



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

NOT FOR SALES

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Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision



VALUES

World Vision is inspired by Jesus Christ's compassion for 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.

VISION

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

Dear Friends,

Fiscal year 2015 observed many of World Vision Vietnam's efforts in increasing positive impact towards sustainable child well-being. Our new National Strategy for period 2015-2017, which outlines the transition to a more systematic and cost-effective operating model, promises a greater impact on children's lives in more geographical areas.

It has been of great encouragement to us that World Vision Vietnam is highly evaluated among World Vision offices in the Asia Pacific region, with "established" ratings for three consecutive years in all operation dimensions of the Program Capacity & Performance Review. The Child Well-Being Report that reflects our contributions to the betterment of children's lives in Vietnam was well acclaimed. We were also deeply honoured to receive Vietnamese President's Friendship Medal which recognised our on-going efforts in poverty alleviation to benefit poor children and communities.



I am pleased that we have been able to train 41,167 mothers and caregivers who, in turn, improved nutrition for over 125,000 children through our 895 nutrition clubs in 37 districts, reducing the stunting rate from 33.4% to 29.2% in these areas. Reading comprehension has been improved among children aged 11 in 40 districts, hiking from 74.9% to 79%, thanks to the scale-up of child reading clubs, active learning methods and child-friendly library models. Child participation was enhanced through 243 small initiatives that were designed, implemented and monitored by children themselves. 14,245 poor households gained access to small loans and financial literacy education to improve their household economy and living conditions. Five million deworming tablets were distributed to women in reproductive age in 16 poor provinces to complement the Government's effort to address this critical issue.

Advocacy work was advanced from commune to national level, focusing on child protection and child participation. World Vision Vietnam took active part in promoting children's voice on issues concerning them and their communities through series of child forums organized in collaboration with the Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs at local levels, Department of Child Care and Protection and other organizations at national level. We also supported the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs in conducting the Regulatory Impact Assessment of the Children Law, and contributed our field experiences to the development of the National Action Program on Child Participation.

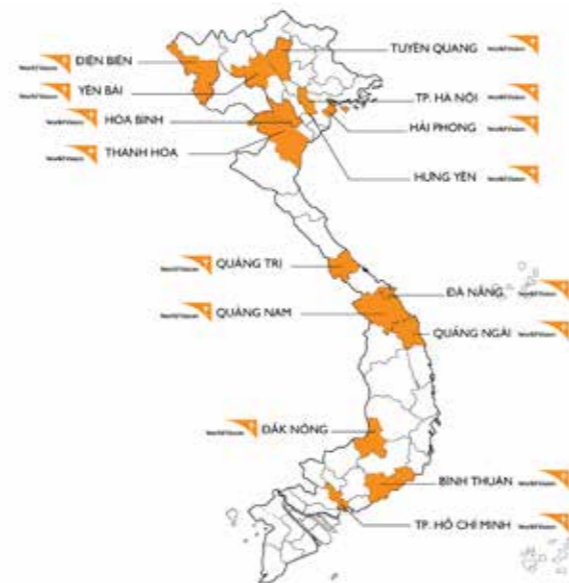
I would like to extend my wholehearted appreciation and gratitude to our sponsors, donors, 13 supporting offices, Vietnamese government partners at all levels, peer international and local NGOs, staff, communities, and children, for without their commitment and support, none of our achievements would have been possible. We look forward to the continued journey ahead to help many more disadvantaged children experience life in all its fullness.

Tran Thu Huyen
National Director

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WHERE WE WORK



No.	Area Development Program (ADP)	Province
1	Na Hang ADP	Tuyen Quang
2	Dien Bien Dong ADP	Dien Bien
3	Muong Cha ADP	Dien Bien
4	Tua Chua ADP	Dien Bien
5	Tuan Giao ADP	Dien Bien
6	Luc Yen ADP	Yen Bai
7	Tram Tau ADP	Yen Bai
8	Tran Yen ADP	Yen Bai
9	Van Chan ADP	Yen Bai
10	Van Yen ADP	Yen Bai
11	Yen Binh ADP	Yen Bai
12	Ngo Quyen Urban ADP	Hai Phong
13	Tien Lu ADP	Hung Yen
14	Lac Son ADP	Hoa Binh
15	Mai Chau ADP	Hoa Binh
16	Yen Thuy ADP	Hoa Binh
17	Ba Thuoc ADP	Thanh Hoa
18	Cam Thuy ADP	Thanh Hoa
19	Lang Chanh ADP	Thanh Hoa
20	Nhu Thanh ADP	Thanh Hoa
21	Nhu Xuan ADP	Thanh Hoa
22	Quan Hoa ADP	Thanh Hoa
23	Quan Son ADP	Thanh Hoa
24	Thuong Xuan ADP	Thanh Hoa
25	Dakrong ADP	Quang Tri
26	Hai Lang ADP	Quang Tri
27	Huong Hoa ADP	Quang Tri
28	Trieu Phong ADP	Quang Tri
29	Vinh Linh ADP	Quang Tri
30	Hoa Vang ADP	Da Nang
31	Son Tra Urban ADP	Da Nang
32	Hien ADP	Quang Nam
33	Nam Giang ADP	Quang Nam
34	Nong Son ADP	Quang Nam
35	Phuoc Son ADP	Quang Nam
36	Tien Phuoc ADP	Quang Nam

37	Tra My ADP	Quang Nam
38	Minh Long ADP	Quang Ngai
39	Son Tay ADP	Quang Ngai
40	Tra Bong ADP	Quang Ngai
41	Dak Rlap ADP	Dak Nong
42	Bac Binh ADP	Binh Thuan
43	Ham Thuan Bac ADP	Binh Thuan
44	Binh Chanh Urban ADP	HCMC
45	District 4 Urban ADP	HCMC

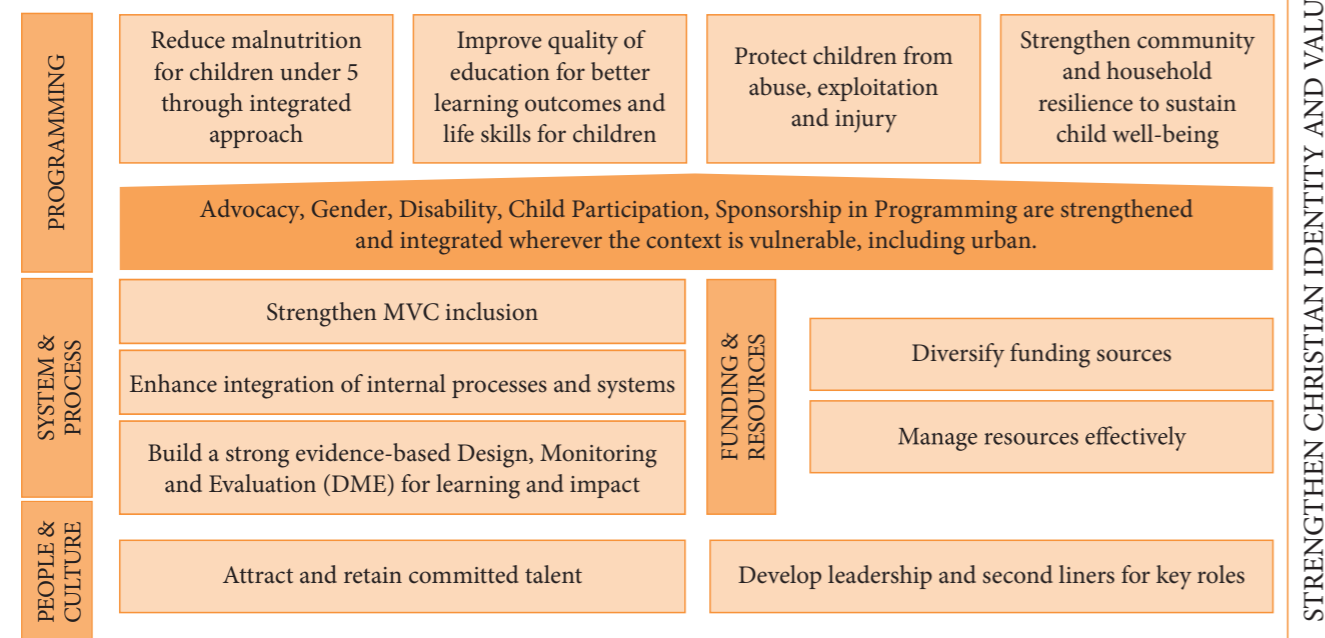


No.	Micro-Finance Program	Province
1	Kim Dong district	Hung Yen
2	Phu Cu district	Hung Yen
3	Lang Chanh district	Thanh Hoa
4	Trieu Phong district	Quang Tri

5	Vinh Linh district	Quang Tri
6	Hai Lang district	Quang Tri
7	Hoa Vang district	Da Nang
8	Hiep Duc district	Quang Nam
9	Tien Phuoc district	Quang Nam

STRATEGY MAP FOR 2015-2017

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



STRENGTHEN CHRISTIAN IDENTITY AND VALUES

No.	Special Projects	Province
1	Exiting Exploitation	Dien Bien, Hanoi
2	Gifts-In-Kind Japan for Tua Chua ADP	Dien Bien
3	Safe Motherhood	Dien Bien
4	Child Protection Advocacy	Yen Bai, Hoa Binh
5	End Trafficking In Persons	Yen Bai, Quang Tri, Quang Nam
6	Hai Phong City Resilient to Climate Change and Disaster Risks	Hai Phong
7	Child Health Now	Dien Bien, Yen Bai, Hoa Binh, Quang Tri
8	Livestock Initiative	Hoa Binh, Quang Tri
9	Central Area of Thanh Hoa Province Resilient to Natural Disasters	Thanh Hoa
10	Hai Lang Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Quang Tri
11	Huong Hoa Ethnic Minority Economic Empowerment	Quang Tri
12	KOICA-funded Environment Protection	Quang Tri
13	Enhance Community Capacity in Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Planning and Implementation	Binh Thuan
14	Education Approach Review	Thanh Hoa, Quang Tri, Quang Ngai



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

MALNUTRITION REDUCTION

CONTEXT

According to Vietnam National Institute of Nutrition, malnutrition rate among children under five is still at high level, with underweight prevalence at 15.3% and stunting at 25.9% (2014). There is also a huge disparity in malnutrition among different parts of the country. Especially in provinces where World Vision Vietnam works, the rates are much higher than the national average: stunting prevalence in Dien Bien, Yen Bai, Thanh Hoa and Daknong provinces, for example, is 49%, 43.5%, 33.9% and 33.3%, respectively.

Approved by Prime Minister, Vietnam's National Nutrition Strategy period 2011-2020 aims at further reducing child malnutrition to improve physical status and stature of Vietnamese people, in which, reduced malnutrition rate, especially stunting, among children under five is prioritized in coming years. Yet in remote areas, food insecurity, inadequate nutrition knowledge and practices, infectious diseases, poor sanitation and hygiene, and lack of prioritization for nutrition by local authorities remain big hurdles in fulfilling the national goal.

WORLD VISION VIETNAM'S INTERVENTIONS

- Adequate dietary intake for mother and children
- Mother and children protected from illness
- Effective policies and practices in place

IMPLEMENTED MODELS/ PRACTICES

Nutrition club is an integrated, community-based behaviour change initiative to improve child care and nutrition practices, involving monthly meetings among mothers and care givers of children under five. Nutrition club is also a platform where other nutrition interventions are implemented.

Positive Deviance/Hearth center addresses malnutrition through rehabilitating malnourished children, capacitating families to sustain the nutrition rehabilitation at home and preventing malnutrition among the community's other children.

Integration with Agricultural and Economic Development approach provides parents and caregivers with climate-smart and cost-effective farming technologies, partly support of production inputs and improved access to micro-savings and -credits for business development to sustainably generate food and income to meet the nutrition needs of the households, especially their children.

Integration with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene approach mobilizes communities to identify and resolve the root causes of diarrhea and other waterborne diseases, which in turn improves children's health.

Integration with Early Childhood Care and Development approach aims to build capacity for parents and caregivers through nutrition clubs' and parent-teacher committees' activities, so that they can better take care of their children, both nutritionally and educationally.

HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- **70,914 children** under five in 37 districts directly benefited from their parents' participation in **895 nutrition clubs** to learn and exercise nutritional knowledge and child care practices.
- Positive Deviance/Hearth model is being applied in **89 villages** in **10 districts**, helping to rehabilitate **413 malnourished children**.
- Community-led total sanitation model was introduced to **204 villages** in 20 districts, improving basic sanitation condition for children by eliminating open defecation practice and supporting the installation of **4,275 hygienic domestic latrines**.
- Prevalence of stunted, underweight and wasted malnutrition was reduced, most significantly in stunting rate - from 33.4% in 2014 to **29.2%** in 2015.

"I did not allow my daughter-in-law to breastfeed my grandchild because I was taught that colostrum was smelly and unhealthy. The nutrition club changed my view. Now I am helping her with house chores so she can spend time breastfeeding her second child. My grandson is now nine months old and already weighs eight kilos,"

said Thao, nutrition club member in Tien Lu district, Hung Yen province.

"Thanks to the new knowledge I learnt from nutrition club, my child has escaped malnutrition now. I still want to be in the club to learn more and share my experiences with other mothers,"

said Vuon, a nutrition club member in Phuoc Son district, Quang Nam province.



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

STORY OF CHANGE AN EXEMPLARY FATHER

Back home from the field, Phong quickly went straight to the vegetable garden to pick some sweet leaves, then washed them carefully.

He got an egg from the nest, skillfully separated the egg yolk and put it into a bowl. On the stove, there was a pot of porridge cooked from early morning before he went to the field.

It was 11:20 a.m. and he still had enough time to prepare the third meal of the day for his child.

"All I need to cook a nutritious meal for my son are an egg and a handful of sweet leaves without any expense," Phong shared while feeding his child.



Home-grown ingredients for a nutritious meal

In Na Bo village, Khanh Thien commune, Luc Yen district, the image of a man taking care of his child like Phong is very familiar to the villagers.

"The old saying says men make house, women make home. However, I have held communication sessions in

the nutrition club so that men can both make house and help their wives to take care of their children," said Yen, a village health worker.

Previously, Phong's parents would feed his child with any food available. Since joining the World Vision-established nutrition club, Phong and his wife and other parents have not only gained nutrition knowledge but also practiced nutritious cooking.

"Everybody thought that putting bones and meat in the porridge is good but it turns out that porridge cooking must follow given process and use proper ingredients," said Thanh, Phong's wife.

Not only involved in nutrition club, Phong was also a member of livelihood development group initiated by World Vision Vietnam.

Being well-equipped with poultry raising techniques, all chickens he has raised since early April have been full-grown; some were sold for income, the rest were kept to provide meat and eggs for his children.

"World Vision's support in our village is really meaningful. Witnessing our children grow up healthily day by day, we are very happy," said Phong.

Phong is feeding his son with the newly-cooked porridge.



Story and photos by Pham Thi Kieu Le/World Vision



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

QUALITY EDUCATION

CONTEXT

Vietnam has made great strides in education over the past years. According to the Ministry of Education and Training's (MOET) report for school-year 2014-2015, enrollment rates were high at all educational levels, especially among children aged 5 (99%), and were equal between boys and girls. Literacy rate of population aged 15 and above reached 94%. Drop-out rate among primary school students has been maintained at 0% since 2005.

However, tough challenges still lie at the one-way teaching method at schools, language barrier against ethnic minority children, poor teaching and learning conditions, lack of life skills training and practice opportunities for students.

To address these shortcomings, Government's Resolution 29-NQ/TW issued in 2014 aims at comprehensive renovation of general education, and the MOET's Circular 463 issued in 2015 instructs life skills education at schools. These policies give World Vision Vietnam full legal foundation to advance its efforts in improving educational quality for the most vulnerable children aged 3-14 in poor communities to better their learning outcomes and life skills.

WORLD VISION VIETNAM'S INTERVENTIONS

- Capacity building for teachers on child-centered teaching method, active learning method, early child education curriculum (focusing on physical, cognitive, lingual, socio-emotional and aesthetic developmental domains) and life

- skills (focusing on emotional management, communication, critical thinking, relationship building and social responsibility)
- Rich resource learning environment for children
- Parent engagement in school for children's better learning and development
- Life skills lessons and practice opportunities for students through children clubs, extracurricular activities and child-led initiatives

IMPLEMENTED MODELS/ PRACTICES

Ethnic mother assistant at kindergartens are trained to teach Vietnamese as a second language, using the ethnic minority students' mother tongues to support their smooth language transition in class.

Village child reading club addresses poor literacy among primary school students and low parents' participation in education. Volunteer parents are equipped with facilitation skills to work with children and organize activities to enhance children's reading comprehension, life skills and living values.

Child-friendly library provides children with access to diverse reading resources while capacitating librarians to decorate reading space, classify and arrange books according to different reading levels, set out suitable reading timetable and organize reading activities to attract students' participation.

Parent - Teacher Association collaborates closely with school to improve learning conditions for their children, with activities varying from creating teaching and learning aids to repairing school fence to assure a safe environment for their children to study in.

"By answering to questions, children at child reading clubs explore the story content and express their understanding of the stories' moral lessons. They also write and draw about the stories. Many students have shown improvement in their reading, writing and communication skills. These capacities and habits are very important to children's life-long learning in the future,"

concluded independent consultant Nguyen Thi Bich in the 2015 Village child reading club evaluation report.

HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- **2,456 preschool** and **2,878 primary school teachers** were trained on teaching methods to help ethnic students decipher Vietnamese language better, improve students' reading comprehension and stimulate their active participation in class.
- **26 ethnic mother assistants** were trained on lessons planning in collaboration with teachers while their

skills in teaching Vietnamese as a second language continued to get strengthened. As a result, their contributions at 10 kindergartens in school-year 2014-2015 were assessed as effective, helping **774 ethnic children** to better understand and speak Vietnamese and thus increasing their involvement in classroom activities.

- **3,264 children** actively participated in **128 child village reading clubs** where they learnt about value-based stories that nurtured their emotional and social intelligence and improved their reading skills.
- **40 child-friendly libraries** have been established and effectively operated, providing children with outside-classroom reading opportunities.
- World Vision Vietnam's Functional Literacy Assessment Test (FLAT) in 2015 for 3,370 Kinh students and 5,120 ethnic students showed that **79%** and **72.5%** of the respective groups achieved functional literacy, corresponding to respective increase rates of 4.1% and 4.7% compared with 2014's results.
- **Nearly 7,000 children** had life skills training and practice opportunities through children clubs and multiform extracurricular activities, which contributed to building up their confidence, activeness and equipping them with knowledge and skills to protect themselves in the face of abuse, exploitation, injury or disaster.

"I feel so happy to see my children play with toys in the safe playground,"

said Vang A Chia, father of a fifth-grader in Dien Bien Dong district, Dien Bien province.

STORY OF CHANGE I WILL BE A NOVELIST

An activity at child reading club in Vinh Linh district



It is not unusual to see children spend their whole day at online game shops as an addictive pastime. Before joining village child reading club, Hoang Van Thang, a fifth grader at Vinh Linh district, Quang Tri province used to have the same habit as his parents were always busy working out in the field.

"It is very heartening now to observe Thang reading books to his friends and facilitating games for them to explore the content of the stories," said Thang's teacher.

Thang came to know about the World Vision-established reading club one year ago from an announcement on the village loudspeaker calling upon children to gather at the cultural house for reading. Out of curiosity, the little boy went to see what it was and was immediately drawn to the club's activities.

Since then, he has become an active member of the club, attending all club's gatherings and zealously participate in group activities. He also asked his father to borrow books for him to read at home.

"I have read many interesting books. My most favorite character is Tao Xung, a very clever boy who is always thirsty for knowledge. I think I need to learn much more to be as intelligent as him. And I will try my best to be a novelist in the future," said Thang with brightened eyes.

"Thang's language skills have improved a lot since participating in the club. This makes him become an ebullient contributor during lessons in class," shared another teacher of Thang.

Story and photo by a teacher in Vinh Linh district



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

CHILD PROTECTION

CONTEXT

Almost 1.5 million Vietnamese children are considered most vulnerable and 2.17 million at risk of being vulnerable. According to the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs' (MOLISA) report in 2014, critical child-related issues are child labor, child working far from home and child sexual abuse. From 2013 to June 2014, reported cases of these issues increased from 15,436 to 20,739, from 6,032 to 10,868 and from 210 to 602, respectively. Children's vulnerability is further compounded by the marginalization of poor children in both urban and rural contexts. Child injury and child death are also growing concerns with main causes, including traffic accident, drowning, suicide, and poisoning.

Child Protection Program period 2011-2015 brings about the establishment of Child Protection Committees (CPCs) in 59 provinces and appointment of 11,201 child protection and care officers at commune level. However, there are still gaps in quality of child protection services, reporting mechanism, coordination among agencies and services accessibility. World Vision Vietnam has been supporting the MOLISA in drafting the succeeding five-year National Program while consolidating its child protection efforts at grassroots level to better protect children from abuse, exploitation and injury.

WORLD VISION VIETNAM'S INTERVENTIONS

- Enabling children to protect themselves and peers
- Enabling communities and families to protect their children
- Enabling child protection services providers to take actions in a coordinated way to protect children
- Enforcing child protection-related policies implementation

IMPLEMENTED MODELS/PRACTICES

Child protection and advocacy raises community's awareness, promotes children's life skills and participation, and enhances community-based support and services in order to protect children from abuse, exploitation and other forms of violence.

Child-led small project empowers children to identify and solve the problems facing them and their peers, thus raising awareness among adults and community members of children's capacity and their role in implementing children's rights.

Children club provides children with knowledge of children's rights and essential life skills for them to protect themselves, build confidence and practice their participation.

"Our commune's Child Protection Committee was already set up before but there has been no activity until now. Thanks to the trainings, now we know how to address child protection incidents, especially child abuse cases,"

said Nguyen Thi Tinh, CPC member in Quy Mong commune, Tran Yen district, Yen Bai province.



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- **288 communications events** were conducted to equip children and adults with knowledge of children's rights, acts and practices that violate children's rights, child protection and skills to report incidents of child abuse, neglect and injury to community-based child protection boards/committees at local level.
- **244 adolescent-led initiatives** promoting child well-being were designed, implemented and monitored by children themselves.
- **23,241 children** had enhanced participation through their participation in children clubs, small projects, child forums and behaviour change communication events at all levels to voice up on the matters that affect their lives and put forward their recommendations to local authorities and policy makers.
- Community-based child protection system were strengthened in **5 provinces, 29 districts** and **168 communes** with support from World Vision Vietnam. They are functioning well, following systems approach.
- Communications in various forms to alter attitude of communities and children themselves towards early child marriage was continued in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Dien Bien and Yen Bai provinces to advocate for girls' opportunity to a better future. Messages reached **9,482 children**. Thanks to the increased awareness, positive results were shown among children in World Vision Vietnam's sponsorship program: average age of marriage in children was raised **from 14.8 to 16** and number of reported case tripled **from 44 to 144**.

STORY OF CHANGE NO MORE CHILDREN DROWNING

More than 7,000 children are drown every year in Vietnam, according to UNICEF [United Nations Fund for Children].

Drowning is attributed to 22.6% of total child deaths, only ranking behind traffic accidents, while the rate is up to 70% among children under 15 years old. Most cases happen when children play near rivers, lakes or beaches.

Situated near Hoa Binh dam in Da River, Tan Mai and Tan Dan communes in Mai Chau district have large water surface while local rivers and lakes are deep with sloping river banks. Many children study at primary and secondary boarding schools all week, where they freely play at rivers or lakes though they can't swim.

"The risk of drowning in children is high," says Dinh Van Manh, Chairman of Tan Mai People's Committee. Every year, at least five children were injured or died by such accidents according to statistics from local health station.

Children learn to do warm-up exercises before swimming.



A swimming lesson

To address this issue, World Vision Vietnam, in cooperation with local authorities and schools, organized swimming clubs for nearly 160 children during the 2015 summer holidays.

At the course, the children learnt that it's unsafe to swim outside during noon, swim without warm-up exercises, cross rivers during heavy winds and sit on boats without wearing life jacket.

They were also equipped with basic skills such as floating on water, rescue and first aid.

More important, parents were invited to join with their children at the clubs.

"About 90 turns of parents participated in the activity. After this course, they will definitely change their mind and won't let their children play alone at rivers and lakes," says Bui Van Thao, leader of a village development board in Tan Dan commune.

Story and photos by Nguyen Van Tien/World Vision

Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision



COMMUNITY AND HOUSEHOLD RESILIENCE

CONTEXT

Vietnam has seen rapid economic growth and substantial social changes since the attainment of low-middle income country in 2010. However, poverty reduction rate has slowed down and poverty incidence remains high in remote and mountainous areas where household income and livelihoods remain unstable and unviable due to undeveloped markets linkages, lack of access to financial services and lack of tools and technologies that can equip them for improved production. Youth unemployment rate is increasing due to their limited economic opportunities. Vietnam's vulnerability to disasters and climate change also affects livelihoods of the poor, posing huge challenges for vulnerable communities to boost their economy and sustain social development.

World Vision Vietnam's strategy emphasizes that resilience of communities and households to economic shocks and natural disasters is crucial to sustain child well-being. Drawing on New Rural Development Program period 2010-2020, Sustainable Development Strategy period 2010-2020 and Natural Disaster Prevention and Control Law, World Vision Vietnam adopts a holistic approach spanning areas of agricultural and economic development, micro-finance services, disaster risks reduction and climate change adaptation to create positive changes.

WORLD VISION VIETNAM'S INTERVENTIONS

- Improving poor households' income through increased agricultural productivity, improved access to markets and micro-finance services and promoted saving practice
- Increasing youth's access to employment opportunities through vocational training and life skills training
- Improving communities' and households' ability to cope with disasters
- Equipping children and teachers with skills to protect themselves when facing disasters
- Promoting Public-Private Partnership in disaster risks reduction and climate change adaptation

IMPLEMENTED MODELS/PRACTICES

System of rice intensification aims to ensure farmers' sustainable rice production using climate-smart technologies and practices such as micro-organic fertilizer and crops rotation to improve soil fertility and increase rice productivity while using less water and input.

Livestock initiative for transformation supports poor household with effective market-oriented livestock raising models and partly provision of breeding animals to help them generate income and assets to improve household economy.

Local value chain development facilitates poor farmers' access to markets through participatory value chain analysis, relationship building amongst market actors, market research and action planning to meet market demands.

Micro-finance services enhance access to small credits and financial education for the poor to build up their financial capital and invest in livelihood development activities.

Youth livelihood development supports dis-advantaged youth aged 15-24 to gain employment from other employers or as self-employed entrepreneurs through vocational training and provision of basic entrepreneurship development knowledge.

"Previously, after the harvest, I would go find jobs in other places while my wife stayed at home looking after our children. Now we have pigs to raise, thanks to World Vision's support. Our pigs have given birth to eight piglets. I gave one to other group member and sold the other seven, earning a profit of 5 million dong [US\$231]. I used the money to buy milk and nutritious food for my kids,"

said Ngan Van Luc, a farmer in Thanh Son commune, Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa province.

Community-based disaster risks reduction plan

consolidates community's efforts in preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters at commune and village levels. This model has become village development boards' priority in pursuing sustainable community resilience.

Rapid response team is the front-liner in disasters response at commune and village levels. The team is capacitated through trainings, simulations and provided with necessary equipment for their effective function in early warning, evacuation of people, search and rescue, first aid, emergency relief and other disaster risks management efforts.

Child-focused Disaster Risks Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR-CCA) builds capacity on DRR-CCA for children and teachers through trainings on DRR-CCA knowledge, swimming, first aid and school-based disaster preparedness planning and drills.

"I was afraid of water and my teacher's scolding, but I'm not afraid now. I can dive with my eye open under water, like a fish,"

said Ho Xuan Dai, a child born with one blind eye, Hoang Hoa district, Thanh Hoa province.

HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- Agricultural interventions helped **over 7,300 households** increase their rice yields per hectare by 0.4 tons (8.6%) on average beside a 10-15% cut in input expenses and **nearly 6,000 households** increase monthly net income by US\$20-100 from livestock raising. Such interventions also contributed to producing clean food and promoting environmental protection as **20,000 households** started using EMIC [Effective Microorganism] products to make non-chemical fertilizer from agricultural wastes.
- **Almost 4,500 households** received training on business planning and coaching during actual operation. Local value chains were set up in 17 districts, increasing market access and economic opportunity for **3,871 households**. In further support of their business development, financial literacy education was provided and **nearly US\$7M** worth of micro-credits disbursed to **14,245 poor households** in need of capital, subsequently benefiting a total of 18,477 children whose needs of education, health care, improved housing and sanitation were met.
- **211** out of 459 disadvantaged youths who received vocational training in 2015 have obtained employment after their graduation.
- **236 communes** and **1,133 villages** developed community disaster preparedness plans/community-based disaster risk reduction plan. **507 local rapid response teams** are functioning properly. **389 schools** have integrated child-focused DRR-CCA education into school activities.

STORY OF CHANGE AN ENERGETIC HAIRDRESSER

Diagnosed with a serious bone disease five years ago, Bui Van Long spent almost all savings on treatment in vain. His left foot got weakening and shrinking and his health also worsened, preventing him from doing any kind of hard work and forcing his wife to become the breadwinner.

"My wife didn't have a stable job while I couldn't earn even one coin per day. She had to leave for the south to find a job," recalls Long.

While Long was in the hopeless plight, World Vision Vietnam's program in Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa province opened a vocational training course for school drop-outs and people with disabilities. Long was selected to join a course of hairdressing.

After three months, Long graduated and returned to his hometown to open a small hairdressing shop with a set of World Vision-provided equipment.

"At first, only few clients came to my shop because they didn't trust my capability. Gradually, I had more clients," says Long. "I now have money to invest in new equipment and hair care products to better serve my clients."

"Sometimes I worked from dawn to dusk. Especially during Tet holiday, my clients called to make an appointment five days in advance. I had to work hard but I was very happy," adds Long.

Our conversation was interrupted when a client entered the shop. Doing nice and careful haircutting while continuing his life story, Long says: "With the monthly income of around 5 - 6 million dong [US\$ 227 - 272], I can now afford better education for my kid. My daughter just got into grade one."



*Story and photo by Hoang Thi Tham/
Dien Quang 1 Primary School teacher*

Conquering his serious bone disease, Long has become a hairdresser and opened a shop in his hometown.

"My plan is to encourage my wife to learn female hairdressing after she finishes her work contract in Ho Chi Minh city. By that way, we can stay and work together in our hometown. She will have more time to take care of our child."

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN INCLUSION

As a child-focused organization, World Vision Vietnam takes the needs of children, especially the most vulnerable living in the poorest and remote mountainous areas of the country, as the key focus in all of its programs. Children with disabilities, orphans, and victims of injury, toxic chemicals and early marriage make up a large proportion of most vulnerable children at community. By strengthening local services provision, World Vision Vietnam makes sure that these children are involved in awareness raising and capacity building activities, children clubs, life skills education and vocational training. Besides, World Vision Vietnam also provides psychosocial supports through counselling services and home visits to give most vulnerable children and their families spiritual encouragement. As a further attempt to thoroughly improve lives of the most vulnerable children in target districts, World Vision Vietnam gives special attention to their families in its livelihood interventions to help them overcome their economic difficulties and thus secure their children's good health and continued schooling.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship program aims at realizing World Vision Vietnam's child well-being aspirations that children are loved and love others and that they are cared for, protected and participate in life. Specifically, under sponsorship program, various fun yet meaningful activities are organized for children including birthday celebrations, mid-autumn festival, children's day celebration, communication events, contests and summer camp, which not only provides children with healthy playgrounds but also enhances their participation and life skills such as creative thinking and effective communication. Local people are also involved in the planning and implementation of the program's initiatives, helping them to better understand the purpose of child sponsorship and thus actively take on their roles in enriching the relationships among sponsors, children and communities. As of December 2015, the number of sponsored children reached 70,725.

GENDER

Women's important roles in domestic and social development have increasingly been recognised by their families and the society as a whole in Vietnam. In all World Vision Vietnam's project areas, women are always engaged in the whole cycle of program management, from assessment, design to implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Furthermore, for women's contributions to be more effective, capacity building

for women is a pervasive approach. Club activities, training courses and community discussions at grassroots level provide women with knowledge and skills to better participate in project management and advocacy events. According to program evaluation conducted in 2015, the needs of both girls and boys, women and men were taken into account in all activities, and women were the main direct beneficiaries of World Vision Vietnam's program.

DISABILITY

Children and adults with disabilities are considered as vulnerable people in the community, thus World Vision Vietnam's programs are designed to ensure that they are supported through the mainstreamed disability inclusion. Our community-based rehabilitation programs, vocational trainings and livelihood interventions are tailored to their specific needs, while our construction work and advocacy effort focus on the accessibility of the disabled to infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and community halls. Communication on disability inclusion is promoted for local authorities to pay more attention to people with disabilities and for the disabled themselves to be fully aware of their rights and the supports they shall receive. Other supports in terms of aid equipment, counselling, production inputs, and credit services are provided for those in need. As of 2015, there were 1,041 children with disabilities participating in and benefiting from World Vision Vietnam's sponsorship program.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

Undocumented migration among the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries is linked to high incidence of trafficking. Trafficking perpetrators use false promises of high-paid jobs to lure people, including youths, to leaving their hometown without any clue of risks that await them. World Vision Vietnam's five-year End trafficking in persons program (ETIP) has entered its last year of implementation in high-risk provinces of Yen Bai, Quang Tri and Quang Nam, seeking to assist most vulnerable children to stay in school or access job opportunities, equip youths and potential migrants with knowledge and skills of safe migration, and reintegrate surviving victims into their communities. The program also supports policy implementation and revision processes to improve prevention work and services provision for survivors.

ADVOCACY

Aiming at sustainable well-being of children at all levels, World Vision Vietnam partnered with government agencies to not only reinforce the implementation of existing policies on child protection and participation but also make contributions

to the development of the Vietnam Government's policies and laws on these issues. Our child-led project model was recognized and included in the National Action Program on Child Participation approved by the Prime Minister. Our field experiences were contributed to National Action Program on Child Injury Prevention. We also supported Child Care and Protection Department of MOLISA to conduct the Regulatory Impact Assessment of the Children Law, which is now under revision and expected to be passed by National Assembly in 2016. We also took part in promoting children's voices on issues of their concerns through series of child forums from commune to national level. Up to 192 children aged 10-16 from 30 cities/provinces represented over 26 million children in Vietnam to participate in the Fourth National Child Forum where 13 recommendations were conveyed to the leaders of national government agencies. A total of 4,800 children in our working areas were given opportunities to speak out the rights to quality education of children, including those with disabilities, through dialogues and art-based activities in response to the 2015's Global Action Week on Education.

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Poor children in remote mountainous areas often have to face extreme cold without proper clothes. Since most of them also suffer from chronic malnutrition, their health condition was compounded, consequently causing their frequent absence from class or dropping out of school at worst. In order to help dis-advantaged children have better health, especially during winter, World Vision Vietnam works closely with World Vision in other countries and corporate donors to provide children with necessities such as sweaters, jackets, blankets, and shoes. In 2015, 28,798 blankets, 4,058 hand-knitted wears and 630 solar lanterns were donated by World Vision Korea, World Vision Japan and Panasonic Corporation respectively, benefiting 46,000 poor children and adults in seven provinces. In addition, over 5 million deworming tablets donated by World Vision Australia contributed to improving health for millions of women in reproductive age in 16 poor provinces of Vietnam.



Photo by Nguyen Xuan An/World Vision

INTEGRATED APPROACH

Program integration brings together multiple project models and approaches from various technical areas to enhance and improve results in the communities. Characterized by coordination of activities and unification of deliverables within a program, program integration leads to more efficient use of resources and time of the organization. Most importantly, it allows community members to benefit from various interventions that can holistically address their needs.

In 2015, program integration was best illustrated in projects such as Central Area of Thanh Hoa Province Resilient to Natural Disasters (CATREND). Primarily a project designed to implement Disaster Risks Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation activities to help 8 communes in 2 districts of Thanh Hoa province reduce their vulnerabilities to natural disasters and climate change effects, the community members were also able to increase their knowledge and understanding on child rights and protection. Children are vulnerable during disasters and various studies have proven that their right are often violated during these unfortunate events. By integrating child protection in this project, parents, caregivers and response teams are better equipped not only to cope with disasters but also to protect their children from harm, abuse and exploitation on a day to day basis and in the event of a disaster.

Similar integration is implemented across other projects, especially in Hai Phong Resilient to Climate Change and Disaster Risks (HRCD), Enhance community capacity in community-based disaster risk management planning and implementation (BRICK II) and Son Tra Resilience to Climate Change and Disaster Risks.

Program integration is also mainstreamed among Health, Education and Livelihood development programs to enable parents with children under five to start and maintain a good nutritional diet for their children. In many districts, nutrition clubs and interest groups are

simultaneously platforms to organize savings groups to help local people build up their sustainable financial capacity. In 2015, 33 districts integrated either Early childhood development or Livelihood interventions or both into nutrition clubs while 351 savings groups were formed within existing World Vision-established clubs and groups in communities.



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

Program sustainability is the ultimate operational goal of World Vision Vietnam. In 2015, 34 out of 45 targeted districts applied Development Program Approach which focuses on promoting communities' and partners' engagement throughout the entire program cycle. Training Of Trainers (TOT) approach was adopted in all programs and projects to build capacity for local partners and equip them with skills to apply as well as retrain others on what they have learnt. Breeding animals and technical training were provided to groups of poor families, who then passed the newborns and techniques to other families in their villages for sustainable animal multiplication and poverty reduction. Community's contribution was mobilized to increase their ownership and responsibilities when participating in World Vision Vietnam's activities - in 2015, US\$207,714 worth of cash, labour and materials were contributed to community development initiatives by local people. Last but not least, partnership with Government and other organizations was strengthened to bring about synergy for sustainable changes in the communities.

Micro-finance program is an outstanding example of World Vision Vietnam's program sustainability, measured by three dimensions: appropriateness and affordability of service to community people, impacts of the program, and self-sufficiency of operation after funding period is over. By the end of September 2015, World Vision Vietnam had phased out its long-term programs in six districts of three provinces, including Hung Yen (Kim Dong, Phu Cu districts), Quang Nam (Hiep Duc, Tien Phuoc districts) and Quang Tri (Trieu Phong, Vinh Linh districts); however, the micro-finance program, as highly recommended by the villagers, still continued providing service to community people in close collaboration with local partners at different levels. Moreover, throughout the program's life cycle, micro-finance service has gradually been improved in performance, demonstrating its ability to generate adequate income to cover its incurred costs. This continuation of micro-finance program without World Vision Vietnam's support is a contributing factor to the sustained well-being of poor children and their families.

PROGRAM CAPABILITY & PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The Program Capability & Performance Review (PCPR) is an internal initiative, annually conducted in all countries where World Vision International is carrying out development work to evaluate program quality and operational effectiveness on seven dimensions:

- Sponsorship management
- Program quality
- Child well-being
- Financial management
- Funding diversification
- Disaster management
- Advocacy

The ratings are decided by respective Regional Office based on parallel assessment by National Offices in program countries and Support Offices in funding countries.

For three years in a row, World Vision Vietnam has been rated "Established", indicating that majority of programs implemented in the country are effective and making tangible contributions towards child well-being. Notably, in 2015, all seven dimensions of our programs achieved "green" status - highest rating.



Photo by Le Thiem Xuan/World Vision

OUR DONORS

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

Individuals

World Vision Vietnam appreciates the commitment and diligent support by more than 56,000 sponsors for their respective sponsored children and communities. Equally important as their cash contributions are numerous inspiring letters, cards and small gifts throughout the year for the children to give them hope and encourage them to strive for a better future.

Corporates and other organizations

World Vision Vietnam also acknowledges companies whose cash and in-kind donations have helped address the immediate needs of poor communities and children. The corporate donors include Sam Sung Korea, YoungOne Korea, Korea Exchange Bank, Panasonic Corporation and MSIG Insurance. A coalition of renowned German aid organizations namely Aktion Deutschland Hilft has also been a generous donor since 2014. Last but not least,

MSIG's donation of woolen clothes to children in Muong Cha district
Photo by Cao Duc Viet/World Vision



German sponsors visit children in Ham Thuan Bac district.
Photo by Ngo Thi Hong Tham/World Vision

World Vision Vietnam recognizes all contributions from schools, churches and other corporates from Asia Pacific, Western Europe and America.

Governments

As partners in development, World Vision Vietnam has been chosen to receive government funding from Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Korea International Cooperation Agency.

STORY OF CHANGE YOUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

It is the first time Nguyen Thi Lieu*, a 27-year-old woman who lives in a mountainous northern district in Yen Bai province, doesn't sob out her story of being trafficked since her return to Vietnam last May.

Six years ago, the countryside young girl from Tran Yen district was sold to a beer shop in China by a Vietnamese man who had promised to find for her a good job in the city.

Lieu's two following years had been filled with low-paid back-breaking work yet constant brutal beating and electroshock torture until a Chinese man rescued her. They stayed together without a marriage license and soon had a baby boy. Peaceful days didn't last long. Lieu's illegal stay was soon discovered and she was deported back to Vietnam.

Now with support from her community and World Vision Vietnam's End Trafficking in Persons Program (ETIP), the young pale mother, who seemed to always look down trying to hide a deep scar on her cheek that was caused by a brutal whipping in China, is learning to start a new life.

World Vision Vietnam helped her to attend a local gathering where trafficked victims shared about their stories and learnt to improve their lives back home.

"I wrote four pages about my story in China. It helped free me from the burden of my agonizing memories, although my thoughts for my little son, who is now staying in China, will never be quenched," Lieu recalls.

"I also received four pigs and pig feed," says Lieu. "I sold them after three months and earned 16 million dong [US\$ 740]. I spent part of this money on four new piglets and put the rest into savings."

Lieu is also planning to raise chickens and grow vegetables to sell at the local market.



Australian Embassy's Minister & Deputy Head of Mission in Vietnam, Mr. Layton Bryce Pike, visits Lieu's family.

On her journey back home, Lieu has received a lot of encouragements. The most recent one came from a special guest - Australian Embassy's Minister & Deputy Head of Mission in Vietnam, Mr. Layton Bryce Pike.

Mr. Pike expressed his empathy with the woman's pain. He also encouraged her to keep moving forward: "You were very brave to tell your story as raising awareness is the only way to prevent human trafficking. Keep doing what you are doing right now, together with the support from your community and World Vision, your future is bright."

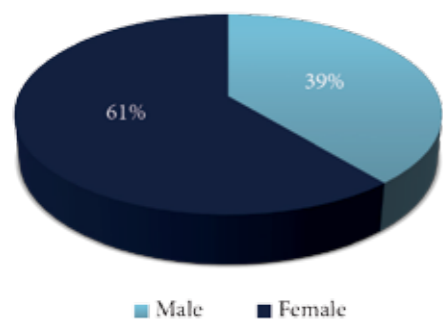
To date, 51 trafficked victims have received support from World Vision Vietnam to reintegrate into society through this 1.7-million-US dollar project funded by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

** Name was changed to protect identity.*

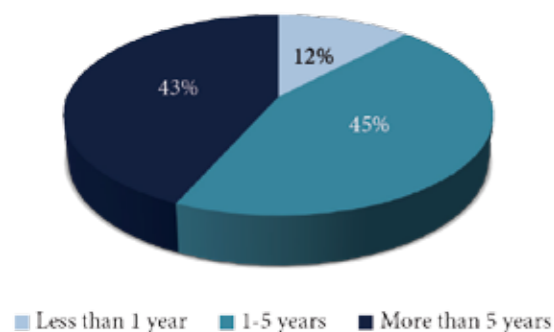
Story and photo by Tran My Hang/World Vision

OUR STAFF

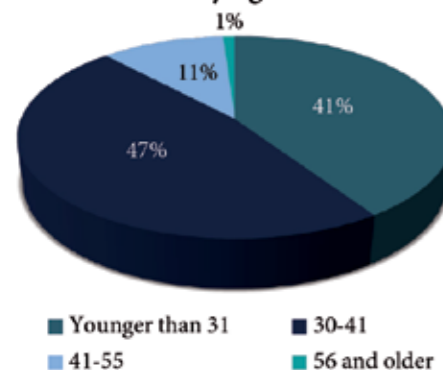
By gender



By tenure



By age



Competent and committed staff are World Vision Vietnam's valuable assets. In 2015, World Vision Vietnam had **477 employees**, most of whom are based at grassroots level to directly serve disadvantaged communities and children, especially the most vulnerable, in remote locations where World Vision Vietnam's programs are operating.

In preparation for the implementation of the organization's transition into a more systematic and effective operating model, the one-and-a-half year "technical staff development program" funded by World Vision Malaysia has built capacity of 124 staff. Besides, World Vision Korea-funded two-year "staff capacity building on urban programming" project has conducted two sharing workshops, in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, for national staff and related stakeholders to disseminate good practices and lessons learnt for better programming quality in urban context.

"Home-grown leaders" is World Vision Vietnam's innovation that seeks to equip existing highly committed and capable staff with leadership skills to make the most use of their expertise and maximize their potential. In 2015, leadership training courses including Leadership Change Management, Insights and Multipliers and Situational Leadership II were conducted for leaders and their identified second-liners.

Staff engaged and contributing is one of World Vision Vietnam's key goals to ensure the organizational mission of sustaining child well-being is achieved. Undertaken once every year, Our Voice survey gathers all employees' feedback to help the organization develop a more engaging and effective workforce through creating a conducive environment. Survey result in 2015 shows 96% of staff agreeing that World Vision is organized in such way that effectively serves children and their communities, 90% believing in World Vision's good stewardship with the entrusted resources, and 96% willing to give extra effort to meet the organizational goals.

As one of the most remarkable achievements of World Vision Vietnam's effort in Succession planning and Talent management, the former People and Culture Director Tran Thu Huyen was appointed as the National Director -- the first-ever Vietnamese to take on this highest role in World Vision Vietnam's history.

OUR PARTNERS

At national level, World Vision Vietnam partnered with different government ministries, working groups, international organizations and local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on issues relating to child health, nutrition, education, child protection, child participation, child injury prevention, disaster mitigation and climate change.

Government partners: Ministry of Health, National Institute of Nutrition, National Institute of Malaria Parasitology and Entomology, Maternal and Child Health Department, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Labor Invalid and Social Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ministry of Public Security.

Working groups: Child Rights Working Group, Global Action Week on Education Working Group, Nutrition Working Group, Health and Partnership Group and Climate change Working Group.

International NGOs: Plan International, ChildFund Vietnam, Save the Children, Oxfam, Care International, and SNV.

Local NGO: Vietnam Association for Protection of Children's Rights.



Photo by Pham Thu Trang/World Vision

At provincial and district level, we closely cooperated with Provincial People's Committees, Departments of Foreign Affairs, Departments of Planning and Investment, Departments of Health, Departments of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, Women's Union, Youth Union, Fatherland Front, Farmer's Union, War Veterans Association and Red Cross.

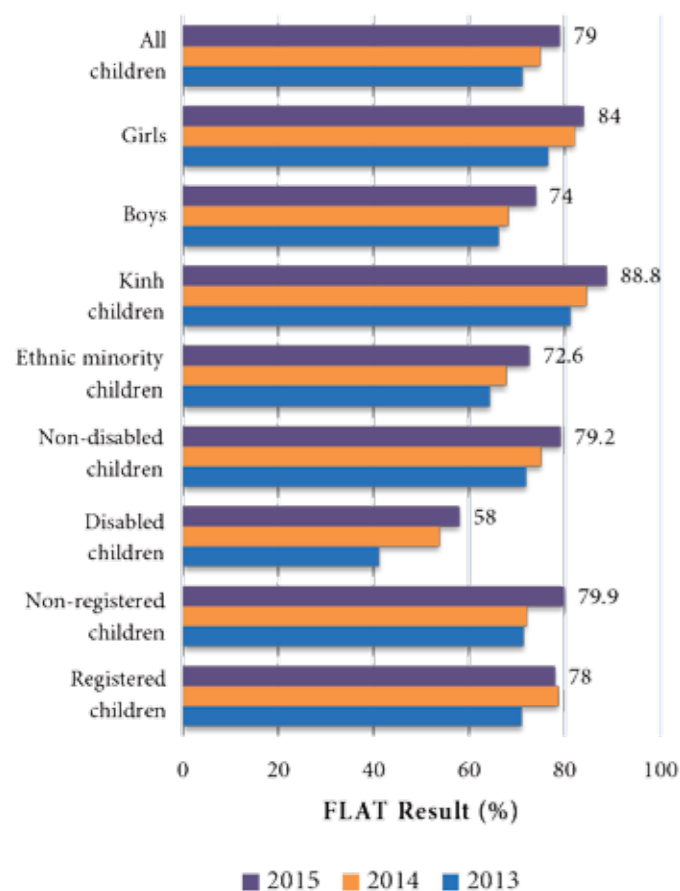
Photo by Nguyen Kim Ngan/World Vision



CHILD WELL-BEING PROGRESS

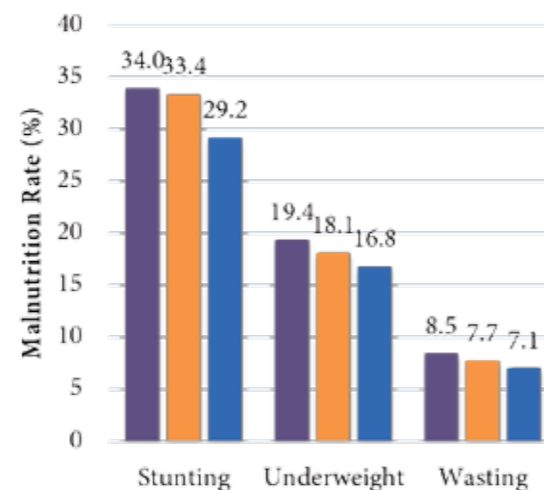
Measurements of reading comprehension for 11-year-old children were conducted using the Functional Literacy Assessment Tool (FLAT) in 38 districts in 2013, 37 districts in 2014 and 40 districts in 2015 to evaluate the impact of education interventions.

Proportion of children who are functionally literate in all districts (in 2013, 2014, 2015)



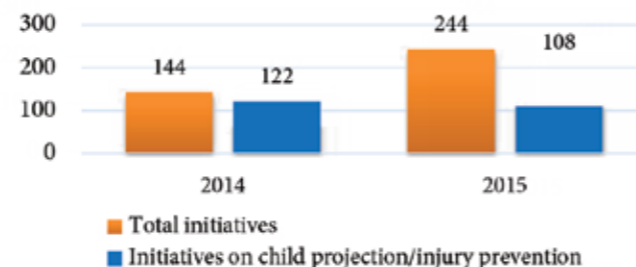
Measurements of malnutrition rate of children under five including stunting, underweight and wasting were conducted in 34 districts in 2013 and 36 districts in 2014 and 2015.

Malnutrition rate of children under five in all program areas (in 2013, 2014, 2015)



Measurements of adolescent-led initiatives were conducted in 19 districts in 2014 and 21 districts in 2015.

Number of adolescent-led initiatives (in 2014, 2015)



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Income by funding source	US\$
Sponsorship	13,306,858
Private Non-Sponsorship	3,588,939
Government	1,671,165
Gift-In-Kind	7,689,678
TOTAL	26,256,639

Income by funding office	US\$
World Vision Australia	12,155,094
World Vision Austria	250,770
World Vision France	241,556
World Vision Germany	2,024,330
World Vision Hong Kong	824,443
World Vision Japan	1,649,026
World Vision Korea	3,583,800
World Vision Malaysia	1,204,282
World Vision New Zealand	74,123
World Vision South Asia Pacific	8,457
World Vision Singapore	558,152
World Vision Switzerland	1,035,052
World Vision Taiwan	863,958
World Vision United States	1,423,906
Vietnam	359,691
TOTAL	26,256,639

Expenditure by allocation type	US\$
Direct project costs	24,064,529
Program support costs	962,021
Operation management support costs	332,613
Sponsorship support costs	180,031
Technical support costs	717,446
TOTAL	26,256,639

Expenditure by sector	US\$
Advocacy	204,135
Agriculture	1,515,708
Children In Crisis	151,354
Disability	11,734
Disaster Mitigation	1,654,527
Economic Development	686,753
Education	3,486,376
Emergency Response	15,593
Environment	218,370
Food Security	101,317
Gender	18,705
Health and Nutrition	9,401,976
HIV/AIDS	27,257
Leadership Development	1,945,393
Program & Project Management	3,875,928
Protection	695,367
Sponsorship Management	1,731,309
Water & Sanitation	514,839
TOTAL	26,256,639

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