The subject of this research is to evaluate the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Projects in Ho Chi Minh City and in Hanoi.

Our report proposes brief replies about the problems of delegations within these projects (decentralization, participation of the inhabitants, independence or not of the Vietnamese actors compared to the basic financial backer); it also tries to identify the forms of transfers associated with these projects and their validity (competences, technologies). Generally, this research questions the effectiveness of the devices of development aid, the question of blockings and their update. Analysis and methodology employed are that of the evaluation of the public policies and the research-action. Mostly qualitative investigations are carried with the principal actors of the projects adopted like case studies. The talks are addressed to the team of the PMU (Project Management Unit of the projects), to the households concerned in the project, the department and the local authorities (districts) and associations. On the whole, more than sixty qualitative interviews were carried out to the actors of the projects. In addition, the exchange informations and the dissemination of research results from the Conference of restitution^[1] research with the IER of Ho Chi Minh City, allowed the researchers and experts to confront their analysis. The comprehension of the relations between "supply" and "demand" of assistance then made it possible to open a reflector space to the actors of ODA projects.

Talks made it possible to evaluate the impact of the projects in term of delegation and transfers on the one hand and on the other hand to evaluate the effectiveness of the projects themselves. Thus the general objectives of research were partly carried out with the answer to the question of the divergences of objectives, transfers and delegations in the projects. Research was to make it possible to update specific forms of partnerships for projects ODA. Results of the talks and the debates show that the partnerships neither are opposed, nor completely negotiated but mainly imposed by the form even of the financings of the projects where the reports/ratios of forces are mainly side of the backer. In addition, projects ODA did not completely revolutionize the relationship between the various Vietnamese actors, the mode of relation remains deeply hierarchical and sectoral and one is still far from a mode of management per project, it there has little delegation of powers within projects ODA, quite to the contrary it seems that the autonomy of the actors is partly limited by the backer who has the appearance of a regulating authority. The consultation of the inhabitants must then make it possible to negotiate these upheavals as well as possible; except in the case of the project of the canal Tan Hoa Lo Gom, where the participation of the inhabitants further goes and implies a speech going beyond the amount of the compensations, like the plans of resettlement for example. But the question of the reproducibility of such a project remains posed. The first positive point of this research is the meeting of two Institutes of Research of the North and the South of Viet-Nam for the first time. The team persons in charge for joined together research are the Laboratory Theories of the Urban Changes (Laurence NGUYEN, scientific Co-person in charge) and the Laboratory Society Development in Space and in Time. (NGUYEN Duc Nhuan, scientific Co-person in charge and NGUYEN T. Nam Tran). Other partners are: in Hô Chi Minh City, the IER (Institute of Economic Search for Hô Chi Minh City) and the ODAP (Office of the Development Aids of HCMV) with persons in charge: Du Phuoc Tân, Lê Van Thanh and Tôn Nu Quynh Trân and the Hanoi Institute for Socio-Economic Development Studies with persons in charge: To Xuan Dan and Vu Quôc Binh.

[1] Cf. Conference of 16 December 2003 organized by the IER of Hochiminh City within the framework of this research and having for heading "the role of ODA projects in the development of two big cities in Viet Nam: Realities and prospects"