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Author(s)	
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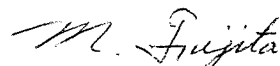
Osaka University

Preface

Year 2001 is the third year of the JSPS-NCST Core University Program (CUP). I appreciate JSPS and NCST for their continual support, which has been essential for our project. At this point, the CUP has eleven cooperative researches: three in the topic 1 (Environmental Monitoring and Assessment); three in the topic 2 (Environmental Creation and Conservation, and four in the topic 3 (Development of Total Environmental Technology). After the three-year management, I strongly feel, "the more time passes, the tighter the cooperation with Vietnamese researchers becomes." I am very pleased to inform JSPS and NCST that our project has been successfully operated and that all researches have been conducted very actively by enthusiastic researchers who join the CUP.

We had a workshop about groundwater contamination in HoChiMinh City on June 5, 2001. More than 50 people joined the seminar. What made me happier was independent seminars held by the research groups and very active researcher exchange. This fiscal year, two Japanese students visited Vietnam for two consecutive months, a month for each, to conduct their researches, and several Vietnamese researchers visited Japanese host scientists for extending their researches. In November, we held the general seminar at Osaka University. Twenty four papers were presented in oral session, and was one paper in paper session. The papers for the oral presentation were screened and selected because of time limitation, so the number of papers actually collected was much higher than twenty four. I was very happy that many people were interested in participating in the seminar to present their results and that the researches had been making large progress. At the seminar, a proposal of establishing a new cooperative research was agreed on by mathematicians of the two sides. It will be on mathematical models for investigating complex models in environmental science and a very new field to us. It will become one of the regular cooperative researches soon and provide us new aspects in the field of environmental science.

I hope that the results from this project will contribute to environmental preservation and sustainable development not only in Vietnam but also in Asian community.



Prof. Masanori Fujita
The Coordinator of the CUP on Japan side
Department of Environmental Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering
Osaka University

The Cooperative Project “Environmental Science and Technology for the Earth” with the support of the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) has been undertaken for 3 years. In the last three years, the JSPS has supported for scientific and academic exchange activities with the aim of promoting cooperative scientific research projects and scientists in the field of environmental science and technology among universities and research institutions of Vietnam and Japan.

In the year 2001, the two major topics in the 10 cooperative research projects mainly focused on “Groundwater Contamination” and “Environmental Science and Technology Issues Related to Urban and Coastal Zone Development”. These topics were fully illustrated in the two workshops held in May in Hochiminh City and in November in Osaka. In addition, several seminars were organised by the research groups in the frame of the cooperative research projects. More than 50 scientific reports are the great achievements of the cooperative links between Japanese and Vietnamese scientists in the year 2001. I am very happy that we have obtained encouraging results in our cooperative project and the Japanese and Vietnamese scientists had identified the common voices and viewpoints in the environmental studies of the two countries’ concerns. I do hope these studies will greatly contribute to assessing and solving the environmental pollution issues in our countries and in the region.

I wish all of you good health, success and happiness in life and career and wish our long term cooperation will gain further achievements in the coming years. On this occasion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to JSPS and the Coordination Office at Osaka University.

Thank you.



Prof. Pham Hung Viet
The Coordinator of the CUP on Vietnam side
Research Centre for Environmental Technology and Sustainable Development (CETASD),
Hanoi University of Science, Vietnam National University