



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1968
ON THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

VIET-NAM PROJECT (0038)



1. Summary

INDEXED

Donations to the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion (VFHP) towards the financing of the project were received during the year from the Government of the United States of America (\$ 1 000 000) and the Government of the Netherlands (\$ 100 000).

1.2 The plan of operation for the project was signed in Manila on 24 November 1968 by Dr Tran Lu-Y, Minister of Health, Social Welfare and Relief, representing the Government of Viet-Nam, and Dr Francisco J. Dy, Regional Director, representing WHO.

1.3 Following the signing of the plan of operation, the Government commenced negotiations to obtain a suitable site for the Institute and began the process of drawing up the necessary decree relating to the official establishment of the Institute. WHO on its part initiated recruitment procedures to obtain staff as soon as possible.

2. Background information

2.1 WHO consultant's report recommending establishment of an Institute

The Government of Viet-Nam, following on the report of Dr K. P. Chen, WHO consultant in 1966-67, recommending the establishment of an Institute of Public Health in Viet-Nam to train various categories of health workers, decided to support the setting-up of such an Institute. Upon indications that the Governments of the United States of America and of the Netherlands were interested in giving substantial financial support towards the creation of the Institute, WHO then entered into discussions with these Governments and the Government of Viet-Nam to reach some general agreement on the outline of the proposed project.

2.2 Donations of Governments of the United States of America and Netherlands to the project

On 30 April 1968, WHO was informed by the United States Representative to the European Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations of the willingness of his Government to grant \$ 1 000 000 in the form of an irrevocable letter of credit to WHO as a contribution to the VFHP to be used in supporting the establishment of the Institute for the training of medical and paramedical personnel in the field of public health. A condition of the grant was that a contribution from some other source than the Government of the United States of America must also be made towards the project within ninety days after issuance of the letter of credit, otherwise, the Government of the United States of America and WHO were bound to consult on the amendment or termination of their agreement.

2.3 On 21 May 1968, WHO was informed by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Office of the United Nations in Geneva and other International Organizations, of his Government's willingness to contribute \$ 500 000 to WHO through the VFHP. It was indicated that the Netherlands contribution would be paid in five yearly instalments of US\$ 100 000.

UGE/69.1

The issue of this document does not constitute formal publication. It should not be reviewed, abstracted or quoted without the agreement of the World Health Organization. Authors alone are responsible for views expressed in signed articles.

Ce document ne constitue pas une publication. Il ne doit faire l'objet d'aucun compte rendu ou résumé ni d'aucune citation sans l'autorisation de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé. Les opinions exprimées dans les articles signés n'engagent que leurs auteurs.

3. Plan of operation for the project

Immediately having received advice on the donations of the Governments of the United States of America and of the Netherlands, WHO entered into detailed discussions with the Government of Viet-Nam for the purpose of drawing up a plan of operation for the project. A senior officer of the Regional Office visited Viet-Nam on 3-8 June 1968 specifically to discuss details of the plan and during his visit the views of the United States Agency for International Development in Saigon (AID) were also solicited.

A draft plan of operation was submitted by WHO to the Government of Viet-Nam on 21 August 1968. Some minor amendments to the draft, proposed by the Government were accepted by WHO and in due course the final plan agreed to by the Government and WHO was signed in Manila on 24 November 1968 by the Minister of Health, Social Welfare and Relief, and by the Regional Director, WPRO.

4. Action following the signing of the plan of operation

4.1 The signing of a government decree to give official recognition to the Institute could not be effected by the end of 1968. However, the Minister for Health, Social Welfare and Relief has stated that he is optimistic that an appropriate decree will be promulgated early in 1969. A number of possible sites for the Institute are being considered by the Minister.

4.2 Recruitment of WHO staff for the project has received top priority. Although suitably qualified candidates are difficult to find, it is anticipated that within the first few months of 1969, some of the key posts will be filled.

The Chief, Administration and Finance, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, and Chief Building Management WHO Headquarters, visited Viet-Nam from 9-13 December 1968 for the purpose of looking into various administrative aspects involved in the implementation of the project and to examine possible sites available for the Institute. On visits to sites examinations were made of various types of buildings (tuberculosis centres, hospitals, Saigon Medical School, Pasteur Institute) with a view to assessing local construction capabilities and costs. Discussions were held with the Vietnamese health authorities and contact was made with the United States of America, Netherlands and Canadian government officials having an interest in the project.

5. Financial Report

5.1 During 1968 the Organization received the following contributions towards the financing of the establishment of a National Institute of Public Health in Viet-Nam:

Government of the United States of America,	
Irrevocable letter of credit	\$ 1 000 000
Government of the Netherlands	100 000
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 1 100 000
	<hr/>

No obligations were incurred against these contributions and the funds available for this project, as at 31 December 1968, were

..... \$ 1 100 000

5.2 From its regular budget the Organization financed, during 1968, the travel of an architect to Saigon and fellowships for a total amount of \$ 13 239.