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# ANNUAL REVIEW 2014



## Our Vision

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;  
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

## Our History

World Vision is a Christian relief and development organisation working to improve the quality of life of people, especially children, who are marginalised and living in poverty. World Vision helps all who are in need regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

World Vision has been present in Vietnam since 1990 and has invested over 220 million US dollars in relief and development projects in 15 provinces across the country.



## Our Values

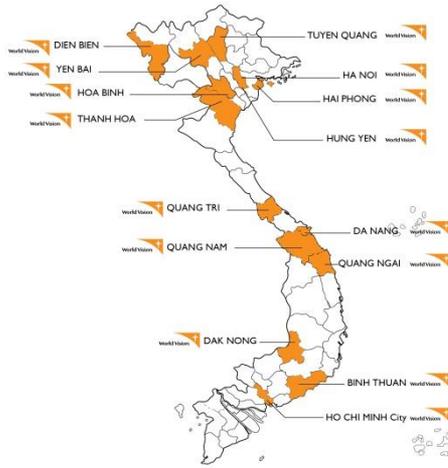
World Vision is inspired by Jesus Christ's compassion of the poor and oppressed.

- We are Christian
- We value people
- We are committed to the poor
- We are stewards
- We are partners
- We are responsive

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## WHERE WE WORK



Special Project	Province/City
1 Capacity Building Project	Hung Yen
2 New Beginning	Hai Phong
3 Step Ahead	Hanoi
4 Capacity Building for Economic Development	Lac Son, Tua Chua
5 Childhood Project	Hai Phong, Ho Chi Minh
6 Coastal Areas of Thanh Hoa Province Resilient to Natural Disasters	Thanh Hoa
7 HIV Prevention & Care	Hai Phong
8 End Trafficking in Persons	Yen Bai, Quang Tri, Quang Nam
9 Water Purification	Quang Tri
10 Water, Hygiene and Sanitation Project	Hai Lang
11 Child Protection & Advocacy	Yen Bai
12 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership Project	Hoa Binh
13 Gift Catalogue Livestock Initiative	Quang Tri, Hoa Binh
14 KOICA Environment Protection	Quang Tri
15 Energy & Environment Partnership Project	Quang Nam
16 Resilient to Climate Change	Hai Phong
17 Safe Motherhood	Dien Bien
18 Child Health Now	Quang Tri, Dien Bien

## Area Development Program (ADP) Province/City

1 Bac Binh ADP	Binh Thuan
2 Ham Thuan Bac ADP	Binh Thuan
3 Hoa Vang ADP	Da Nang
4 Son Tra ADP	Da Nang
5 Dak Rlap ADP	Dak Nong
6 Dien Bien Dong ADP	Dien Bien
7 Muong Cha ADP	Dien Bien
8 Tua Chua ADP	Dien Bien
9 Tuan Giao ADP	Dien Bien
10 Ngo Quyen Urban ADP	Hai Phong
11 Binh Chanh Urban ADP	HCMC
12 District 4 Urban ADP	HCMC
13 Lac Son ADP	Hoa Binh
14 Mai Chau ADP	Hoa Binh
15 Yen Thuy ADP	Hoa Binh
16 Tien Lu ADP	Hung Yen
17 Hien ADP	Quang Nam
18 Nam Giang ADP	Quang Nam
19 Nong Son North ADP	Quang Nam
20 Phuoc Son ADP	Quang Nam
21 Tien Phuoc ADP	Quang Nam
22 Tra My ADP	Quang Nam
23 Que Son ADP	Quang Nam
24 Minh Long ADP	Quang Ngai
25 Son Tay ADP	Quang Ngai
26 Tra Bong ADP	Quang Ngai
27 Dakrong ADP	Quang Tri
28 Hai Lang ADP	Quang Tri
29 Huong Hoa ADP	Quang Tri
30 Trieu Phong ADP	Quang Tri
31 Vinh Linh ADP	Quang Tri
32 Ba Thuc ADP	Thanh Hoa
33 Cam Thuy Northern ADP	Thanh Hoa
34 Cam Thuy Southern ADP	Thanh Hoa
35 Lang Chanh ADP	Thanh Hoa
36 Nhu Xuan ADP	Thanh Hoa
37 Quan Hoa ADP	Thanh Hoa
38 Quan Son ADP	Thanh Hoa
39 Thuong Xuan ADP	Thanh Hoa
40 Nhu Thanh ADP	Thanh Hoa
41 Na Hang ADP	Tuyen Quang
42 Luc Yen ADP	Yen Bai
43 Tram Tau ADP	Yen Bai
44 Tran Yen ADP	Yen Bai
45 Van Chan ADP	Yen Bai
46 Van Yen ADP	Yen Bai
47 Yen Binh ADP	Yen Bai

## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

"It has been my great pleasure to observe the positive impacts yielded from WV Vietnam's work in 2014 directly and indirectly reached the lives of 975,336 and 2,102,297 children respectively, across Vietnam."



Our key achievements can be seen in statistical changes that indicate better status of child well-being in our 47 Area Development Programs (ADPs). In terms of child health, 798 effective nutrition clubs helped mothers and caregivers gain basic nutritional knowledge and practices, which contributed to the reduction of stunting rate among children from 34% to 33.4%. In terms of child literacy, Active Learning Methodology together with Children Reading Club model was intensified in every ADP, increasing the proportion of functionally literate children from 71% to 74%. Additionally, child participation was promoted regularly through the operation of over 798 Child Clubs in 34 ADPs, where children learned new life skills and worked together to initiate 144 small projects that benefited themselves and their communities.

To extend the impacts of our work beyond our target areas, we began to give more attention to advocacy activities in 2014. National partners such as National Institute of Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology, National Institute of Nutrition and Ministry of Health were engaged to promote breast-feeding and deworming as essential malnutrition solutions.

We also provided practical recommendations based on our experiences in the community to the Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs in revising the Draft Law on Child Protection, Care and Education. The Community-Based Child Protection System was further strengthened where it has been effective and was newly established in Binh Thuan province.

All these achievements were made possible thanks to the generosity of our sponsors in 12 support countries, the funding from AusAid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and Korea International Cooperation Agency as well as the benevolence of schools, churches and companies from all over the world. We also deeply appreciate the great support and cooperation from the Vietnamese Government and the diligent contribution of all WV Vietnam staff. We are grateful to have your company in the endeavor to ensure a full life for every child in Vietnam.

**E. Daniel Selvanayagam**  
National Director

## 2014 IN NUMBERS

**3,077,633 children** were reached and impacted across all programs, of which:

**975,336** benefited directly

**2,102,297** benefited indirectly

**151,564 children** received support to have better access to and quality of education.

**120,137 children** had improved nutrition and health, increased access to clean water, better sanitation and hygiene.

**975,336 children** were empowered to have their voices heard and their rights protected.

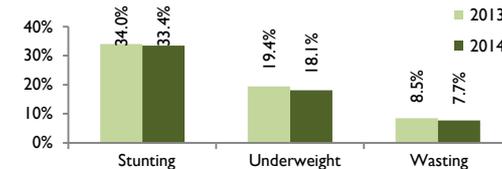
**140,448 most vulnerable children and sponsored children** directly received benefits from community-led initiatives.

**167,454 children** in schools and communities understood the causes of disasters and climate change, how to prevent them and what to do when facing disasters.



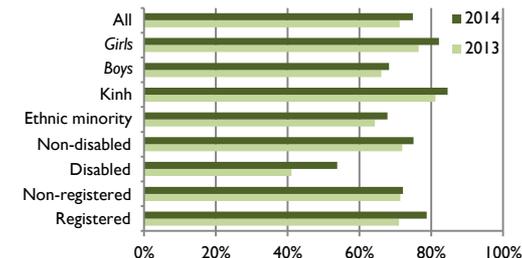
## CHILD WELL-BEING PROGRESS

### Malnutrition rate of children under 5 in all ADPs



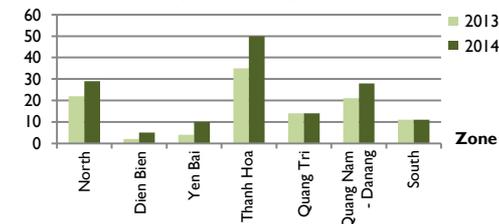
2014 saw **0.6%**, **1.3%** and **1.2%** reduction in stunting, underweight and wasting rate, respectively.

### Proportion of children functionally literate in all ADPs



2014 saw **3.7%** increase in literacy rate in students aged 11, **3.4%** increase in enrollment rate of ethnic minority children.

### Number of small projects implemented



In 2014, **144** children-led projects were conducted, showing **38%** increase in projects where children are empowered to develop their talents and potentials.

\*Detailed Child Well-Being Report is available upon request or at [www.wvi.org/vietnam](http://www.wvi.org/vietnam)



## OUR PROGRAMS

In 2014, WV Vietnam continued to serve children and their communities in the most underprivileged and poorest regions in the country. We have facilitated the communities to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate programs together with local government and other stakeholders.

We supported children, their families and communities in improving their well-being through better access to education, improved health and nutrition, water and sanitation, child rights, capacity building, disaster risk reduction and other development initiatives.

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN, INCLUDING VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vietnam has achieved a significant enrolment rate in recent years with 98% of children attending primary school. However, a few challenges in education quality remain such as the lack of practical applications in curricula towards students, inadequacy of teaching facilities and teacher-centered teaching methods that hinder students from thinking independently and creatively.

Over the years, WV Vietnam has not only focused on ensuring education for every child, but also assisted the Government in improving the overall education system through diverse key initiatives.

### Key interventions

- **Home-based Child Care Centers for children aged under 3** were supported by WV Vietnam and run by individuals or groups in the community in areas where public preschools are absent.
- **Child-Centered Methodology** was introduced to and applied by kindergarten teachers, using activity-based lessons such as learning through music, language development activities and games to create a rich and engaging learning environment for children in 39 ADPs.
- **Ethnic Mother Assistants** in kindergartens (total 26 Ethnic Mother Assistants) were trained to bridge the language barrier between Kinh teachers and children of ethnic minorities.
- **Functional Parent-Teacher Associations** collaborated closely with schools through various activities such as creating teaching aids, facilitating parental conversations, building green libraries, and raising funds for the Village Children Clubs' operation in 136 schools.
- **Village Child Reading Clubs** (total 85) provided children with reading sessions outside classrooms in order to improve their reading skills as well as **Child-Friendly Libraries** (total 17) functioned as venues for children to develop reading habits and improve reading skills.
- **Vocational Training** was conducted for 580 out-of-school young people based on their interests, capacity and employment market demands.



### Results of our work

- **Increase in kindergarten enrollment**  
Children aged 3-5 attending kindergarten reached 66%-100% in 26 ADPs compared to 60%-100% in 2013 thanks to the improvement in teaching methods, facilities, and meal quality.
- **More children able to read at age 11**  
5,955 students aged 11 were functionally literate in 2014, showing an increase of 3.7% from 2013.
- **Children loved and enjoyed reading**  
About 50,000 students in 37 ADPs utilized various reading materials and participated in reading sessions and other related activities through Village Child Reading Clubs, Child-Friendly Libraries and in classes where Child-Centered Methods are applied.
- **Stable jobs and income for the youth**  
So far, 363 adolescents graduating from WV Vietnam's vocational trainings in 14 ADPs have earned monthly income of USD 100-200.

*"After finishing the training course on cultivated-wood processing, a group of six members pooled capital to open a carpentry shop. The business has been running well, so we all have a stable job with average income of VND 2,500,00 (USD 125)/month. Now, we're saving funds to expand the shop next year. If this plan comes true, we will create jobs for ten more workers", said Mr. Nguyen Tri Thanh, village 4, Yen Thai commune.*

## REDUCING MALNUTRITION OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE

Vietnam has noted a reduction of the stunting rate over the last year. However, the underweight prevalence in Vietnam remains high, especially in remote areas. The main causes have been identified to be limited nutrition knowledge and practices among child caregivers, poor quality of health services, limited capacity of local health staff and water and sanitation problems.

WV Vietnam's health and nutrition programs have primarily focused on addressing malnutrition in the communities, especially those in mountainous areas, in collaboration with government partners.

### Key interventions

- **Nutrition Clubs** (total 755) composed of parents and caregivers were functional and dynamic. They organized health and nutrition activities to share experiences, learning and resources to improve nutrition for their children.
- **Positive Deviance/Hearth** was implemented in 8 ADPs to provide nutrition rehabilitation for both underweight and stunted children under 5 years old.
- **Behavioral Change Communication, Capacity Building** and other health and nutrition trainings were conducted in 39 ADPs to help local health partners and child caregivers improve knowledge on feeding practices.

"Since participating in Nutrition Club, I've changed the way I feed my children. For example, during my child's first 7-12 months, I prepared flour soup instead of feeding chewed rice like I did before. I also practiced selecting food under 4 nutrition groups and changed diet frequently to help my children enjoy food and thus eat better", said Mrs. Thien, member of An Tao Nutrition Club in Tien Lu ADP.

- **Integrated approaches to address malnutrition** were adopted, including Agriculture and Economic interventions (livestock raising for fat and protein, rice and other food crops for starch, and vegetable gardens for vitamins). Nutrition Club members also formed savings groups as a way to pool resources that can be borrowed by members to address household nutrition and other needs.

**Mother and children were protected from infectious diseases.**

- **Better treatment for children under 5 with diarrhea** which included oral rehydration therapy, zinc and appropriate feeding was applied in 6 ADPs.
- 267 villages in 21 ADPs were assisted to have improved access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene through **Community-Led Total Sanitation**.

### Results of our work

- **Less Stunted Children**  
There was a 4.6% reduction in stunting rate in one year alone in areas where there are functional Nutrition Clubs.
- **Children were gaining weight**  
2014 saw 3% reduction in underweight rate in ADPs where Nutrition Clubs were fully functional. More impressive was the 15-20% reduction of malnourished children under 5 in 29 Positive Deviance/Hearth centers.
- **Children benefited from better nutrition and feeding practices**  
15,000 caregivers from 755 Nutrition Clubs gained increased knowledge of nutrition and child feeding practices. Parents can now choose food items that are of high nutritional value.
- **Nutritious food and increased income**  
36% of Micro Finance clients were able to improve daily meals for their children by adding more nutritious food as a result of increased income.
- **Clean water and hygienic environment**  
Hiep Duc, Tran Yen and Lang Chanh ADPs experienced significant improvement as village people's access to hygienic latrines increased by 23.3%, 17% and 16.2% respectively.



## STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL PARTNERS FOR IMPROVED CHILD WELL-BEING

"Thanks to the support of the program, my village was able to mobilize the participation and contribution of local people to finish 300 meters of concrete cement road. We plan to work on additional 900 meters next year", said Mr. Ngan Van Duong at the Village Development Board meeting held last July 2014 in Quan Hoa ADP.

Simultaneous with the global effort towards achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), WV Vietnam intentionally reached out to local partners and community members to work together in the implementation of its programs.

With the increasing awareness by community members of their role as the catalyst of their own development, WV Vietnam facilitated capacity building and community empowerment activities in the communities to help them gain necessary skills and confidence.

### Key interventions

- **Fully functional Village Development Boards (VDBs)** reached 431 in 2014. VDB is a form of community-based organization that is constituted of community members and leaders who lead the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of Community Development Initiatives (CDIs). Building their capacity to lead, manage and implement projects with adequate accountability is crucial to the sustainability of development results.
- **Community Development Initiatives (CDIs)** are small project designed and implemented by the communities with leadership from VDB members. 410 CDIs were conducted in 2014, providing opportunities for community members to address the needs of the most vulnerable households, especially children.



### Results of our work

- **Community leaders and members empowered**  
1,831 VDB members, Commune Program Management Board and District Program Management Board members were trained on leadership, disaster mitigation and management as well as Child Well-Being principles.
- **Community-Led initiatives for the most vulnerable**  
Through the participation and cooperation with VDBs and community members, ADPs have been able to implement activities that address the needs of children and their communities as well as prioritize the most vulnerable. Initiatives include sports events for children on Children's Day and Traditional Holidays, and building safe playgrounds and learning corners for children in schools and communities.
- **Local communities contribute to community projects**  
Veering away from projects that are 100% funded by WV Vietnam, communities shared 40%-80% financial resources in the Community Development Initiatives. As recorded in 2014, a total of USD 154,796 was invested by community members in their own development.

## PROMOTING CHILD RIGHTS



In 2014, Vietnam was in its final year of implementation of the five-year National Program on Child Protection and has achieved significant improvement in protecting the rights of children. Yet in reality, many children, especially those in remote areas, remain vulnerable to abuse and exploitation due to the lack of protection services, the absence of a strong and effective child protection system, low capacity of law-enforcement agencies, limited budget, and inadequate knowledge.

WV Vietnam worked closely with local government and community partners to promote child rights.

### Key interventions

- **Child-rights policies implementation** to promote child rights was reinforced with the establishment of functional Community-Based Child Protection (CBCP) Boards/Committees. With support from WV Vietnam, 5 provincial-, 23 district- and 96 commune-level CBCP Boards/Committees are now in operation to support government authorities in implementing Child-rights policies.
- **Child Rights-related policies influence** has been deepened through policy discourse on Children's rights and protection, especially on the revision of the Law on Child Protection and the inter-ministerial circular on trafficking of persons. WV Vietnam has been steadfast in its commitment to continue to be the voice of the children.

### Results of our work

- ▶ **Awareness of child rights was heightened**  
Parents and caregivers who were trained on child rights are now aware of acts and practices that violate the rights of the child. They are empowered to identify and report these acts and incidents to CBCP Boards/Committees at local level. The cultural indifference on child protection is slowly dying away.
- ▶ **Child Protection services are enhanced and provided to local people**  
With the establishment of CBCP system, children and caregivers can now access child protection services. In provinces such as Quang Nam, there was a significant increase of 78% in the number of children and caregivers proactively accessing child protection services.
- ▶ **Advocacy for children was conducted at provincial, district and commune levels**  
A total of 87 Local Level Advocacy activities were conducted in 47 ADPs. Among these activities, 74 contributed to advocacy effort for more effective implementation of Child Rights-related policies.
- ▶ **Recommendations were contributed to the Law for Children**

WV Vietnam provided input, comments and recommendations in the revision of the draft Law on Child Protection. Moreover, the inter-ministerial circular on Guidance of Coordination and Procedures of Trafficking Victims Receipt and Identification has been officially issued. WV Vietnam, through its regional project on Ending Trafficking in Persons (ETIP), provided significant technical inputs during the development of this circular.



## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO MANAGE DISASTERS/CRISES

### Results of our work

- ▶ **Community members are better prepared for disasters**  
In 2014, 204 communes and 959 villages in WV Vietnam's ADPs updated their Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, accounting for approximately 15% of the target set in the Government's Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Program to 2020.
- ▶ **Knowledge and skills for children and teachers on DRR-CCA were enhanced**  
Child-Focused DRR-CCA was implemented in 248 primary and secondary schools in 25 ADPs. Children learnt to swim and participated in other activities related to DRR-CCA such as contests and game shows while teachers participated in response drills.
- ▶ **Private Sector was engaged in DRR-CCA activities**  
In the pilot project, a total of 70 local companies have been mobilized to support DRR-CCA activities.

Vietnam's development is in high gear as new middle income country. The Government and other development stakeholders are investing in various sectors across the country to sustain this progress.

However, there are two factors that challenge the sustainability of development in Vietnam. These are vulnerability to natural hazards and negative impact of climate change. Different parts of the country have experienced recurring floods and storms as well as low to moderate risks of droughts, earthquakes, tsunamis, forest fires, cold and heat waves, and animal disease epidemics. Apart from their devastating impacts on human lives and health, these disasters can cripple different sectors of the economy, such as agriculture, industry, energy and education.

WV Vietnam's primary concern is the impact of disasters on households and children. WV Vietnam has partnered with local governments in tackling these problems by reinforcing the role and participation of the communities in disaster management and climate change adaptation.

### Key interventions

- **Community Preparedness** was strengthened through local partners' and community member's participation in developing Community Disaster Preparedness Plan/ Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, especially at village level.
- **School-Based and Child-Focused Disaster Risk Reduction - Climate Change Adaptation (DRR-CCA)** was adopted in collaboration with local governments and school partners. Various school-based activities were initiated, including trainings for teachers on DRR-CCA and trainings for children on swimming and first-aid practices.
- **Public-Private Partnerships in DRR-CCA** was promoted as WV Vietnam piloted a project that brings together Government, other NGOs and small- and medium-sized enterprises to collaborate on DRR-CCA plans and activities.

*"Although I can't read or write due to my poor eyesight, I was still able to make my disaster preparedness plan thanks to my neighbors' help. Now, I don't feel fearful like I used to. I know what to do before, during and after a disaster occurs to keep myself and my family safe."*

*"Before a storm, I need to listen to news of the storm's path on the radio or from the village's public warning system."*

*"I also need to store drinking water and food, and pack some necessary items in case of evacuation. I may be old, but now I can deal with storms on my own."*

Mrs Nguyen Thi Bon, 74 years old, Thanh Hoa province.

## TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

2014 was a landmark year for WV Vietnam. It was a year of reflection on the achievements and challenges for our National Strategy period 2012-2014. Aside from significant progress in sustaining child well-being, WV Vietnam also made significant strides towards inclusive and integrated development.

### A TRANSFORMED LIFE – A HOPE TO END POVERTY CYCLE

*To many lucky ones, growing up care-free, well provided for and learning towards a decent job is an immutable way of life. In contrast, the less fortunate, those born in poverty, scrimp and toil to break free from a vicious cycle of deprivation, the road is not always easy, but for those who persevere, success is not far ahead.*

Since early 1990s, WV Vietnam has relentlessly fostered vulnerable children's hopes and dreams through our Child Sponsorship program. One of the most inspiring stories is about Mr. Cao Duc Viet, a former sponsored child who recently joined WV Vietnam as Development Facilitator at Muong Cha ADP, Dien Bien province.

Born in a poor farming family in Chi Linh district, Hai Duong province, Viet's childhood bore many disadvantages compared to his peers. "Four members of my family lived on a small plantation, 2 pigs and some chickens. My parents had to work from early morning to late night to provide us with food and education, but their small income still made us struggle", Viet started his story.

"Given my family condition, it never crossed my mind that I would be accomplished and could achieve success in life. My plan for the future was simple, and I never considered it a dream. When people asked me what I wanted to do when I grew up, construction worker was always my answer."

At age 7, Viet was selected for WV Vietnam's Child Sponsorship program. Getting acquainted with his sponsor and with guidance from WV staff, he gradually changed his mind of who he wanted to become.

Viet continued: "My sponsor was my new friend who sent me letters and postcards on every special occasion and on my birthday, too. Through this, I was told and encouraged to find my own dream and pursue it."

"At first, the program was simply a joyful opportunity for me. I got to draw, sing, dance, and meet new friends. Over time, I realized the program sought to help children like me and families like mine have a better life. That was when I promised myself I would try my best to become a helpful person like the program staff I knew."

"Now my dream has finally come true. I feel proud and determined to bring the valuable opportunity I once had to more and more vulnerable children in remote areas. I hope my arduous efforts will contribute to the well-being of the underprivileged children in our country", shared Viet, with a strong belief in his voice.

"It is our pride to be a part of Viet's life-changing journey. We aspire that a new cycle starts with him – a cycle where inspired children succeed in life and continue to extend that inspiration to next generations, so that every child will have a chance to realize their full potential and lead a meaningful life", said Mrs. Nguyen Thuy Anh, WV Vietnam's Child Sponsorship Manager.

## PROMOTING CHILD PARTICIPATION

As a child-focused organization, WV Vietnam works with communities to ensure that children develop and reach their full potential by promoting Child Participation and Voice, especially making sure that Children with Disabilities (CwD) and the most vulnerable are given priority. Children were invited to take part in many enjoyable and meaningful activities facilitated by WV Vietnam. These activities are in conjunction with our strategic objective on Child Rights and policy influence (See page 12).



- **Children asserted their voices on issues**  
There were 27 Children's Forums in 2014 which provided children with a venue to express their concerns and issues. Children at their young age were able to put forward recommendations and demand for solutions. WV Vietnam's Child-Led Project model was presented at a national consultation workshop and was included in the Draft National Program on Child Participation.
- **Children developed talents, creativity and ingenuity**  
Handmade Christmas Cards were designed and made by 7,100 children in 23 ADPs, conveying messages of affection for sponsors while short films about children's stories, especially those with disabilities were created by children in 17 ADPs. The short films aimed to promote Community-Led Child Care & Protection, raise awareness and empower CwD.

### ➤ Children gained confidence to speak up and build dreams for the future

4 ADPs regularly held activities for children, especially those with disabilities, to express themselves and develop their self-esteem while 27 ADPs organized writing events for over 20,500 children to tell stories and express their thoughts and feelings about their friends, communities and sponsors and the impact WV Vietnam brought to their lives.

"I dream to be a maths teacher to teach blind students", shared Khoa, a blind sponsored child from Ngo Quyen district, Hai Phong city.

### ➤ Children were trained to be future leaders

6,700 children and youth in 15 ADPs acquired and practiced life skills, including planning and decision-making skills. They planned and implemented the events in team, facilitating a range of creative activities such as singing, dancing and drawing to deliver Sponsorship messages to children and their parents.

## PRIORITIZE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (PwD)

Women, men and children with disabilities have dreams for their future and yet, in many Vietnamese communities, they don't have access to basic services and are far more deprived of opportunities.

Promoting more inclusive communities and providing access to services and opportunities to PwD, especially children, is a global commitment of WV. In Vietnam, CwD are participating in our program activities, and a special project was designed to support PwD's access to services and employment opportunities.

### • Sponsorship for children with disabilities

In 2014, 851 CwD were included in WV Vietnam's Sponsorship program. These children, like other sponsored children, received letters and encouragement from their sponsors abroad.

### • Breaking barrier to inclusion

Several trainings for local partners and community members on the rights of PwD, their abilities and their roles made them recognize the need to dismantle barriers - making the physical environment more accessible, providing information in a variety of formats, and challenging attitudes and mistaken assumptions towards PwD. Children and adults with disabilities now have greater access to village initiatives and are capable of implementing initiatives on their own.

### • Welcoming school environment

The training and communication sessions on prevention of prejudice towards CwD for teachers, health workers and officials led to a welcoming learning environment for CwD at kindergartens and primary schools. As a result, CwD who were functionally literate increased from 41.1% in 2013 to 53.8% in 2014. Play grounds were also improved and adjusted so that CwD can play with other children at school.

### • A dignified life

To identify and reach out to PwD in the communities, a community-based network was established to identify and support adults and children with disorders/disabilities. With support from WV Vietnam staff, assessment of medical services for adults and children with disabilities was conducted and followed up with targeted support, including home-based therapy for individuals living in poverty and training on therapy techniques for family members. It is also the work of WV Vietnam and the network to ensure PwD have access to vocational training, job and social opportunities. In 2014, there were 62 vocational trainings for PwD.

## FROM THE STREETS TO THE ROAD OF SUCCESS

*Tam (32) only had one hand since birth and for years she felt isolated. With WV Vietnam's support, Tam is not alone on her challenging journey.*



Tam smiles as she describes her transformation since she took up sport in her early twenties.

Sports helped her shrug off her previous inhibitions and learn the value of her life.

"Sport has improved my life hugely", said Tam. "I used to sell lottery tickets or shoes on the street", recalled Tam, "but passers-by would sometimes make fun of my disability, which made me feel unhappy about myself."

Tam was not alone on her challenging journey. WV Vietnam gave her the chance to join a network of other local people with disabilities and Tam first joined in with activities specifically organised for the group in 2003. Four years later, WV Vietnam established a club for people with disabilities in Tam's community. Tam signed up for the club immediately and soon found it bring her many benefits, including the use of the sport equipments provided by WV Vietnam. Tam soon gained confidence and decided to excel sports.

To date, Tam has a large collection of medals. She has won eight silver and bronze medals at the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)'s Para Games – a biennial multi-sports event for physically disabled athletes that follows every South-East Asian Games – including those at the latest instalment held in Myanmar in 2013. She has also won 30 gold medals in national competitions, participating in both swimming and the athletic disciplines of javelin, discus and long jump.

Her story inspires other people with disabilities to also aspire for success.

WV Vietnam continues to support PwD. Apart from emotional and facility support, WV Vietnam has provided income generating opportunities for club members such as Tam's. "At least half of the people in my club have been given cows and trained on how to raise them, which has helped them overcome financial difficulties," she said.

## WORKING FOR A FAIRER FUTURE



Transformation of communities to achieve well-being for children requires equal access to resources and opportunities by community members. Applying gender equity across all WV Vietnam's programs is an important aspect of its work.

Gender disparity continues to exist in Vietnamese households and communities. This disparity is rooted in cultural norms and practices that are deeply entrenched in communities and often results in injustice and systemic poverty. Failing to understand and address these negative norms can inhibit the success of WV Vietnam's contribution to the well-being of girls and boys.

### • Gender lens from design to evaluation

The participation of women in all WV Vietnam's programs starts from project assessment and design to active participation in implementation and monitoring as well as being given a strong voice at evaluation. Six project design processes were participated by women in 2014. A full time gender specialist provides guidance to ensure gender is taken into account.

### • Early child marriage study

Towards the end of 2014, WV Vietnam, in cooperation with local authorities and communities in Quang Ngai province, commissioned consultant to conduct a study on child marriage, a chronic social issue that keeps young girls from reaching their full potential and perpetuates the cycle of poverty. Results of this study will influence WV Vietnam's interventions in the program areas.

### • Gender awareness and action

Training courses and community discussions on gender equality yielded positive impact on local government. As a result, women had a chance to raise their concerns on issues relating to gender inequality and request for support from local authorities and communities. Community members agreed to work together to reduce and eliminate cultural norms and practices that hinder women from participating in program activities such as Nutrition Clubs, Adult Literacy and Village Development Board. There were 138 Community Development Initiatives designed and implemented by women groups.

By the end of 2014, over 14,000 women were able to help each other plant clean vegetables for domestic use, organise communication sessions on domestic violence prevention and nutrition practices, and share experiences and knowledge regarding cooking nutritious meals for their children.

### • Adult education to empower women

Using REFLECT model, education sessions for 580 illiterate women in 5 ADPs were conducted to help them learn how to read and gain basic knowledge of child care, basic financial skills, livelihoods, and environmental protection.

*"Before, it was very common for us to see the image of a woman carrying on her back heavy bunches of firewood while her husband was walking behind carrying nothing. Now, there are more husbands who share equal responsibility of doing housework and farming work, and raising their children with their wives", said Mr. Bang, commune 4, Tra Kot commune, Tra My district.*

## MOVING TO BE HIV/AIDS FREE

There has been a strong commitment made by Vietnam's Government to combat HIV which is mainly driven by injected drug-use. As one of the stakeholders in health sector, WV Vietnam has implemented a project on HIV funded by United States' Government in the past years. The prevalence of HIV is now relatively low in the communities where WV Vietnam works, however, WV Vietnam staff are still committed to undertake continuous work to make all communities HIV/AIDS free by incorporating HIV/AIDS activities in health programs.

### • HIV/AIDS awareness and education

Behavior Change Communication events and campaigns were implemented to raise awareness of 10,000 community members, including children and youth, on the issues of HIV/AIDS. One of these campaigns' purposes was to encourage people to have blood test and have counselling. Training on Prevention Education for Children and Youth were conducted in 18 ADPs. Children and youth gained knowledge of the causes of HIV and how to protect themselves from such causes.

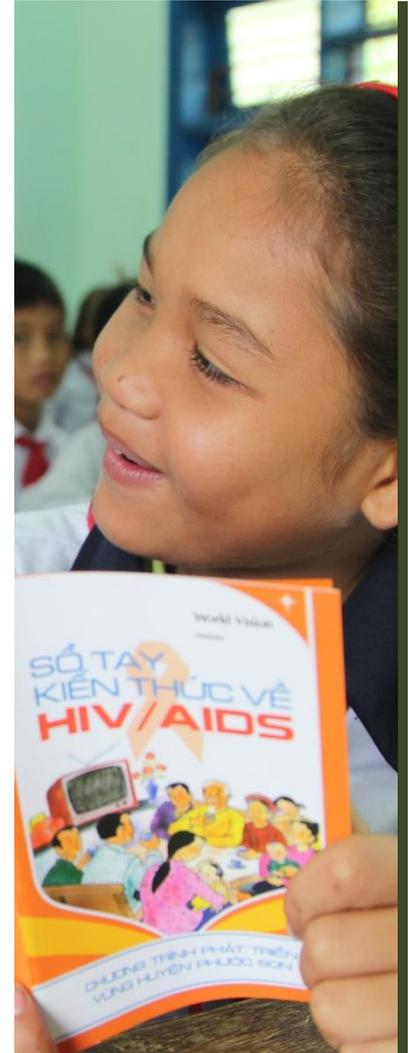
### • Protecting mothers and babies

Pregnant and lactating mothers received counselling on Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission, through which, women with HIV were provided with knowledge to prevent HIV from being passed to their babies during pregnancy, childbirth, or breast-feeding.

### • Support for the HIV Positive

As persons living with HIV/AIDS continue to grapple with their difficult realities, WV Vietnam extends its help by strengthening Community Care Coalitions for HIV/AIDS patients and children infected or affected by AIDS (OVC) to get better care within their communities. 42.1% of families with OVC were able to access HIV-related services through the Hope in Action project in District 8's Urban ADP in Ho Chi Minh city. The services include nutrition, health care, education and vocational training, protection and legal support, livelihoods, and mental and social-psychological counselling.

*"New knowledge of HIV/AIDS helps me understand my father's health status. I am no longer afraid of getting infected from him. Instead, I feel confident in taking care of him as I was trained", said 7nd grader Lo Thi Thu, Dien Bien province.*



## PROVIDING WELL FOR CHILDREN'S NEEDS

In its recent MDG report, the government takes pride in eradicating poverty as a remarkable achievement of the MDG Goal #1. However, socio-economic development continues to elude people in remote and mountainous areas, especially the ethnic minorities who account for 15% of the 90 million population, which isolates and deprives them of the opportunities and skills to participate in new market economy and tap government resources available from national level. Parents and caregivers continue to struggle to make ends meet to provide for the needs of their children. In provinces where WV Vietnam works, economic development, agriculture and micro-finance are integrated in WV Vietnam's programs to alleviate poverty. These are implemented through Village Development Boards, Nutrition Clubs and Women's Groups to complement interventions in Health, Education, Capacity Building and Disaster Management.

### • Livestock for income

Livestock Raising Initiative was implemented in 36 ADPs and has proven to be an effective model to help improve income for poor households. In Tien Lu and Van Yen ADP, household income ranges from USD 50 to USD 100 per month from raising chicken. An additional of 40 extremely poor households also received support to own breeding cows.

### • Low cost, high quality rice and chemical-free vegetable production

Poor farmers in 13 ADPs reduced costs for hand-planted rice by applying sustainable rice intensification techniques and integrated crop management. On average, rice farmers used less seeds, chemical fertilizer and pesticide for their crops, helping them save USD 250-300 per ha. By using less pesticide and chemical fertilizer, this model also contributed to improve the local environment and health condition. Organic fertilizer has been introduced to 2 ADPs, resulting in 50% of local households now producing chemical-free vegetables for home consumption, especially for better health of their children.

### • Local value chain approach for farmers

A total of 2,159 farmers in 15 ADPs applied the value chain approach, focusing on 14 products such as pig, cow, chicken, duck, mushroom, rice, bamboo shoot, cochinchin fruit, pepper, medicinal herbs, honey, and brocade. Small farm holders are now selling their products to identified buyers in market places.

### • Business development and Financial literacy

WV Vietnam staff identified and trained Business Development Teams in 22 ADPs, who in turn trained households to prepare their own business plans. In 2014, 390 Business Development Team members delivered training services to 7,250 farmer households and financial-counselling services to 3,379 households.

### • Encouraging savings and access to credit through Micro-Finance

Group saving is a way to pool resources that can be borrowed by members to address household nutrition, education and other needs. In total, there are 291 Accumulating Savings and Credit Associations (ASCA) established with 4,430 members who saved a total of USD 43,533 by the end of 2014. Also, 20,971 children benefited from micro-finance loans provided to clients in the communities for education, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, and housing needs. 78% of all micro-finance clients reported some benefits for their children from the loan received. 94% of the sampled clients reported at least one benefit. The top three benefits included sufficient food (36%), sufficient clothing and shoes (23%) and basic education (17%).



## GIFTS IN KIND



## KEEPING CHILDREN WARM

WV Vietnam received various products and items from corporate and individual donors as in-kind donations. WV Vietnam makes careful decisions in accepting gifts in kind to make sure that the products provided by our donors reach the children and families who need them most and that these products do not disrupt their cultural and economic activities.

This year, 1,517 children living in Tuan Giao district in Dien Bien province received wool sweaters, which kept them warm during the cold winter.

With a big smile and a gleam on his eyes, Mua A Dua, a 6th grader of Tenh Phong commune, Tuan Giao district, exclaimed: "I feel warmer now with the new sweaters."

## PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Undocumented migration among the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries is linked to high incidence of trafficking. Victims from these countries such as Vietnam have been trafficked for sex or labor purposes to other countries. The End Trafficking in Persons program (ETIP) is a five-year (2011-2016) region-wide initiative currently being implemented in Quang Tri, Quang Nam and Yen Bai provinces in partnership with local governments and other NGOs. ETIP focuses on three anti-trafficking responses: Prevention, Protection, and Policy.

### • Engaging with the Youth

Training and communication sessions on safe migration were conducted for Youth Clubs' members, providing them with Smart Navigator Toolkit which includes information of human trafficking and skills for safe migration. Through participating in Youth Forums and Youth-led prevention activities, 563 young people were given the chance to dialogue directly with government officials and raise their concerns and recommendations on dealing with human trafficking.

### • Support for victims

Victims of trafficking were integrated into their communities through facilitation of social activities such as victim gathering and policy dialogues. A total of 15 trafficking victims were supported to re-integrate into their respective communities. Since their return, there has been significant improvement in their personal and family's safety, emotional health/self-esteem, physical health, legal status, social connections and inclusion, economic security, education and accommodation.

### • Local Level Advocacy

In coordination with WV Vietnam's Child Rights and Advocacy Team, ETIP dialogued with local government partners on human trafficking prevention and reached communities to raise their awareness of how to protect their children from being trafficked.

### • National and Regional Advocacy

ETIP also provided recommendations regarding human trafficking to the government on developing and amending the Penal Code and the Law on Child Protection, Care and Education. Working with other stakeholder is very important in fighting against human trafficking. WV Vietnam has been actively participating in the activities of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Human Trafficking (COMMIT) as well as being part of the Counter Trafficking Network, through which WV Vietnam shares experiences and collaborates with other local and international organizations in implementing relevant activities on the issues of prevention and control of human trafficking. Through these efforts, the inter-ministerial circular on the anti-human trafficking was developed, approved and is now being implemented across the country.

## REBUILDING A SHATTERED LIFE

Tran's\* father was a heavy drinker and often hit her and her mother in his drunkenness. The family from the centre of Quang Tri province struggled financially because Tran's mother could not do any physical work due to her husband's violence towards her. At age 16, she dropped out of school to sell fruits at a nearby bridge.

Tran thought her fate would change when she accepted an offer to work in China with the promise of high pay. When she arrived in the country, she was immediately sold to a brothel. She was forced to be a sex worker for 18 months until she managed to escape and flee back to home in Vietnam.

Tran is now 29 years old and has two children, but she has been unable to find a good job because she left high school without any qualifications.

Tran is one of seven women who joined a life skills training course in Quang Tri province for former victims of trafficking. WV Vietnam organised the course as part of its End Trafficking in Persons (ETIP) program and in association with the provincial Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs.



The seven women learned about self-awareness, identifying personal values, thinking logically and living positively.

Official records in 1994 reveal that traffickers have forced 30 women from Quang Tri province into marriage or sex industry in China and Laos.

To date, 25 have returned, but most remain isolated within their communities, while feelings of shame and uselessness further obstruct their reintegration into society.

The seven women learned about self-awareness, identifying personal values, thinking logically and living positively. The goals for the group were to recognise their strengths as well as their weaknesses, to gain confidence and self-respect, and to find beauty in their daily lives.

*"I never told anyone about my past because I didn't want them to think of me as a victim of trafficking", says Nguyen\*, "but talking to people in the course who understand what I went through has made me feel much better."*

After calling on others to understand, share and show love to victims of trafficking, the group had the opportunity to express their thoughts and recommendations to local authority representatives.

*"The course was very useful and should be run regularly, for understanding what has happened to these women helps us focus our policies and activities on addressing their needs", said Hoang Tuan Anh, Vice Director of Quang Tri Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs.*

\* Names are changed to protect identity.

## OUR PARTNERS

WV's Development Program Approach (DPA) emphasizes on working with partners to achieve well-being of children. Partnering is an important route to increase local ownership of development efforts and to achieve sustainable results for the communities.

2014 saw strengthened relationship with government partners including Ministry of Health, especially the National Institute of Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology and National Institute of Nutrition; Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs; Ministry of Education and Central Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control.

WV Vietnam is an active member of various technical working groups where government representatives and other stakeholders such as the United Nations and other international NGOs discuss issues and agree on recommendations regarding relevant sectors.

WV Vietnam works in collaboration with Women's Union in the selection of Micro-Finance clients while ETIP project works with Blue Dragon in supporting victims of trafficking. WV Vietnam also collaborates with CARE, PLAN and ADRA.

At community and district level, WV Vietnam works with People's Committees, Program Development Boards and district functional departments.

### COPING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE TOGETHER

WV Vietnam and the local authorities of Hai Phong city took an important step in their cooperative efforts on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in May, 2014.

Representatives from WV Vietnam and People's Committees of Hai Phong city and three districts of Ngo Quyen, Cat Hai and Tien Lang together signed the Memoranda of Understanding for the implementation of a project entitled "Hai Phong City Resilient to Climate Change and Disaster Risks".



National Director of WV Vietnam, Mr. Daniel Selvanayagam (left) signed MoU with the Vice Chairman of Hai Phong People's Committee, Mr. Do Trung Thoai (right).

The 3-and-a-half year project, funded by WV Australia/DFAT Australia, aims to increase the resilience of local people in areas vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change. An important aspect of the project is to mobilize the participation of small- and medium-sized enterprises on this issue. Activities such as training courses and conferences on related topics will be organized for these enterprises.

The project has supported at-risk communities to assess the hazard level they face and their capacities to cope with environmental issues as well as provided them with alternative or modified livelihood models, so that they are prepared for and capable of responding to long-term changes in weather patterns.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Daniel Selvanayagam, WV Vietnam's National Director, said, "We [the signatories] will work together as a team because the region's poor need our help to be resilient to environmental impacts."

Mr. Do Trung Thoai, Vice Chairman of Hai Phong People's Committee, expressed his commitment to the planned project on behalf of all governmental partners. He also highlighted that the project will meet donor's requirements for timely disbursement of funds and quality of activities to be implemented.

"We want the project to be an example for others to follow", he said. "I hope when the project finishes, we'll meet again to celebrate its success and discuss opportunities of our future collaboration on other projects."

The project will directly benefit approximately 65,000 people in the three aforementioned districts.

## OUR DONORS

WV's programs in Vietnam are made possible through the contributions from individuals, corporates and various governments.

### Individuals

WV Vietnam appreciates more than 20,000 sponsors who are committed and are diligently supporting their respective sponsored children. Equally important as their cash contributions are numerous inspiring letters, cards and small gifts that the children receive, giving them hope and encouraging them to succeed.

### Corporates and other organizations

WV Vietnam also acknowledges companies whose cash and in kind donation helped address the needs of communities and children. The corporate donors include Sam Sung Korea, Procter and Gamble (P&G) in Vietnam, Panasonic Japan in Vietnam, YoungOne Korea, and Korea Exchange Bank. A coalition of renowned German aid organizations namely Aktion Deutschland Hilft is also a generous donor in 2014. Last but not least, WV Vietnam recognizes all contributions from schools, churches and other corporates from across the world.

### Governments

As partners in development, WV Vietnam has been chosen to receive government funding from Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Norwegian Government, Finland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Korea International Cooperation Agency.

## FROM WASTE TO FUEL

**A community project towards better environment funded by Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Korea Exchange Bank (KEB)**

The depletion of tree cover in villages of Trieu Phong commune, Quang Tri Province has been a big concern for community leaders. Beyond the depletion of firewood for cooking, this has deeper and long-term implications such as depletion in water source. Trees hold water and stabilize the underground water table. Trees also prevent soil erosion and floods. Another challenge faced by communities was the amount of agricultural trash and the unmanaged livestock excrement which are all over the place. A project was conceptualized to reverse this situation.

In order to mitigate the impact of environmental degradation and address village cleanliness, WV Vietnam received funding from KOICA and KEB to provide community members with alternative cooking models that minimize the negative impact on environment.

To date, 40 households are using improved Cooking Stove which uses rice-husks as fuel. What used to be trash are now considered valuable fuel. Cooking is easier and the kitchen is cleaner. Trees are no longer cut for firewood.

Biogas system was also installed in 160 households, utilizing animal excrement as both fuel and fertiliser. The livestock waste that created overwhelming stench and attracted a huge number of flies is now effectively covered and has become a productive source of energy while creating a cleaner village environment.

*"This project aims to protect the environment in Trieu Phong commune through the application of environment-friendly models including Waste management, Biogas system and Improved cooking stove. We hope this project will transform lives of the children", said Mrs. Nam IL Woo, Deputy Resident Representative of KOICA in Vietnam.*

## OUR STAFF

We value our staff's contributions, with their unceasing efforts to serve vulnerable children and communities. For years, many of our staff have proven their admirable dedication and commitment in working for the poor, especially for those who are working and living in the remote and most challenging locations.

In order to improve and strengthen our staff's capacity and expertise, WV Vietnam has organized various training sessions.

The focus of these sessions range from child-focused disaster risks reduction, climate change adaptation, child protection and participation, child sponsorship, partnering and facilitation skills, monitoring and evaluation, communications, finance, health/water/sanitation, life skills, agricultural/economic development, performance management, and coaching and leadership skills.

As WV Vietnam's staff continue to be the strength and asset of the organization, they ensure good governance and accountability in the day-to-day operations. They continue dedicating their efforts to expand activities and programs to help more poor children and people in Vietnam.

## KEY STATISTICS



**516**  
Total staff



**208**  
Male



**308**  
Female



**24**  
Learning events

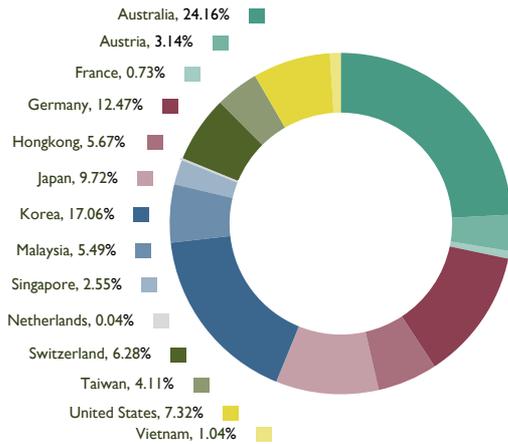
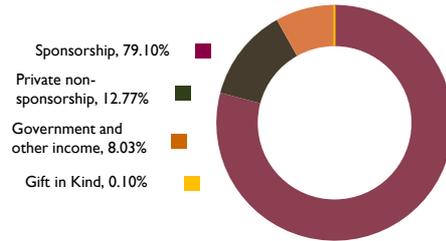


**50%**  
Key positions have second liner identified, who were trained for leadership roles

## OUR ACCOUNTABILITY

### Income

Sources	Amount (USD)
Sponsorship	15,055,399
Private non-sponsorship	2,431,505
Government and other	1,527,623
Gift in Kind	19,084
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,033,611</b>

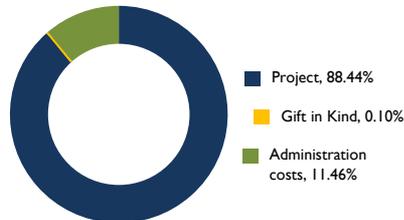


### Income from WV Support Offices

Support Offices	Amount (USD)
Australia	4,599,536
Austria	649,180
France	138,039
Germany	2,372,995
Hongkong	1,078,536
Japan	1,849,981
Korea	3,246,325
Malaysia	1,044,828
Singapore	485,443
Netherlands	741
Switzerland	1,195,439
Taiwan	782,246
United States	1,393,203
Vietnam	197,219
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,033,611</b>

### Expenditure

Sources	Amount (USD)
Projects	16,833,964
Gift in Kind	19,084
Administration costs	2,180,563
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,033,611</b>



### Expenditures by sectors

Sectors	Amount (USD)	%	Sectors	Amount (USD)	%
Advocacy	141,159	0.74%	Health	1,822,906	9.58%
Agriculture	1,953,947	10.27%	HIV/AIDS	119,423	0.63%
Assessment/Design	156,047	0.82%	Infrastructure	282,496	1.48%
Children in crisis	92,300	0.48%	Leadership development	2,022,215	10.62%
Disability	25,536	0.13%	Nutrition	370,005	1.94%
Disaster mitigation	1,080,890	5.68%	Project management	3,785,003	19.89%
Economic development	694,888	3.65%	Protection	816,951	4.29%
Education	2,741,453	14.40%	Shelter	27	0.0001%
Emergency response	147,299	0.77%	Sponsorship management	1,765,581	9.28%
Environment	259,277	1.36%	Water and sanitation	550,604	2.89%
Food security	87,883	0.46%	M&E	100,528	0.53%
Gender	17,193	0.09%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,033,611</b>	<b>100%</b>

## WV VIETNAM'S STRATEGY MAP FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2015-2017

Strategic goal: Achieve sustained well-being of children, especially the most vulnerable

