remaining
Chief of Party	Fernando Bertoli	61.02	125.04	1,174.96
Deputy Chief of Party	Pham Hoai Giang	65.01	126.35	1,173.65
<i>Legal, Regulatory and Competitiveness Team (ER 1)</i>				
Legal, Regulatory and Competitiveness Director	Phan Quang	45.34	68.34	1,188.66
Senior Legal and Regulatory Advisor	TBD	0	0	1,285.00
Trade Facilitation Specialist	Vu Phuong	65.01	112.35	1,167.65
Trade Policy Specialist	Le Sy Giang	65.01	97.68	1,182.32
Senior Economist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Legal Expert	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
<i>Public Financial Management and Accountability Team (ER2)</i>				
Public Financial Management and Accountability Director	Pham Do Chi	17	77	1,208.00
Public Sector Accountability Manager	Nguyen Thi Xuan Hoa	19	48.67	1,236.33
Public Auditing Specialist (KPMG)	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
NA Specialist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
IT Systems Specialist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Capacity Building Specialist	Tran Ngoc Mai	65.01	81.01	1,198.99

<i>Inclusive Growth Team (ER 3)</i>				
Inclusive Growth Director	Vu Thu Hong	65.01	118.35	1,166.65
Inclusive Policy Specialist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Citizen Participation Specialist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Capacity Building Specialist	Nguyen Thi Loi	65.01	115.35	1,164.65
Civil Society Specialist	Phung Thi Van Anh	63.84	114.68	1,165.32
Civil Society Specialist	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
<i>Operations, Grants, and Partnerships Team</i>				
Operations, Grants, and Partnerships Director	Noel Martinez	65.01	126.03	1,163.97
Grants and Partnerships Manager	Nguyen Thi Thanh Loc	66	66	1,214.00
Grants Officer	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Private Sector Partnerships Officer	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Office Manager	An Hong Nhung	65.01	81	1,204.00
Finance Manager	Dinh Thu Trang	65.01	123.34	1,161.66
Bookkeeper	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
IT Support	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Administrative Officer	Nguyen Viet Phuong	66.01	66.01	1,213.99
Administrative Officer	Tran Thu Huong	61.34	61.34	1,218.66
Translator	Nguyen Thi Kim Thanh	57.34	57.34	1,202.66
<i>Technical Support Team</i>				
M&E Manager	Hoang Thi Thanh Mai	65.01	81.01	1,198.99
M&E Coordinator	TBD	0	0	1,280.00
Senior Communications Manager (OSC)	Rosie Makepeace	0	0	520.00
Communications Specialist	Pham Thai Hong Van	12	12	1,268.00
Totals:		1119	1758.89	42,318.11

Annex 3: GIG short-term assignments by expected result (ER) and level of effort approved and used (Person days)

Position	Name	ER Code	Q3 Total LOE	Approved LOE	Total LOE Remaining	Details
Trade Facilitation Specialist	Leonard Ginocchi	ER 1	13	14	1	Customs/WTO TFA
Trade Facilitation Specialist	James Sutton	ER 1	12.38	14	1.62	Customs/WTO TFA
Legislative Expert	Silvia Hernandez	ER 2	10	12	2	
Legislative Strengthening Specialist / Interim ER 2 Director	Margarita Seminario	ER 2	64	93	29	Total LOE as consultant under NA002 and Interim ER 2 Director
Acting Program Director	Sarah Meyer	ER 1-3	10.01	44	33.99	
Totals:			109.4	177	67.61	

Annex 4: GIG DTA Activities Implemented and Estimated Counterpart Contribution

During the second quarter of operations, GIG implemented eight programmatic DTA activities with two main counterparts (MOJ and NA) and three subsidiary counterparts (VCCI; CIEM; Customs). These activities are further detailed in the table below.

A total of 536 participants attended GIG events (seminars, workshops, conferences) during the reporting period. Of these participants, 39 percent were women. The majority of participants considered the events to have been a valuable experience. The proportion of participants assessing the events as “good” to “excellent” represented 84 percent of the total. Nearly 80 percent of participants noted that the events’ objectives were achieved or mostly achieved.

Post-event evaluations asked participants to rate the relevance of the events’ technical content and applicability of transferred knowledge and skills. Nearly 80 percent of participants on average selected “yes” or “mostly yes” when asked if the technical content had “relevance to your work.” Most agreed that they would be able to apply newly acquired knowledge and skills in their day-to-day work. For instance, the deputies attending the Seminars on the Roles of NA intended to apply the new knowledge in negotiation and ratification of the FTAs. Government representatives expressed their intention to review policies and laws related to FTAs. Representatives from the business community showed interest in TPP and how to take advantage of the benefits it will bring.

Participants were also asked to rate the quality of the events. The ratings for speakers were the highest of all, with 93 percent of participants rating speakers/trainers as “good” to “excellent.” The ratio of participants selecting “good” or “excellent” for quality of materials was 83 percent, and the corresponding percentage for quality of discussions was 72 percent. With regard to quality of organization (time, location, lodging, board, transport), nearly 90 percent of participants on average rated from “good” to “excellent.”

Post-activity evaluations also solicited participants’ recommendations for future GIG-supported events. Some participants recommended a longer duration for workshops and greater allocation of time for discussion and case studies. Also, participants suggested more sharing of experience by international experts and participation of SOs representing vulnerable populations. Many participants reported that they would benefit from follow-up workshops and activities, and support on specific action plans and putting new knowledge into practice

Annex 5: DTA Activity Progress Report

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
1.1. High-quality laws and regulations developed				
MOJ001	1.1	Workshops on RIA for Law on Laws	On-Going	In-Progress
MOJ009	1.1	Technical workshops on RIA for Civil Code for 5 or 6 people at GIG Office	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress
MOJ003	1.1	Technical workshops on RIA report and policy issues for the Civil Code Amendment	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress
MOJ016	1.1	Support on law on administrative decisions including Provision of International expert, survey and consultation with state and non-stake holders, technical workshops to review draft. Teams 1 and 3 will work together. (Possibly involving Jacobs & Associates)	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
CUST001	1.1	Provide capacity building for Vietnam Customs/ MOF to deliver notification obligations under recent WTO TFA (Category A), and formulate Category B and C commitments of Vietnam, supporting Vietnam to implement its measures and commitments under the TFA.	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
CUST003	1.1	Provide follow-up technical assistance to Customs to strengthen their capacity in key areas to implement the TFA including risk management and institutional coordination in implementation of single window. (Jerry Malmo)	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MOIT003	1.1	Rule of Origin. Support MOIT and facilitate dialogue with stakeholders to develop regulations on self-certification of Certificates of Origin (C/O) to prepare Vietnam for FTA implementation. Support the development of legal documents and strengthen capacity to implement origin self-certified mechanisms in an ASEAN pilot program.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
NA001	1.1	Roles of the NA in the Ratification and Implementation of FTAs	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed
NA008	1.1	Publication of materials on FTAs including key issues such as the environment and labor.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
VCCI001	1.1	Businesses Competitiveness and Free Trade Agreements: Expectations and Lessons Learned	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed
1.2. Policy development processes improved				
MPI003	1.2	Design and develop Seminar for Young Policy Analysts to enhance their capacity to research and develop evidence-based policy options. Jim Riedel.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
CIEM001	1.2	Workshop(s) on improving the business environment and enhancing national competitiveness	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
CIEM002	1.2	Support MPI's CIEM and partners to implement Resolution 19 to enhance competitiveness and strengthen the business environment. This would involve hiring of international and local experts, building partnership with local business associations, supporting workshops and field trips.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MOJ017	1.2	Support the MOJ to review the regulation on the organizational structure of the MOJ to strengthen specialization of duties and regulatory coordination.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MPI004	1.2	Support MPI's APD to develop a master program in public policy on a cost sharing basis with Portland State University. GIG will partially fund development of the program.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
MOJ018	1.2	Support MOJ to develop guidelines on incorporating administrative procedures in draft LNDs.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
1.3 Information systems and evidence-based analysis for policymaking improved				
MPI002	1.3	Support RIA training for policy analysts and advocates, and assess the need for institutionalizing RIA training at universities and training institutions.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MOIT002	1.3	Support MOIT to study and review policies and regulations regarding environmental protection in industrial and manufacturing production and study to review and propose List of Regulations on Standard for unsafe goods (Category II) developed by the MOIT up to 2020.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
1.4. Transparency of laws and regulations improved				
MOJ005	1.4	Assist MOJ to conduct training and workshop on codification and development of a manual on codification.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
MOIT001	1.4	Assist MOIT to disseminate WTO Bali package documents to related stakeholders and the business community.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
STAM001	1.4	Assess need for upgrading database system for Vietnam TBT Office to enhance transparency in TBT related market access; support to improve capacity for officials of the TBT Vietnam Office.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
1.5. Public consultation and stakeholder engagement mechanisms strengthened				
MOJ004		Support MOJ to hold a workshop seeking input on the draft Decree on commercial mediation.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
1.6. Innovative partnerships to advance a clear legal and regulatory framework established				
NA009	1.6	Establish the Golden Speaker Series, bringing together Vietnam's leaders, policy makers and citizens with world-renowned thinkers and leaders to share their views and perspectives in this corporate sponsored program. In Year One develop relationships with formal counterparts and partners and formulate an action plan.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
MOJ020	1.6	Develop an academic partnership between Vietnamese law schools and Tulane Law School to develop curriculum and train staff in legal drafting and development. In Year One, explore cooperation with Hanoi Law University and other law schools as appropriate.	Jul-Sept 2014	Not yet started
CUST002	1.6	Technical assistance provided to help strengthen the relationship between Vietnam Customs and the business community to facilitate their business and operations in all activities related to Customs issues including: completing the legal framework to promote the development of Customs-to-business partnership, and supporting the implementation of partnership programs with AEOs, compliant traders, and Customs brokers.	Apr-Jun 2014	In-Progress

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
2.1. Government oversight processes strengthened				
NA002	2.1	Margarita Seminario consultancy. Develop the GIG Action Plan with NA departments and committees focusing on oversight functions and capacity building needs.	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed
	2.1	Assess potential cooperation with the NA Judicial Committee and Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Government Inspectorate to support anti-corruption efforts.	Apr-Jun 2014	Completed
NA010	2.1	Support NA Committees/Departments through trainings and technical assistance to develop oversight tools to strengthen hearings or accountability sessions, oversight and consultation process and improve oversight skills.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
	2.1	Provide technical assistance through workshops or dialogue to support the amendment of State Audit Law in coordination with Component 1, to provide the legal foundation for a more effective and 'independent' State Audit as envisaged by the Constitution.	Apr-Jun 2014	Cancelled
SAV002	2.1	Create a draft action plan in collaboration with SAV focusing on the status of public auditing standards relative to ISSAI (International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions), capacity building for performance audits, and building a collaborative relationship with The International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)	Apr-Jun 2014	In-Progress
SAV001	2.1	GAO Fellows. Facilitate a partnership between the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) and SAV. In Year One, two SAV auditors will register for upcoming GAO training in the US.	Apr-Jun 2014	Preparing

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
NA011	2.1	Develop a concept note with GVN counterparts, including MOJ, MOF, and MOIT to identify collaborative program approach for Years 2-5.	Apr-Jun 2014	Delayed
2.2. Citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation strengthened				
MOJ007	2.2	Provide technical assistance and capacity building to support MOJ to improve its capacity in law implementation monitoring by building partnership with non-government stakeholders.	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress
	2.2	Provide a grant to support an anti-corruption survey by Toward Transparency.	Apr-Jun 2014	Cancelled
2.3. Transparency on policy implementation effectiveness increased				
NA003	2.3	Provide technical assistance and training to the Committee/Department on Finance and Budget to strengthen the NA budget oversight process and improve capacity of its Department on Budget Analysis and Budget Oversight, based on the model of the US Congressional Budget Office.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MPI001	2.3	Provide technical assistance to Finance and Monetary Department of Ministry of Planning and Investment to give inclusive inputs to revised State Budget Law and enhance the effectiveness of capital investment financed by State budget to improve the amendment of State Budget Law.	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
2.4. Quality of information and analysis for evaluating policy implementation effectiveness improved				
NA005	2.4	Support the NA Library to develop a comprehensive IT application for NA deputies and staff to make accessible evidence to support oversight and legislation functions, including disaggregated data on gender and vulnerable groups (in collaboration with KRA 1.3).	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
Possible GUC	2.4	Support SOs through GUC to undertake assessments of policy implementation such as impact analyses of public policies on affected groups, especially women, ethnic minorities, and vulnerable groups.	Apr-Jun 2014	Delayed
2.5. Quality of the media's reporting on policy implementation improved				
Possible GUC	2.5	Provide grant to VJA or similar organization to design, develop and implement training modules on budget process and other key inclusive policy issues to journalists.	Apr-Jun 2014	Delayed
2.6. Innovative partnerships to advance improved accountability of public institutions established				
		No activities in Year One.		

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
3.1. Legal and regulatory barriers for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' equality reduced				
MOJ015	3.1	Support GPAR to conduct roundtable discussion with targeted agencies working on policy advocacy, EM, LGBT, gender equality on policy issues/legal barriers that hinder vulnerable groups.	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress
	3.1	Support MOJ's Institute of Legal Science (ILS) policy forum on mechanisms for citizen participation in local governance. Inputs and findings from GPAR Roundtable presented to government, private sector, mass organization, SOs, researchers and think tanks.	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress
MOJ002	3.1	"Gender mainstreaming into law". Support MOJ assessment of current procedures to mainstream gender into law making at different levels. Assess gender mainstreaming in law making processes to bring gender equality into making of LNDs, and propose guidelines to implement gender mainstreaming in legal drafting per the Law on Laws.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
	3.2	The activity will be "Training on gender equality and women advancement for CFAW (MOJ) staff or judicial cum gender staff in judicial sector" as proposed in Project Document approved by MOJ	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
GUC (RFA001)	3.1	Launch the “I know my land rights” campaign and contest to expand legal awareness among women and ethnic groups.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MOJ012	3.1	Support MOJ to develop guiding manual for use by local government on legal access for citizens.	Jul-Sept 2014	Delayed
3.2. Women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' participation and voice in policy dialogue increased				
NA006	3.2	Mapping all current feeding back mechanisms that different social organizations representing GIG target groups are using to do policy advocacy (not included as an activity in WP by mistake, but mentioned in expected result 2 of KRA 3.2)	Jul-Sept 2014	Delayed
	3.3	Map SOs, coalitions or partnerships working together on land rights, ethnic minority issues, gender equality, policy advocacy, women’s empowerment, social enterprise promotion, women’s entrepreneurship development, and their database systems.	Jul-Sept 2014	Delayed
MOJ008	3.2	Consultation meetings and position paper from CSOs in support of the drafting of the Civil Code	Jul-Sept 2014	In-Progress

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
3.3. Data and analysis on women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups improved				
VCCI002	3.3	Conduct a workshop with VVEC in South Vietnam on economic and business integration knowledge and practices to women entrepreneurs featuring presentations, dialogue, information and analysis of TPP and AFC and related challenges, requirements and opportunities.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
CANCELLED.	3.3	Conduct a workshop for 30 VVEC board and staff members on Council management, network management, working with multiple stakeholders, corporate governance, TPP, gender and gender equality, and policy advocacy.	Apr-Jun 2014	Cancelled
VCCI003	3.3	Provide training to VVEC to improve its database on women entrepreneurs to strengthen membership, support policy advocacy and establish links to the GSO database on women entrepreneurs.	Jul-Sept 2014	Delayed

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
3.4. Access to economic opportunity for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups improved				
Possible GUC	3.4	Support CEMA to develop sustainable and community-based business models for EM (on tourism, herbal medicines and handicrafts) through a skill transfer process (business establishment and marketing) conducted by a social enterprise. (CEMA not CIEM as put in WP)	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing
MOJ014	3.4	Consultative meetings with MOLISA, VWU and SOs to identify models for social protection (legal and mental counseling, social work and information access) to target issues of vulnerability, risk and deprivation facing traditionally disadvantaged communities in remote areas. These issues may include domestic violence, land deprivation, working in harmful informal sectors, social discrimination due to sexual orientation or being transgendered.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS				
Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail	Timeframe	Status
3.5. Innovative partnerships to advance women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' inclusion established				
NA007	3.5	Facilitate a partnership between a SO working on LGBT or disability, NA and FPT (Vietnam's largest Vietnamese information technology company) to digitalize NA documents (meeting proceedings, state apparatus, legislation, research reports, legal and policy projects) in the e-library of the NA.	Jul-Sept 2014	Preparing