



ADAF Project Team working at Viet Nam

With support from NZAID, GNS Science has recently completed a two-year project that aims to minimise the impact of earthquakes and tsunamis in Viet Nam. Such natural hazard events, although infrequent, leave developing communities particularly vulnerable to poverty.

Through the project, funded by NZAID's Asia Development Assistance Facility, GNS Science worked with its partner organisation in Viet Nam, the Institute of Geophysics (IGP), to build the IGP's capacity to complete a tsunami hazard assessment for the 3,400km coast line of Viet Nam, as well as a case-study' tsunami vulnerability assessment for a part of the coast that is rapidly developing.

Two major initiatives were undertaken as part of the project. Firstly, with support from GNS Science, the IGP scientists completed a pilot tsunami risk assessment of Nha Trang City, a coastal tourist destination that is one of many areas vulnerable to tsunami. A tsunami hazard model was also developed for the entire Vietnamese coast in this phase of the work.

Secondly, GNS Science led the design and initiation of a national earthquake monitoring network and operations centre in Viet Nam. The initiative is based on the New Zealand GeoNet project, which is recognised as a world-leading project. Installation of the network in Viet Nam will gradually occur over the next five years.

Project Description

Project: Tsunami Hazards, Risk and Preparedness for Viet Nam

Location: Viet Nam

Client: VAST

Total Project Value: US\$450,000

Start Date: April 2007

End Date: November 2009

Lead Company: GNS Science

Associated Consultants: CPG

Key Features:

- Assessment of capacity building
- Design of a seismic and tsunami monitoring system
- Risk and vulnerability assessment workshops
- Design of a seismic and tsunami operations centre