

DRAFT  
"For Comment"

THE COMMUNITY DEFENSE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN FOR 1972

GOAL: Local Self-Development

APPENDIX: N

PROGRAM: Village Self-Development

ORGANIZATION IN CHARGE: Ministry of Rural Development

1. GENERALITIES.

The VSD Program implemented in the past years has succeeded to create the following favorable conditions

- a. The Village Authorities are elected by the population to handle themselves the management of the village interests.
- b. The people can carry out projects in accordance with their aspirations and within a democratic spirit based on public deliberations. Though, projects are not of a major scale, they are however, in consonance with the regional self-help capabilities.
- c. The Village Credit Committees are set up with the people living right in each village. They know perfectly well each person requesting loans and his need in capital. Hence, loans can be distributed to the right persons, at the right moment and for the right projects so that farmers and fishermen will be assisted with capital necessary for them to work for a living, improve their own life, and contribute to the rural economic development.
- d. A community cooperative spirit can be developed between the people and the government on the one hand and among the population on the other hand through the implementation of projects.

e. In 1972, the public use projects will continue as in 1971, whereas the income-producing projects must be implemented through the RD Credit Program.

f. The villages are encouraged to participate actively in the VSD Program with their budgets.

## 2. GOALS.

The program aims at the following goals:

a. To motivate the population to convene public meetings for the discussion of projects and carry them out according to their aspirations and with the purpose of building a modern society.

b. To expand the democratic spirit in rural areas and a community cooperative spirit among the people on the one hand and between the people and the government on the other hand.

c. To create opportunities for the village authorities to implement the VSD Program and manage the village interests in order to progress towards self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

d. To encourage the village authorities to exchange ideas directly with the people in publicizing the receipts, the expenses and the progress of the VSD Program.

## 3. EXECUTION.

a. All the income-producing projects in 1972 will continue their implementation through the RD Credit Program, without asking the persons requesting loans to be members of PCAGs.

### b. Financial Support.

(1) In the continued progress toward self-reliance, in 1972 the

Ministry of Rural Development will support the villages in their VSD Program according to the contributions brought by their village budgets. If a village contributes to the program with its tax revenue, the Ministry will support the village's VSD Program with a fund equivalent to three times the sum reserved from tax revenues. However, in no case will MORD's contribution exceed the total a village would be eligible to receive based upon a formula of 300,000\$VN for the first 2,500 inhabitants, and 30,000\$VN for each additional increment of 500 people.

Example No. 1

Village A - population less than 2,500

Tax revenue reserved for VSD -----	100,000\$VN
MORD support -----	300,000\$VN
Total VSD Funds----	400,000\$VN

Village B - population of 5,000

Tax revenue reserved for VSD -----	200,000\$VN
MORD Support (cannot exceed 450,000)----	450,000\$VN
Total VSD Funds-----	650,000\$VN

Village C - population of 10,000

Tax revenue reserved for VSD -----	200,000\$VN
MORD support (cannot exceed 750,000)----	600,000\$VN
Total VSD Funds -----	800,000\$VN

Village D - population of 101000 ← ? ←

Tax revenue reserved for VSD -----	300,000\$VN
MORD support (cannot exceed 750,000)----	750,000\$VN
Total VSD Funds---	1,050,000\$VN

*In this figure correct?*

(2) For those villages having no capabilities to contribute to the program, i.e., Montagnard or newly resettled villages, the Provincial P&D Councils must coordinate with the Provincial Councils to determine an exceptional exemption from the rule for those villages. In such cases, the Ministry of Rural Development will allocate a sum of 300,000\$VN to each village.

c. Credit Program.

(1) The Village Councils will make decisions on the use of funds after consulting the population in convening Village Assemblies. These assemblies may decide to use 100% of the funds allocated by the Ministry of RD to carry out income-producing projects (i.e., the RD Credit Program) without being restricted by a 50% basis as in 1971.

(2) The Agricultural Development Bank will issue as its share in capital a fund equivalent to the VSD sum reserved by each village for the RD Credit Program.

For the villages having brought about additional contributions with their own tax income to support the RD Credit Program, the Agricultural Development Bank will also issue additional shares in capital, from 100% to 200%.

(3) The sums recovered from the income-producing projects in 1969 and 1970 are deposited under Title II for Self-Development and considered as the village resources contributed to the RD Credit Program of 1972.

d. Classification of Projects into Categories.

(1) The public-use projects are divided into 2 categories.

- Category 1 includes the projects costing less than 200,000.00\$VN, approved by the Village Councils and carried out by PCAGs which may request the village authorities to intercede with the provincial authorities for technical assistance.
- Category 2 includes the projects costing more than 200,000.00\$VN. After being approved by the Provincial P&D Councils, these projects can be handled by PCAGs or by the provincial authorities, if <sup>4</sup>such assistance is requested by PCAGs.

(2) The income-producing projects (The RD Credit Program) :

The Village Credit Committees will receive all loan requests, make a preliminary examination and transmit them with their recommendations to the Provincial Agricultural Development Banks for consideration. The maximum loan is VN\$50,000.00.

e. The People's Contributions.

The people's contributions to support the public-use projects will be realized on a voluntary basis under the form of labor, funds, materials, etc. On principle, the value of the people's contributions should be equivalent to the government financial support. However, the Provincial P&D Councils can determine with flexibility -- after having consulted the Provincial Councils -- a rate for the people's contributions in order to comply with the capabilities of each village in manpower and resources.

f. Implementation Steps.

- (1) The VSD Program is executed through 2 steps
  - Step 1: Assemblies in villages

- Step 2: Implementation of projects

(2) The program should be propagated widely so that the population can be perfectly aware of its purpose, of the funds provided by the Central Authority and of the interests reserved for the PCAG members. The Village Authorities will use the forms designed to "find out the local needs and to participate in PCAGs", to allow the population to express their true aspirations.

Upon receipt of funds, the Village Chief must disseminate Communique No. 1.

(3) In the activities to motivate the people, particular attention must be paid to the legal associations, such as the Parents and Teachers Associations, the Farmers' Association, PSDF and all Youth Associations.

Based on a majority of votes cast by all the citizens present in a Village Assembly, the following decisions will be made:

(a) Distribution of VSD funds for carrying out public-use projects and the RD Credit Program.

(b) Approval of public-use projects based on the list of priority VSD Projects selected in 1971.

The use of VSD funds is decided by the Village Council:

- One part to support the public-use projects (it can be 100% of fund).

- One part reserved for the RD Credit Program to carry out the income-producing projects (it can be 100% of fund).

Loans will be granted in the following priority:

(1) To the good customers of the RD Credit Program in

1970 and 1971.

(2) To others that did not receive loans in 1970-71.

**g. Preparation of Priority VSD Projects for 1973:**

The Villages will convene Village Assemblies to discuss and decide the priority VSD projects for 1973, and also to plan their contributions realized through the village resources.

The time and instructions for the completion of the above operation will be disseminated later.

**h. The VSD Program in the Villages of Highlanders:**

(1) At least one Son Thon Cadre is assigned to each village to help the Village Chief operate the VSD Program with respect to propagation, to fill in the forms "for finding out the local needs and for participating in PCAGs, to help the PCAGs choose their Chiefs, to hold Village Assemblies, to provide assistance for the implementation of projects and to prepare administrative forms.

(2) The Chiefs of the Provincial Ethnic Development Offices must participate in the Provincial Mobile Teams to attend the Village Assemblies, to breakdown the project costs and review projects on the spot.

- The public-use projects should be participated in by many PCAG members.

- "Miracle Rice" projects, will be considered as public-use projects only for Highlander villages. All other villages will finance rice projects thru the Rural Credit Program.

- The contributions made by the Highlanders to support the public-use projects will depend on the local capabilities. The Provincial P&D Councils will decide the level of such contributions after consulting the Provincial Councils and the Provincial Ethnic Development Offices.

(3) The Provincial P&D Councils coordinate with the Ethnic Development Offices to encourage their villages to carry out income-producing projects through the RD Credit Program.

i. Organization and Distribution of Duties:

(1) Provincial Authorities:

(a) To hold one seminar every three months under the chairmanship of the Province Chiefs, concurrently Chairman of the Provincial P&D Council, or his representative. The attendance of this seminar will be comprised of the representative of the Provincial Council, the Manager of the Provincial In-Service Training Center, the Chiefs of the Provincial Technical Offices, the Chief of the RDC Control Group, The District Chiefs, the Deputy District Chiefs for Administrative Affairs, and the Chief of the Provincial P&D Coordinating Center.

(b) To set up Mobile Teams conducted by the Province Chief or the Deputy Province Chief for Administrative Affairs, and participated in by the Chief of the Provincial Technical Offices concerned to come to districts and villages with a view to examining projects rapidly on the spot. Moreover, the provincial authorities will organize technical administrative and financial teams to pay permanent visits to villages and hamlets for assisting the local PCAGs in the implementation of their projects.



(c) To disseminate the model blueprints to the villages for helping the local PCAGs compute the costs of their projects.

(d) To invite the Provincial Council members to attend seminars and Village Assemblies and to join the Provincial P&D Team in its trips to visit villages and hamlets for encouraging the implementation of the VSD Program and for inspecting the completed operations.

(2) District Authorities:

(a) They are recommended to attend the Village Assemblies as observers.

(b) To help the Village Councils with suggestions to solve their problems (to hold public meetings for the discussion of projects in case of lack of materials or funds).

(c) To make suggestions to the Village Administrative Committees concerning the financial procedure and the project technical documents.

(d) To encourage the villages to make and update the boards to publicize projects, the use of funds and the situation of funds.

(e) To guide the Provincial Acceptance Committee to approve the completed projects if powers are delegated by the provincial authorities.

(3) Villages:

(a) To execute the implementation plan through two steps as described under Item 3.g.

(b) To make suggestions to PCAGs for preparation of their Internal Regulations.

(c) To make and update the boards for the publicizing of projects, funds and materials.

(d) To intercede with the provincial authorities for the necessary technical assistance.

(e) To guide PCAGs with respect to maintenance and repair of farming equipment and on how to provide care and medicines for livestock if such is requested by PCAGs.

j. Inspection:

The central, provincial and district authorities have the duty to inspect, encourage and follow-up regularly the implementation of the VSD Program, but have no right to interfere directly in the proposal of projects. The presence of the Provincial Representatives in the Inspection Teams is highly recommended.

THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC-UTILITY PROJECTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED TO BE CARRIED  
OUT WITH FUNDS FROM THE URBAN AND VILLAGE SELF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF 1972

1) Education:

Primary Schools (new)  
Primary Schools (repair)  
(High Schools are not authorized)

2) Public-Health:

Hospitals and/or maternities (new)  
Hospitals and/or Maternities (repair)  
Dispensaries (new)  
Public Latrines (new)  
Garbage containers (new)

3) Youth:

Soccer Fields  
Volley Ball Courts  
Judo Gymnasiums  
Recreation Yards

4) Public Works:

Postal Stations  
Ponds, Wells  
Water Supply Systems  
Bridges (building)  
Bridges (repair)  
Roads (new)  
Roads (repair)  
Market Places (new)  
Market Places (repair)  
Farries

N. B. In addition to the aforesaid projects, Villages are authorized to carry out public utility projects such as: generators, high schools, sport equipment, shrines, etc.. with village budgets, not VSD funds.