

The
SASAKAWA
SOUTHEAST
ASIA
COOPERATION
FUND

1992-1997



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	1993-1996	

Message from President



Akira Iriyama

In 1997 the Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund (SSACF), as one of the special funds in the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, marked its 5th anniversary in 1997.

On behalf of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, I would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all the partner institutions and individuals in the Southeast Asian region as well as Japan for their tireless contributions to the Fund's activities.

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, since its establishment in 1986 has been keenly aware of Japan's role to make contributions befitting its economic stature to the global community. Over the past decade, the foundation, through a broad range of funding and consulting activities, has established itself as Japan's largest private foundation dedicated to carrying out an international agenda of self-operated and grant-making activities that would be of value to the world community at large. In this context, specially after the cold war ended, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation began to take a more active role in promoting and contributing to the smooth transition of economic systems in Central Europe, CIS and Indochina. To this end, the Sasakawa Southeast Asia Fund was established in 1992.

The Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund has been assisting four countries in this region, namely, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. The Fund has, for the last five years, focused on assisting the economic reforms of these countries in collaboration with institutes, NGOs and universities in neighboring countries. During the past five years, the Fund has managed to assist 12 projects. The characteristic of the Fund's activities can be summarized as building an intellectual infrastructure of the target group of countries, which also follows the principles of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. In order to create the maximum effectiveness in each project, the Fund has made efforts in mobilizing the regional human resources of its partners in implementing a project. Judging from the materialized projects for the said period, we can conclude that "Asia " is not merely a geographical term but concretely identifies an area that shares certain cultural and social values, and which could be a driving force with a unique way of development.

The Asia is moving dramatically toward the 21st century. In 1995, upon the swift participation of Vietnam into ASEAN, assisting regional cooperation became another challenging agenda for the Fund, aside from its mandate in assisting economic reforms in the individual nations. The Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund is going to take further steps hand in hand with neighboring countries.

We can only help you help yourself.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. In", is positioned in the lower right area of the page.

THE SASAKAWA SOUTHEAST ASIA COOPERATION FUND (SSACF)

I. Background

The Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund (SSACF) was founded with a ¥4-billion endowment in April 1992 in response to the immense demand for development assistance in the Southeast Asian region. As one of the special region-specific Funds established within The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, SSACF's program is focused primarily on development issues current in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

In pursuing this mandate, SSACF awards grants to NGOs and other operating agencies in support of a wide variety of development projects conducted in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. It also implements its own projects, such as conferences, seminars and people exchanges, in an effort to reinforce ongoing and to lay the groundwork for forthcoming grant-assisted projects.

In 1993, SSACF's program thrust was directed at advancing the economic transition underway in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Needless to say, these countries have been making great strides toward economic reform, particularly in effecting transition from centrally planned to market-based economies. SSACF considers such economic transition to be an essential key to successful development in these three countries. At present, therefore, we give priority to the below-outlined activities, particularly those capable of promoting economic transition in these Indo-Chinese countries.

II. Project Priority and Eligibility

SSACF supports and provides financial assistance to projects that concentrate on the following activities:

1. People exchanges from the grassroots to the VIP level that have the potential to enhance mutual understanding among the people of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam and of other countries, including Japan, in the Asian region
2. Human resource development activities, including those aimed at promoting

macroeconomic planning/administration or at strengthening business management capability in the subject countries, that are carried out in collaboration with Japan or other Asian countries, and that can help pave the way to successful economic transition in the region

3. Research with tangible application to economic reform policies, macroeconomic policies, socioeconomic planning/management methodologies, or to other fields that reinforce ongoing economic reforms in the three countries.

Ineligible project activities:

The following activities fall outside the sphere of SSACF's grant-making guidelines:

- 1) acquisition of movable or immovable property, and building construction
- 2) normal operating expenditures of organizations
- 3) activities of a commercial nature
- 4) research of a purely academic nature
- 5) translation of books and teaching materials
- 6) emergency relief activities.

III. Application Procedure

SSACF invites the submissions of new and innovative proposals for its review. Applications may be submitted in letter format and should include the following:

- 1) an outline of the project objectives
- 2) an implementation plan
- 3) an itemized budget plan
- 4) a description of the applying organization.

Please note that grant agreements are made and renewed on an annual basis. Grants themselves, however, may cover a period of up to three years. No submission deadline or grant ceiling has been set.

Upon completing our evaluation of a submitted proposal, SSACF will promptly notify the applying organization of the results. If deemed necessary in conducting our evaluation, additional information regarding the proposal may be requested.

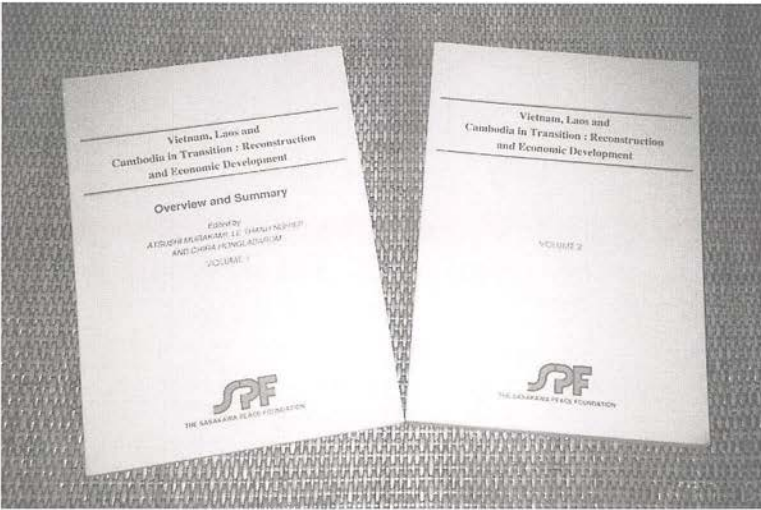
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Round Table Conference on Economic Development in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia

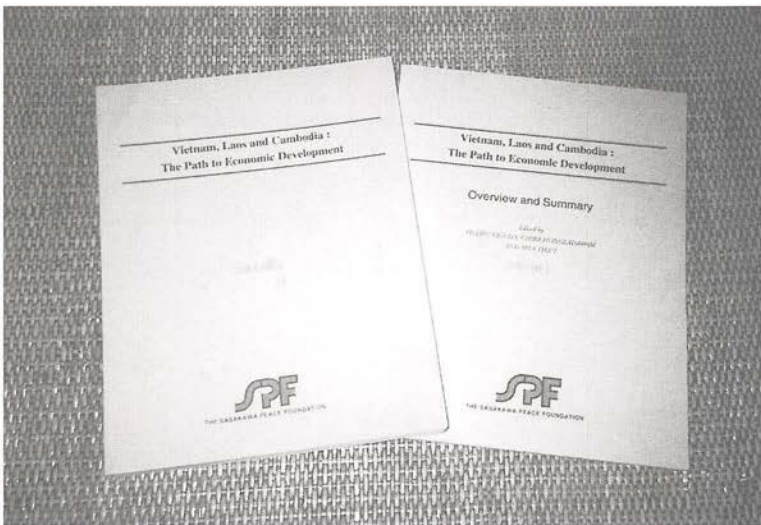
PROGRAM DATA

Implementing Organization :	SSACF
Target Countries :	Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia
Type of Project :	Conference
Period :	9-10 November 1992

This was a follow-up conference of a workshop held in 1991. While the current situation and the problems of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia were reported and discussed in 1991, more concentrate solutions for the present economic transition were sought in this round table conference. During this conference the participants discussed various development issues based on the unanimously adopted concept of the urgent introduction of the market economy reforms suitable for the development levels of the respective countries. They confirmed the necessity of proper infrastructure, human resources, protection of the environment, and also recovery from the damage of planned economies in order to accelerate the introduction of market economies to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. This conference played an important role in establishing the present guidelines of SSACF.



Conference proceedings: Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in Transition:
Reconstruction and Economic Development



Conference proceedings: Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia:
The Path to Economic Development