



World Vision Vietnam's Contribution to  
**CHILD WELL-BEING** IN 2015

For children. For change. For good.



## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADP	Area Development Program	EMA	Ethnic Mother Assistant
ALM	Active Learning Method	ETIP	End Trafficking in Persons
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection	FGD	Focused Group Discussion
ASCA	Accumulated Savings & Credit Associations	FLAT	Functional Literacy Assessment Tool
BCC	Behavioral Change Communication	FY	Fiscal Year
CATREND	Central Areas of Thanh Hoa Province Resilient to Natural Disasters	HRCD	Hai Phong City Resilient to Climate Change and Disaster Risks
CBCPC	Community-Based Child Protection Committee	INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
CBCPS	Community-Based Child Protection System	LIFT	Livestock Initiative For Transformation
CDPP	Community Disaster Preparedness Plan	LVCD	Local Value Chain Development
CBDRRP	Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Plan	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
CBG	Community-Based Group	MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation	MDG	Millennium Development Goal
CCM	Child-Centered Method	MF	Micro-Finance
CDI	Community Development Initiative	MOET	Ministry of Education and Training
CFL	Child Friendly Library	MOH	Ministry of Health
CHN	Child Health Now	MOLISA	Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation	MVC	Most Vulnerable Children
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	NC	Nutrition Club
CWB	Child Well-Being	NIMPE	National Institute of Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology
CwD	Children with Disability	NIN	National Institute of Nutrition
DAP	Developmental Assets Profile	PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
DART	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	R&L	Resilience and Livelihoods
DME	Design, Monitoring & Evaluation	RC	Registered Children
DOET	Department of Education and Training	RRT	Rapid Response Team
DOH	Department of Health	SRI	Sustainable Rice Intensification
DOLISA	Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs	UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	VCRC	Village Child Reading Club
EAD	Economic and Agricultural Development	VDB	Village Development Board
ECCE	Early Child Care and Education	VOT	Victim Of Trafficking
EM	Ethnic Minority	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
		WV	World Vision

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 marked an important milestone for World Vision (WV) Vietnam as the first year implementing the national strategy for FY15-17 as well as the transition year towards LEAP 3. In FY15, WV Vietnam also witnessed a change of leadership. The nationalization of the National Director position resulted from the organization's effort in leadership development and succession planning.

The challenges faced WV Vietnam include the declined sponsorship funding as the result of 2 phased-out ADPs and the increasing difficulty in acquiring grant funding due to donors' decreased interest and stricter requirements given the country's lower middle income status. However, WV Vietnam was able to stabilize its financial resources and operations to address the needs of children, especially the most vulnerable. The total actual spending was reduced by 2.5%, from US\$19,033,610 in FY14 to US\$18,566,961 in FY15 (Gift in Kind excluded). Grant/ Private Non Sponsorship (PNS) actual spending accounted for 28.3% in FY15 compared to 16.8% in FY14. Budget variance was 1.8% for Sponsorship funding and 8.78% for Grant/PNS funding. WV Vietnam was identified as one of the most cost-efficient office in the East Asia region with lowest administration cost ratio (only 8% compared to the regional average of 13%). In addition, WV Vietnam achieved "Established" Program Capability and Performance Review Rating for the third time in succession and the "Acceptable" International Audit Rating.

WV Vietnam's Child Sponsorship Program had 71,449 Registered Children (RC) as of September 30, 2015. Through the development programs and projects operating in 14 provinces, WV Vietnam directly impacted 835,970 children in FY15, of which 49.5% are girls and 51.5% are boys.

The main Child Well-Being (CWB) issues that WV Vietnam is trying to address include malnutrition among children under 5, poor learning outcomes and life skills among children aged 3-14, child abuse, exploitation and injury. Below are highlighted successes of WV Vietnam in FY15 in improving CWB outcomes:

- Underweight, stunting and wasting prevalence in children under 5 decreased by 4.2%, 1.3% and 0.6%, respectively, compared to FY14's result, thanks to the scaling up of integrated interventions such as Nutrition Clubs (NC), PD/Hearth and Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) models as well as the "1000 days" initiative.
- 79% of students achieved functional literacy, compared to 74.9% in FY14. Especially, the increase rate among Ethnic Minority (EM) children is 4.8% compared to 4.2% among Kinh children. This achievement is attributed to the application of different models, especially the Village Child Reading Club (VCRC).
- The number of well-functioning Community-Based Child Protection Committees (CBCPC) increased by 115% from 52 out of 98 to 112 out of 168, thanks to technical guidance and local buy-in. The replication of this model in non-WV areas also increased by 78% from 64 to 114 CBCPCs, which demonstrates the ownership of the communities and sustainability of the model.

Based on the results in this report, we come up with the following recommendations to improve the impact of our programs in the coming time:

- Follow up with the current implementation of "1,000 days" initiative in 18 ADPs under Child Health Now (CHN) project and replicate the initiative in other ADPs where stunting prevalence is higher than 30% (critical level according to WHO's thresholds);
- Replicate the VCRC model with a very clear guideline for EM areas and intentional inclusion of Children with Disability (CwD), EM children and RC;
- Provide clear guideline on partnering with private sector, particularly for Resilience and Livelihoods (R&L) programs/projects in the urban setting;
- Improve Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system to provide complete and updated data for various purposes such as timely reflection and follow-up actions on program quality improvement, reporting, strategy development and program planning;
- Thoroughly evaluate and document WV Vietnam's project models to capture the experiences, lessons learned and evidences of their impacts, which will then be used to support the progressive expansion of the model by the Government to non-WV communities through joint advocacy efforts with other International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs).

# INTRODUCTION

## Overview

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of WV Vietnam’s contribution towards CWB in FY15. WV Vietnam defines this contribution through its achievements against the four strategic objectives for FY15-17. This report aims to provide direction for WV Vietnam to make evidence-based decisions and to inform FY17 Business Plan as well as four Technical Programs for FY18-22 which are now under development.

Figure 1 - WV Vietnam’s Ministry Strategic Objectives in FY15-17



WV Vietnam’s national strategy contributes to all four CWB Targets. Figure 2 describes WV Vietnam’s progress in FY15 against the three-year targets for FY15-17 for key outcome indicators, which shows that WV Vietnam is on the right track for all CWB Targets.

Figure 2 - Key Outcome Indicators: FY15 Progress against Targets for FY15-17

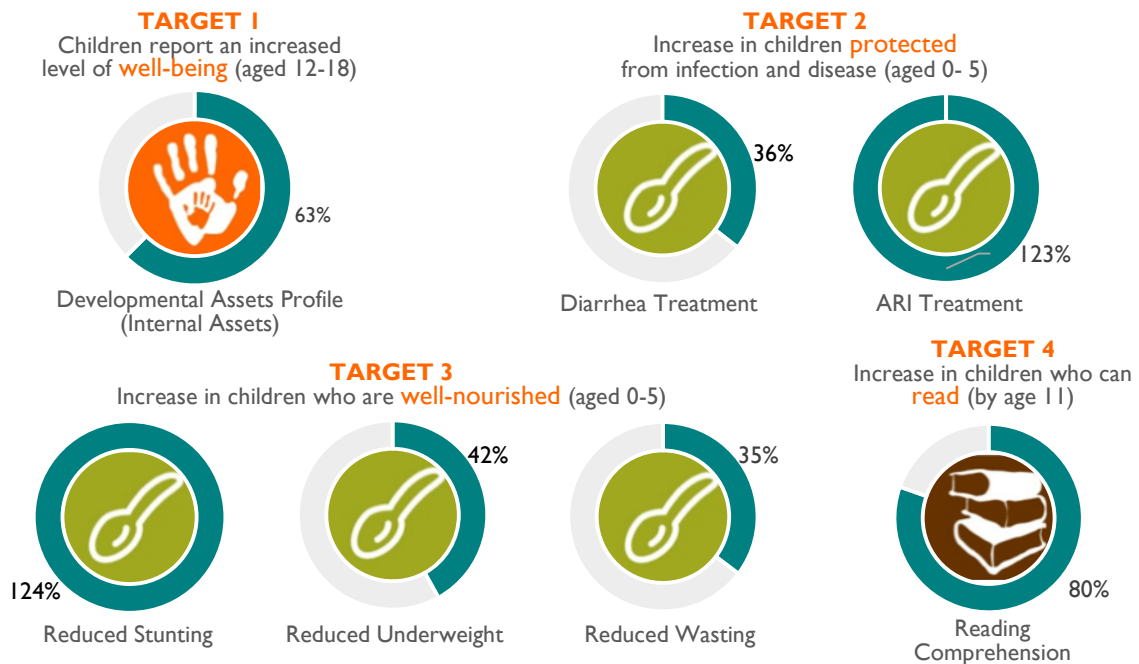
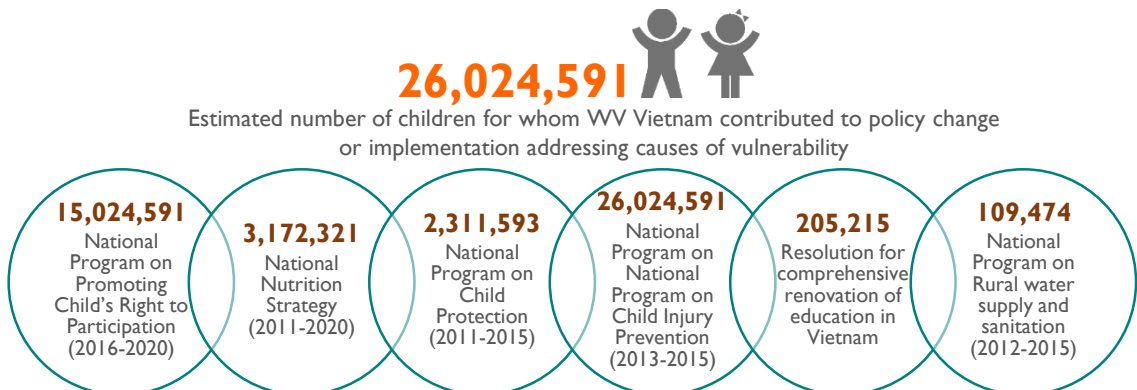


Figure 3 - Children Impacted through Advocacy in FY15





## Learning

All fifteen recommendations in FY14's CWB report were taken into account while developing the FY16 Business Plan, Departments' Objectives and FY16 Plan of Action of ADPs/Projects. As of September 2015, 75% of the recommendations have been addressed while 25% are in progress. Some highlights in WV Vietnam's programming in response to CWB report's recommendations include:

- An evaluation of VCRC model was conducted to confirm its effectiveness before scaling up to three more ADPs.
- Child Friendly Library model was replicated to four more ADPs and documented to share with other ADPs.
- Supportive supervision approach was promoted to improve the functionality of NCs. As a result, the number of fully functional NCs increased from 53% in FY14 to 71.5% in FY15.
- WV Vietnam successfully advocated to Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) to include the Adolescent-Led Initiative model in the Child Participation National Program 2016-2020 approved by Prime Minister in August 2015.
- Village Development Boards (VDBs) were promoted as a platform to link different smaller Community Based Groups (CBGs) such as Children's Clubs, VCRC, NCs, CBCPCs, Rapid Response Teams (RRTs).

## Context

Vietnam's economy continued to strengthen in 2015, with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 6.7% and income per capita of US\$2,109 by the end of 2015. Social outcomes have improved drastically across the board. The fraction of people living in extreme poverty dropped to 3%. Concerns about poverty are now focused on the 15% of the population who are members of EM groups yet account for more than half the poor<sup>1</sup>. Multidimensional poverty has become more apparent due to the pressure from urbanization and migration. Low income - once used as the main measure - only reflects one aspect of poverty besides other deprivation of access to social services and basic living conditions. Thus, multidimensional poverty measure has received increased attention in Vietnam in recent years.

According to the Vietnam Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) report issued in September 2015, Vietnam has achieved a number of MDGs and targets such as (i) eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, (ii) achieve universal primary education, (iii) promote gender equality in education along with significant reduction in health-related indicators such as maternal mortality ratio and child mortality ratio. The country also achieved target for malaria and tuberculosis control as well as combating HIV/AIDS prevalence rate. Vietnam is on the way towards reaching the targets for universal access to reproductive health services and improving maternal health. Besides, stronger efforts are needed to complete other targets including Goal 7 of ensuring environmental sustainability and Goal 8 of building a Global Partnership for Development.

Vietnam has boosted its international economic integration as it enters into more free trade agreements with the Eurasian Economic Union, the European Union, South Korea and the Trans-Pacific Partnership. At the same time, the ASEAN Economic Community established on December 31, 2015 is expected to create more opportunities for the country to integrate into regional and global economies. However, while global integration has advanced well with Vietnam embedding itself in global value chains, the benefits are constrained by the absence of linkages among domestic firms.

Vietnam has made impressive progress in the realization of children's rights. However, there are still millions of Vietnamese children deprived of essential needs including education, health, water and sanitation, shelter, refrained child labor, leisure and social protection. Vietnam's current Law on Protection, Care and Education of Children stipulates that children prescribed in the Law are Vietnamese citizens aged under 16. In 2015, members of the National Assembly debated a new draft Child Law that proposed to raise a child's age to 18 in alignment with international standards anchored in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) that Vietnam ratified in 1990.

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<sup>1</sup> Vietnam General Statistics Office

## Reporting Process

The CWB reporting process started in the beginning of FY15 when a Working Group on CWB reporting was formed to reflect on the lessons learned of the previous reporting process and plan for the process of this year. This Working Group consists of 20 members representing different departments including Operations, Program Quality and Resource Development, Advocacy, Sponsorship, Program Effectiveness, Strategy and Communications. The Group worked together throughout the whole process which includes 3 main phases: data consolidation, data analysis and report writing. Figure 4 describes in detail the process. The final report was endorsed by the National Director after being reviewed by the Program Support Team and Senior Leadership Team.

Figure 4 - FY16 CWB Reporting Process

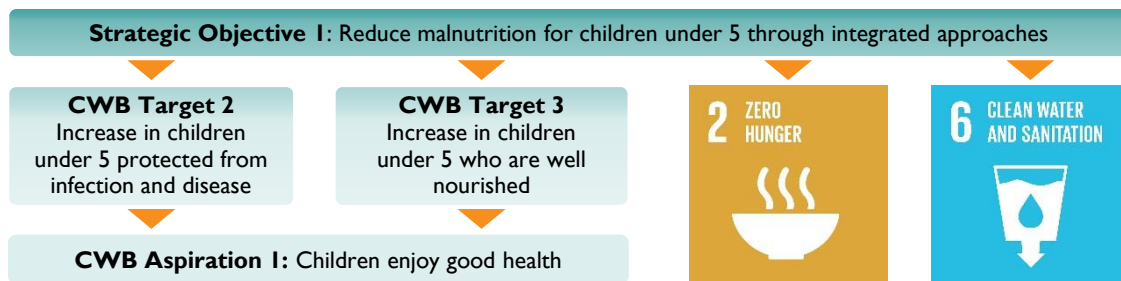


The report is based on analysis of 100% of ADP/Project’s annual reports, 15 ADP evaluation reports, 5 baseline survey reports, the results of CWB Target measurements conducted in FY15, the results of Program Effectiveness Self-Review, Program Accountability Assessment and other reports such as Sponsorship, Advocacy (including Partnership Strategic Measures) and Micro-Finance (MF) Impact reports. Despite the bigger number of evaluations and more amount of data for reporting compared to the previous years, it was still challenging to demonstrate changes between evaluation data and baseline data given the differences of indicators and methodology - Transformational Development Indicators (TDIs) versus Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS). In addition, limited standardization of indicators and lack of comprehensive M&E system made it difficult to aggregate the data across different ADPs.



# OBJECTIVE I NUTRITION

## Strategic Linkage

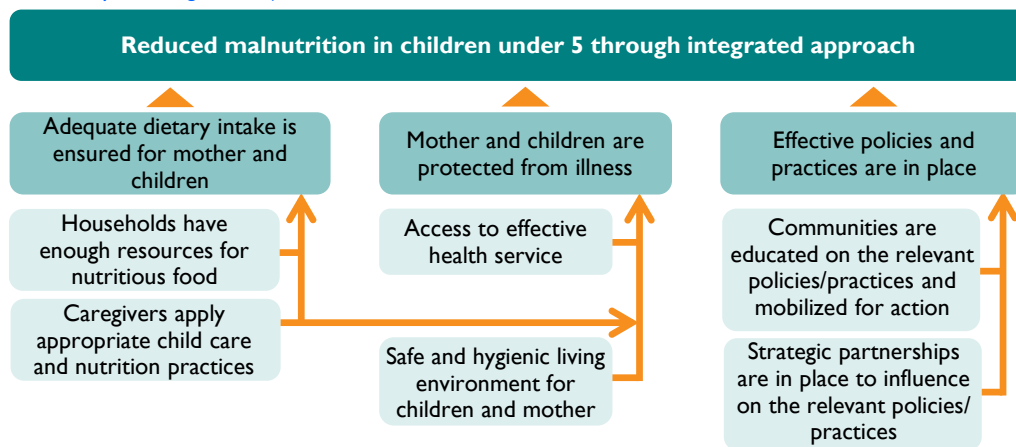


## Summary of Logic Chain

Average stunting rate in children under 5 nationwide has been significantly reduced from 43.3% in 2000 to 24.9% in 2014 (National Institute of Nutrition - NIN, 2014) as a result of great efforts in the country. Yet there is a considerable disparity among regions. In the mountainous districts of Dien Bien and Quang Ngai provinces where WV Vietnam works, for example, stunting rate still remains at almost 49% (WV Vietnam, 2014). This disparity is largely attributable to i) food insecurity and low family income due to the lack of capacity, investment and market accessibility, ii) inadequate practices of mothers' and children's health/nutrition care due to the limited knowledge and understanding among mothers and caregivers, iii) high prevalence of infectious diseases such as diarrhea and Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) due to poor sanitation and lack of safe water and iv) limited access to qualified health services due to the lack of facilities and health workers' low capacity. Most of the current programs and projects by the Government and other international organizations primarily focus on capacity building for local health networks and Behavioral Change Communication (BCC) in mothers and caregivers rather than investing in effective integration with other sectors to create comprehensive changes.

To complement existing efforts in country, WV Vietnam promotes integrated approaches in which beneficiaries of nutrition interventions also benefit from other interventions such as livelihood development, hygiene and sanitation improvement and micro-credit services.

Figure 5 - Pathway of Change for Objective I



## Resources

**Number of Projects** 44 (including Child Health Now, Safe Motherhood)

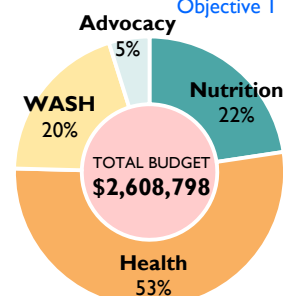
**Technical Staff**

National level:	Zonal level:
• 2 Full-time staff	• 2 Full-time staff
• 2 Part-time staff	• 2 Part-time staff

### Key Partners

- Ministry of Health (MOH)
- National Institute of Malariaology, Parasitology and Entomology (NIMPE)
- NIN
- Departments of Health (DOH) at Provincial/ District levels
- Commune Health Stations, Villages Health Workers

Chart 1 - FY15 Expenditure for Objective I



## Children Directly Impacted



## Results

#	Indicator	FY14		FY15		Progress
		Achieved	# of ADPs	Achieved	# of ADPs	
1	Stunting rate in children under 5	33.4%	36	29.2%	36	-4.2%
	Boys	35.0%		30.3%		-4.7%
	Girls	31.6%		28.1%		-3.5%
2	Underweight rate in children under 5	18.1%		16.8%		-1.3%
	Boys	19.0%		17.4%		-1.6%
	Girls	17.2%		16.2%		-1.0%
3	Wasting rate in children under 5	7.7%		7.1%		-0.6%
	Boys	8.5%		8.0%		-0.5%
	Girls	6.9%		6.1%		-0.8%

## Analysis

### Malnutrition prevalence reduced steadily over the last three years in all target areas

Chart 2 - CWB Target #3 Measurements in FY13-2015

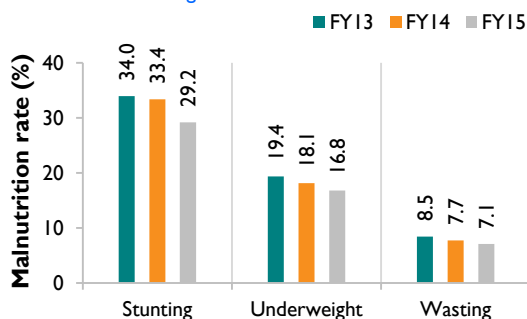
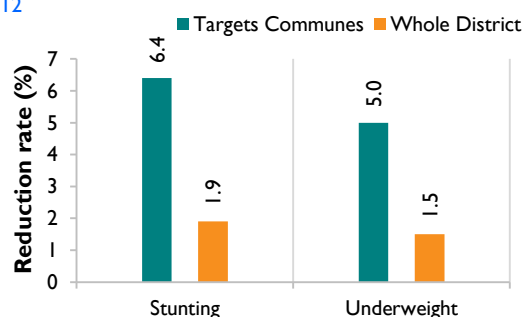
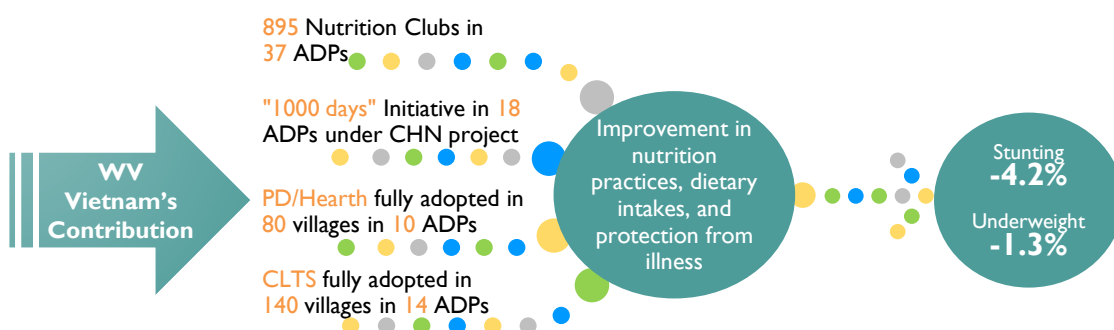


Chart 3 - Malnutrition Reduction in Van Yen ADP, FY14 versus FY12



Overall malnutrition prevalence has continuously decreased in all program areas (Chart 2). Van Yen ADP's Evaluation report shows that the reduction rate in target communes is much higher than that in the whole district (Chart 3).

Figure 6 - WV Vietnam's Contribution to Malnutrition Reduction



### Growth and Functionality of Nutrition Clubs contributed to improving nutrition practices

NC is one of the key models of WV Vietnam to reduce malnutrition as it creates a helpful platform that allows caregivers to improve nutrition practices (Chart 4). Over the last three years, not only WV has scaled up NCs in more ADPs but also invested in improving its functionality<sup>2</sup> particularly through the supportive supervision approach as strongly recommended in FY14 CWB report. As a result, the number of fully functional NCs has increased by 18.5% in FY15, benefiting 26,967 children under five in FY15, compared to 23,536 in FY14 (Chart 5).

<sup>2</sup> A Nutrition Club is evaluated functional when it meets following groups of criteria: i) management board has sufficient knowledge and skills of child care, nutrition, business and livelihood development, ii) management board has adequate management, facilitation, communication and counselling skills, iii) club members support each other, and iv) operating expenses are made transparent and accountable.

Chart 4 - Malnutrition Reduction versus Growth in NCs

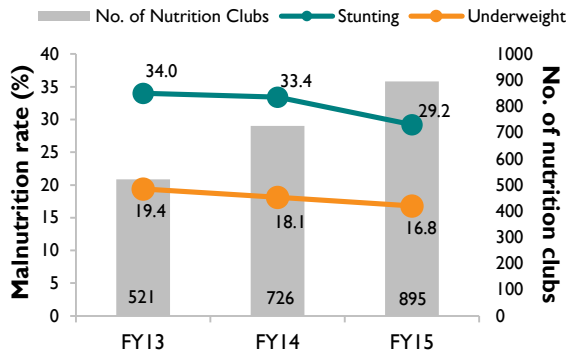
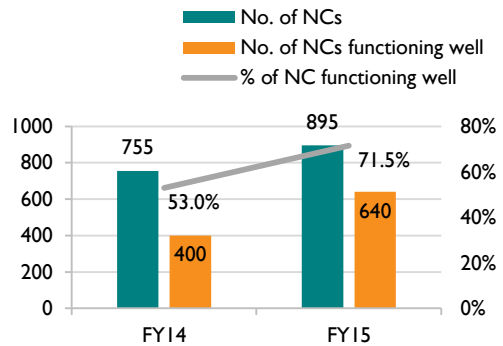


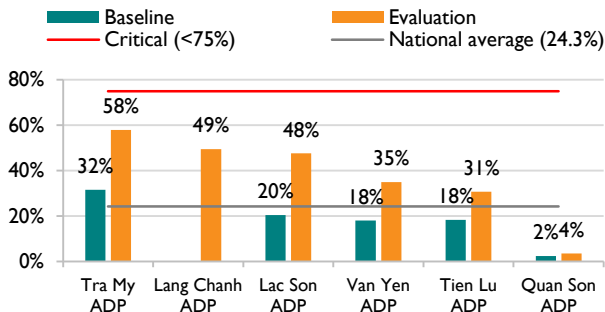
Chart 5 - Growth and Functionality of NCs in FY14-15



As indicated in ADP annual reports, NCs have applied more community BCC initiatives to educate and improve nutrition knowledge and practices. Communication methods were diversified, messages made clearer, supportive supervision and annual reflection enhanced, and home visits strengthened to ensure that mothers and caregivers can practice the learned nutritional knowledge.

One of the most significant outcomes resulted from BCC activities is the behavior change among mothers who nurse children by breast milk in the first six months. As evaluated in 6 ADPs, the percentage of children exclusively breastfed during the first 6 months has increased significantly compared to baseline data and is much higher than the national average of 24.3%<sup>3</sup>. However, the rate is still at the critical level (<75%) according to the international thresholds which requires further prioritization as part of “1000 days” initiative (Chart 6).

Chart 6 - % of Children Exclusively Breastfed until 6 Months of Age

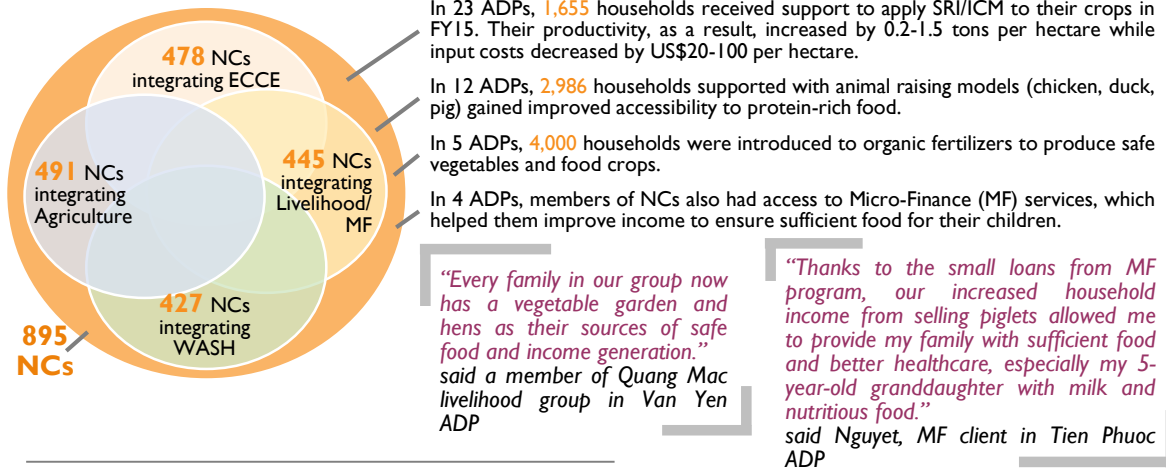


“My first child was only breastfed for one year with exclusive breastfeeding during the first three months. My second child was breastfed until she was 24 months old with six months of exclusive breastfeeding, thus she is relatively healthier. Thanks to the BCC activities, more mothers are aware of breastfeeding’s benefit now. They pump and leave their breast milk at home before leaving for work, so their children can enjoy uninterrupted breastfeeding.”  
said Van, community member in Tien Lu ADP

### Integration of Livelihood interventions in Nutrition Clubs contributed to improved dietary intake for children under 5

Following FY14 CWB Report’s recommendation, Economic and Agricultural Development (EAD) was intentionally integrated in NCs, providing mothers and children with diverse food sources under the four food groups. The NC Effectiveness checklist was improved to track the integration of EAD interventions in NCs. Among 30 reporting ADPs, 14 ADPs have integrated EAD interventions in 100% NCs.

Figure 7 - Integration Status of NCs in FY15



<sup>3</sup> The Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), 2014

Meanwhile, PD/ Hearth model was expanded to 80 villages in 10 ADPs as part of integration with NCs, reaching over 1,200 malnourished children, of which 413 children have been graduated. This is attributable to mothers and caregivers' improved knowledge and practice at home.

The greater impact of multi-sectorial, integrated approach in tackling malnutrition has been proved by international researches for many years<sup>4</sup>. However, it is challenging to show strong evidence that such aforementioned integrations in NCs brought about higher reduction rate in malnutrition given it is directly and indirectly influenced by different factors in complex ways. Therefore, further examination is necessary in the coming time to understand and track the impact of integrated approach in malnutrition reduction.

### Increased access to improved water/hygienic latrines and WASH practices protected children from infectious diseases

Diarrhea and other waterborne diseases are among the main causes of malnutrition in children. Evaluation reports in FY15 shows that diarrhea prevalence dropped significantly in Trieu Phong and Van Yen ADPs compared to baseline data (Chart 7). WV Vietnam contributes to protecting children from infectious diseases through different interventions as described in figure 8.

Chart 7 - Diarrhea Prevalence Reduction

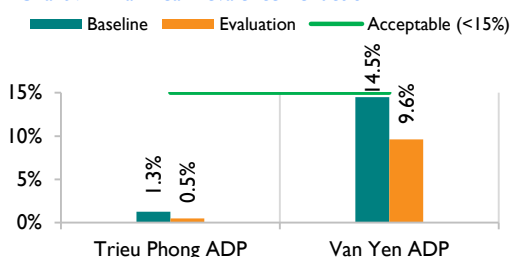


Figure 8 - WV Vietnam 's Contribution to Disease Prevention and Treatment



ADP evaluation reports in FY15 show remarkable increase in local people's access to improved hygienic latrines and water sources. Charts 8 and 9 show that 50% of reporting ADPs have already achieved the internationally acceptable thresholds (70% for hygienic latrine and 90% for improved water source). This results from the effective implementation of CLTS model as well as technical and material support for local people in well digging, water purifying and safe water storage.

In FY15, post-triggering activities were undertaken in 20 ADPs after their CLTS triggering events in 204 villages, resulting in the completion of 4,275 additional hygienic latrines compared to 2,766 latrines in FY14. This contributes to the reduction of open defecation, thereby decreasing food and water contamination. The evaluation report of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project in Hai Lang ADP confirmed CLTS's success in rapidly increasing the number of households building and using hygienic latrine in a short time. Especially, poor households committed to building latrines with minimum subsidy from the project. In addition to the important factors such as convenience, comfort and cleanness, peer pressure has also affected people's sanitation practices. This lesson would be useful for formulating Information, Education & Communication (IEC)/BCC messages in future projects.

Chart 8 - % of Households Having Access to Hygienic Latrines

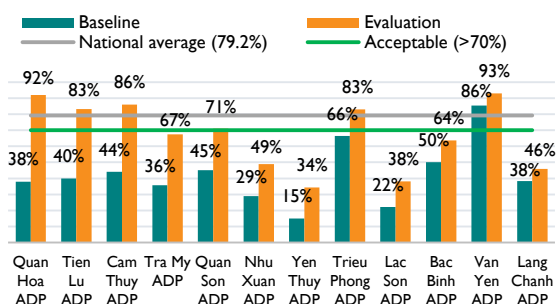
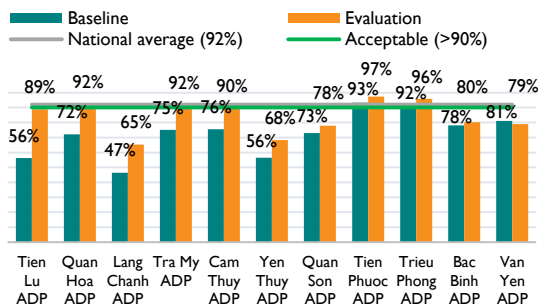


Chart 9 - % of Households Having Access to Improved Water Sources



Positive changes in diarrhea and ARI treatment are observed in evaluated ADPs in FY15 where baseline data is available to compare, as resulted from improved health services and health seeking behaviors of mothers and caregivers.

*“Previously, mothers would treat their children on their own, even when their children had diarrhea or acute respiratory infection. Now, they can identify urgent cases that need proper examination and treatment by trained health workers.”*  
said a community member in Yen Hop commune, Van Yen ADP

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF's research on improving child nutrition, April 2013



While more than 90% of the reporting ADPs have already exceeded the critical threshold (below 60%) for ARI treatment, 80% of the reporting ADPs still fall below the critical threshold (below 60%) for diarrhea treatment (Charts 10 and 11) which requires special attention in the coming time.

Chart 10 - % of Children Under 5 with Diarrhea Receiving Correct Management

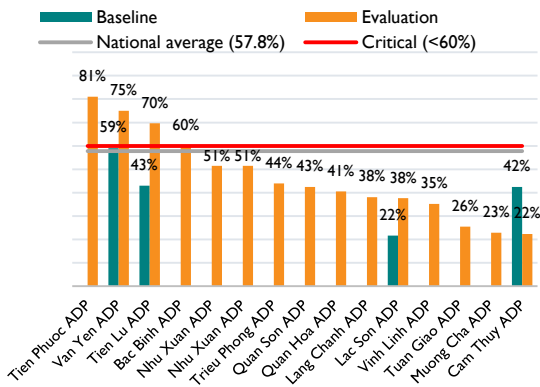
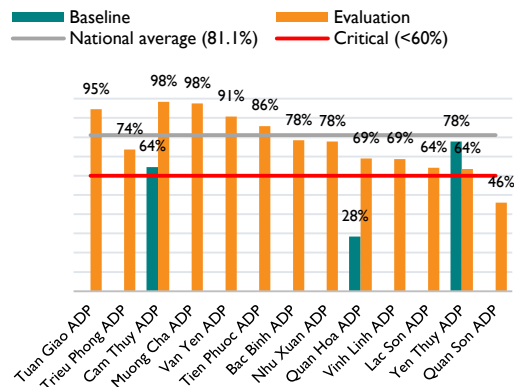


Chart 11 - % of Children Under 5 with ARI Taken to Appropriate Health Service Provider



## Most Vulnerable Children

Severely malnourished children are classified as most vulnerable both by the government and WV. WV Vietnam nutrition projects primarily target this group of Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) as well as other MVC including children suffering from serious illnesses and children with disabilities who are either already malnourished or at risk. While nutrition models directly benefit the malnourished children under five, their families also benefit from livelihood projects to improve food security and access to nutritious food for children. Currently 4,641 MVC households are benefiting from integrated implementation of nutrition and livelihoods models.

## Sustainability

Recent evaluations show that NC model can be sustained and scaled up, even without WV Vietnam's support, provided a required combination of i) club management board's ownership, ii) club's financial sufficiency, ii) local authority's support to maintain operation. Van Yen ADP's evaluation report provides an impressive example of sustainability and self-sufficiency. Club management board took full ownership in managing cases of malnourished children and are active in facilitating club meetings and communication sessions. Noticeably, 40 out of 50 NCs in project areas have Accumulated Savings and Credit Associations (ASCA) which enhance cohesiveness among club members, provide access to financial services and cover administration cost to maintain the activities of the club. Quan Hoa ADP's evaluation report also points out the role of ASCA in financing NCs' activities after ADP phases out:

*"When World Vision's project ends, we will continue to promote the learned knowledge and experiences, maintain and expand the group's budget to improve our club's effectiveness."*

said Ha Thi Kiem, 35 years old, NC member in Hien Chung commune

To ensure the long-term impact of WV Vietnam's nutrition interventions, policy influence was strengthened in close partnership with Maternal and Child Health Department, NIMPE under MOH and NIN. Under CHN Project, WV Vietnam contributed significantly to the promulgation of the technical guideline on breastfeeding, two handbooks on nutrition program planning and M&E and the communication material on Infant and Young Child Feeding. The two handbooks have been highly recommended by NIN for health workers to use in their planning processes at provincial and district levels from 2016 onwards. The project will continue to advocate for the issuance of the guideline on deworming for children 12-24 months old, which is expected to help reduce malnutrition in children, especially those in locations with high malnutrition prevalence.

## Learning and Recommendation

Table 1 - Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Objective 1

"1,000 days" is considered as strategic approach in improving children's nutritional health to promote antenatal care, breastfeeding, proper micro-nutrient and supplementary feeding.

Follow up with the current implementation of "1,000 days" initiative in 18 ADPs under CHN project; Replicate the initiative in other ADPs where stunting prevalence is higher than 30%

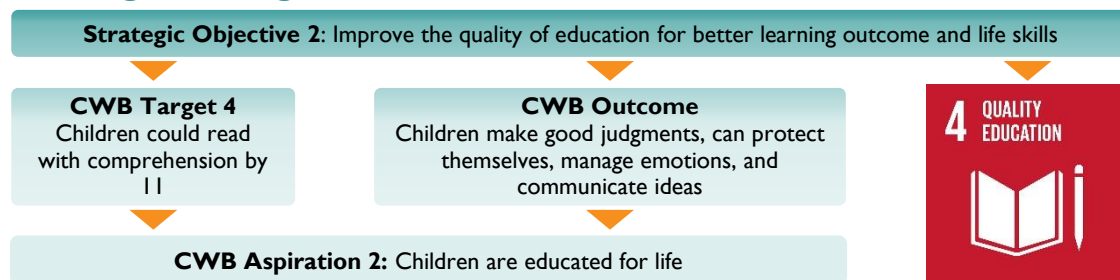
There is a need to collect more evidences on impact of integration between Livelihood and Nutrition models.

Develop tools to track the impact of integration between Livelihood and Nutrition models

Integration of ASCA model in NCs helps enhance the sustainability of NC model

Scale up ASCA model in NCs, especially in ADPs in transition phase that implement livelihood projects

## Strategic Linkage



## Summary of Logic Chain

Vietnam has achieved universal primary school education and almost equal enrolment rate between boys and girls<sup>5</sup>. However, early childhood development and life skills still remains as gaps of education system, especially among disadvantaged children from poor and EM backgrounds<sup>6</sup>. In addition, EM children’s learning ability is affected by “language barrier”<sup>7</sup> from early age<sup>8</sup>. Although 98% of primary school students passed reading subject<sup>9</sup> and the reading skills of Vietnamese students were progressing, they still had difficulties in the comprehension part of the tests, as reported by School Education Quality Assurance (SEQAP) project which used Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) tool to measure 3,000 students in 6 provinces<sup>10</sup>.

The underlying root causes include poor teaching method, poor learning environment and lack of parents’ engagement in education. According to Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), although 98-99% of national pre and primary school teachers are certified, their teaching method is one-way delivery, hindering students’ critical thinking and learning skills. Currently, there is less budget support from MOET for teacher training, accounting for only 5-10% of the total government expenditure for education, which is not adequate for quality training of teachers<sup>11</sup>.

Only 49% of primary schools have school libraries, but many of them are just storerooms with no reading activities<sup>12</sup>. Most assessments and evaluations of WV Vietnam’s ADPs in 2014-2015 show a low participation of parents in their children’s education due to poverty and their lack of knowledge and skills, particularly in poor rural, mountainous areas and among EM groups.

WV Vietnam aims to address all the aforementioned root causes through quality preschool, primary school and life skills education projects, harnessing a number of relevant and promising practices such as Active Learning Method (ALM), Child-Centred Method (CCM), Ethnic Mother Assistant (EMA), VCRC, Child Friendly Library (CFL), and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for better learning outcomes and life skills for the most vulnerable children.

## Resources

**Number of Projects** 42

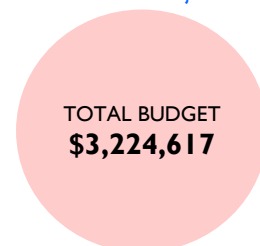
**Technical Staff**

National level:	Zonal level:
• 1 Full-time staff	• 3 Full-time staff
• 1 Part-time staff	• 3 Part-time staff

### Key Partners

- MOET
- Departments of Education and Training (DOET) at Provincial and District level
- Teachers, PTAs

Chart 12 - FY15 Expenditure for Objective 2



<sup>5</sup> Country report: 15 years achieving the Vietnam Millennium Development Goals. Retrieved from UNDP

<sup>6</sup> World Bank (2014), *Skilling up Vietnam: Preparing workforce for a modern market economy*

<sup>7</sup> Vietnam has 54 officially recognized ethnic groups, many of which have their own distinct language and live in remote and economically disadvantaged areas. The official language of instruction in schools is Vietnamese, which is used to teach all children, regardless of their level of knowledge of this language. This has created a “language barrier” for many EM children who have limited, or in some cases, no understanding of and/or proficiency in Vietnamese.

<sup>8</sup> UNICEF (2012), *Research on mother tongue-based bilingual education*

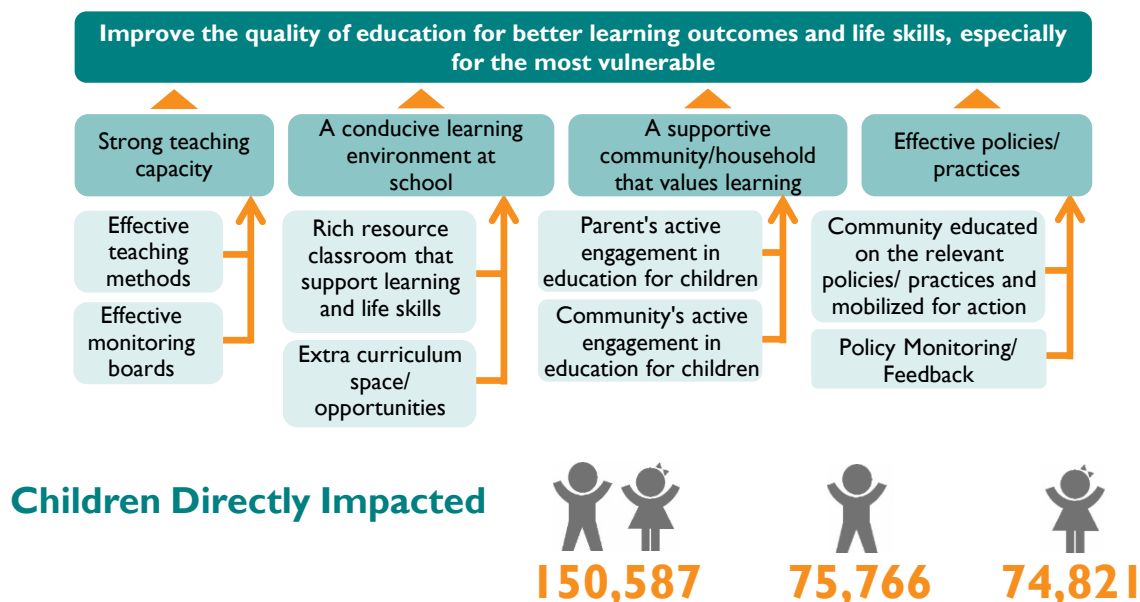
<sup>9</sup> 2015 MOET’s school year report

<sup>10</sup> Young Vietnamese Students Improving Reading Abilities, NGO Centre website

<sup>11</sup> Vietnam’s Education Development Strategy for period 2009 - 2020

<sup>12</sup> Reality of school library in Vietnam by Pham Thi Thanh Tam (2012) - University of Culture

Figure 9 - Pathway of Change for Objective 2



## Results

#	Indicator	FY14		FY15		Progress
		Achieved	# of ADPs	Achieved	# of ADPs	
1	% of children who could read with comprehension	74.9%	37	79%	40	+4.1%
	Girls	82.1%		84%		+1.9%
	Boys	68.2%		74%		+5.8%
	Kinh children	84.6%		88.8%		+4.2%
	Ethnic Minority children	67.8%		72.6%		+4.8%
	Non-Disabled children	75.1%		79.2%		+4.1%
	Disabled children	53.8%		58.0%		+4.2%
	Non-Registered children	72.1%		79.9%		+7.8%
Registered children	78.7%	78.0%	-0.7%			
2	No. of EMA <sup>13</sup>	26	2	26	2	+0.0%
3	No. of PTAs <sup>14</sup> who actively participated in building child-friendly schools	136	16	138	19	+1.5%
4	No. of additional teachers who were trained on New Early Child Care and Education (ECCE)/CCM	2168	34	2456	32	+13.3%
5	No. of additional teachers trained on ALM for Vietnamese language subject	2345	27	2878	27	+22.7%
6	No. of VCRCs <sup>15</sup>	85	17	128	20	+50.6%
7	No. of CFLs <sup>16</sup>	17	5	40	9	+135.3%
8	No. of Children's Clubs with Life Skills Education	606	30	722	33	+19.1%

## Analysis

<sup>13</sup>EMA: an initiative to address language barrier EM children face at kindergartens and to improve parents' engagement in child care and development through playing their practical role as kindergarten teacher assistants with key activities of explaining new knowledge

<sup>14</sup>PTA: a platform for parents to collaborate more closely with teachers in improving learning environment for children

<sup>15</sup>VCRC: club that contributes to improve reading skills and literacy of primary school children through reading sessions facilitated by volunteer parents at villages, where literacy of children are low, and where children do not have reading opportunities after schools.

<sup>16</sup>CFL: library that meets 5 criteria, including a) decoration, b) book clarification and arrangement according to reading level of children, c) Suitable Reading time for students, d) age-appropriate books and types of books, and e) reading activities.

## Improved School Readiness of children aged 5 through multiple relevant practices that improve teaching method, parents' engagement and learning environment

Chart 13 - Enrolment Rate Among Children Aged 3-5

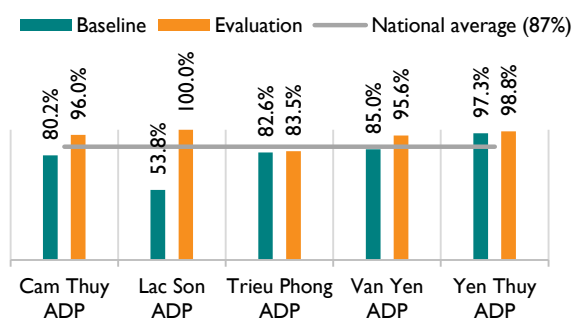
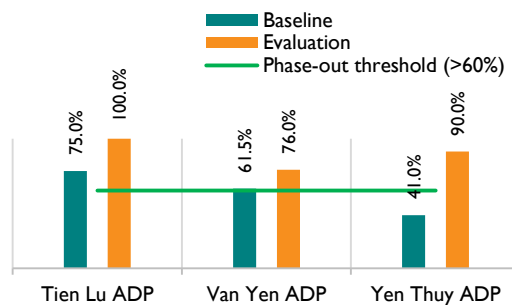


Chart 14 - Access to Boarding School of Children Aged 3-5



There was an increased percentage of children aged 3-5 enrolled in preschool education in all 5 reporting ADPs in FY15, in which 4 ADPs have exceeded the national average of 87%<sup>17</sup>(Chart 13). The percentage of children aged 3-5 who have access to boarding school have far surpassed the phase-out threshold of 60% set by WV Vietnam (Chart 14). This achievement contributes to the implementation of Decree No. 239 on universal preschool education.

WV Vietnam's strategic focus for preschool education is to improve the quality of early childhood education and thus level of readiness to enter 1st grade among 5-year old children, especially EM children in mountainous areas. According to the baseline measurement by WV Vietnam in 3 ADPs in Yen Bai province, among four development domains of a child, language development is at highest risk compared to other domains (Chart 15). This result can be explained by the language barrier facing EM children and informs WV Vietnam's interventions, targeting EM and other disadvantaged children groups.

Chart 15 - Development Domains of Children Aged 5

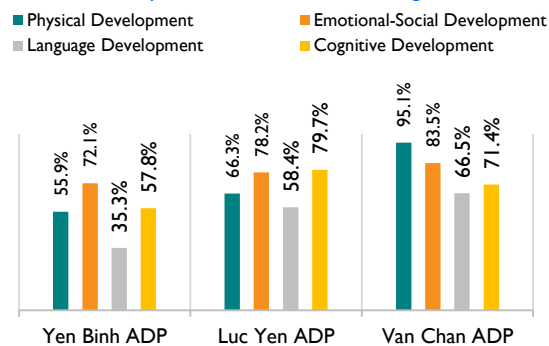


Figure 10 displays WV Vietnam's FY15 progress in improving access to and quality of preschool education through three inter-related components, including i) capacity building for teachers focusing on CCM and new national ECCE curriculum on five development domains of children, ii) rich resource learning environment for children and iii) parent engagement in children's learning and development.

Figure 10 - WV Vietnam's Contribution to School Readiness of Children Aged 5

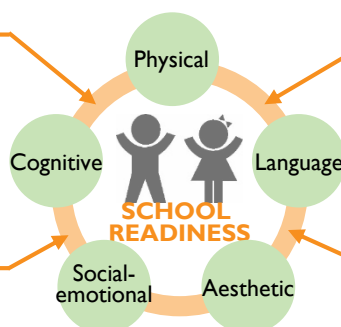
### Improved teaching method

2,456 additional teachers in 32 ADPs were trained on CCM and teaching Vietnamese as a second language to increase student's interaction in class and develop language domain for EM children.

### Increased parent engagement

138 PTAs in 19 ADPs actively implemented education initiatives (vegetable garden, rubbish ditch, kitchen in day-boarding school) to ensure children's health

26 EMA are supported teachers to explain new knowledge to EM children.



### Enriched learning environment

Teachers were trained on making teaching aids and toys.  
138 PTAs helped improve learning condition (making teaching aids, toys).

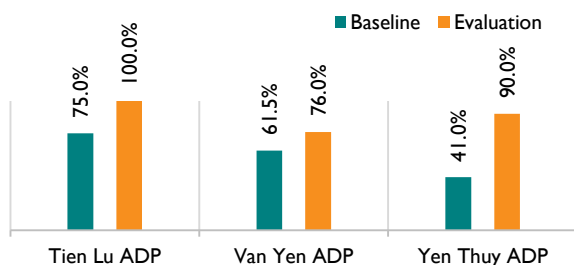
### Integration of ECCE in NCs

Communication activities on ECCE topics were conducted for mothers and caregivers who have children under 5 and are participating in NCs.

<sup>17</sup>MOET report on the school-year 2013-2014



Chart 16 - Application of CCM



In all ADPs with ECCE project, CCM created an interactive learning environment for children to learn through playing and talking with teachers and classmates. FY15 evaluation and annual reports confirmed the increase in percentage of teachers effectively applying the method (Chart 16).

### Improved Reading Comprehension of Children aged 11 as a result of Increased Teaching Capacity as well as growth of Village Reading Child Clubs and Child Friendly Libraries

The overall rate of reading comprehension among children aged 11 in 40 ADPs increased by 4.1%, from 74.9% in FY14 to 79% in FY15. The increase was observed across all children groups including girls, boys, EMs, and CwD. Noticeably, the increase for EM group was very high, 4.8% in FY15, compared to 4.2% for Kinh group and 3.5% for EM group in FY14.

Chart 17 shows an increasing trend in different phases. While the average FLAT result of 12 ADPs in phase 1 still falls within the “high risk” threshold, that of 16 ADPs in phase 2 and 9 ADPs in phase 3 have already improved to “moderate risk” and “low risk” thresholds, respectively. This is an evidence of WV Vietnam’s contribution to improved reading comprehension among children aged 11, as described in details in figure 11.

Chart 17 - FY15 Average FLAT Results of 37 Rural ADPs by Phase

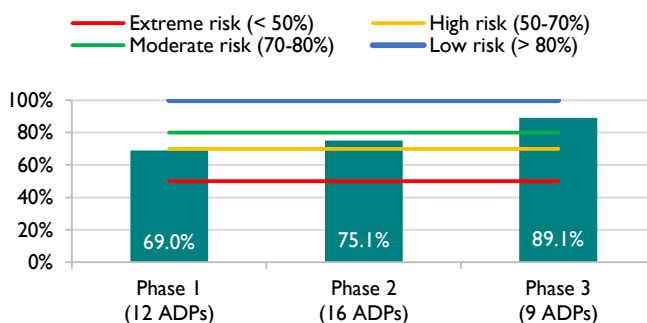


Figure 11 - WV Vietnam’s Contribution to Reading Comprehension of Children Aged 11

#### Improved teaching method

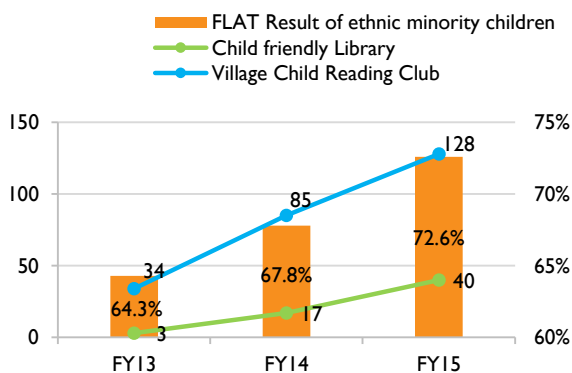
2,878 additional teachers in 27 ADPs were trained on ALM in Vietnamese subject, resulting in increased usage of visual teaching aids, study games, students’ group work and interaction which bettered students’ performance in expressing ideas, mastering phonic structure, word formation, correct spelling and reading with tones



#### Enriched reading opportunities

128 VCRCs in 20 ADPs provided reading opportunities after school through reading sessions facilitated by volunteer parents at villages where literacy of children are low. 40 CFLs in 9 ADPs with spacious reading room, books, self-reading time, reading activities facilitated by librarians and book festivals created reading opportunities for children.

Chart 18 - FLAT Result versus Growth in VCRCs and CFLs in FY13-15



Remarkably, the rapid scale-up of VCRCs and CFLs in FY15 speeded up the improvement of FLAT result, especially among EM children, as displayed in chart 18, narrowing the gap between Kinh and EM children.

As evaluated by an external consultant in 2015 with a sampling size of 8 out of 35 VCRCs in 4 ADPs, the reading club model has brought about real progress in reading comprehension for children through great contribution of parents as facilitators. The children showed great excitement in participation, writing, drawing and exploring the values in stories that greatly

helped them develop their reading and learning skills.

Despite significant progress in 2015, reading comprehension among EM children is still at the “high risk” threshold due to language barrier at schools. The rate among RC remains unchanged at 78%

since FY14, which needs further investigation, attention and solutions, including intentionally involving them in VCRCs and CFLs.

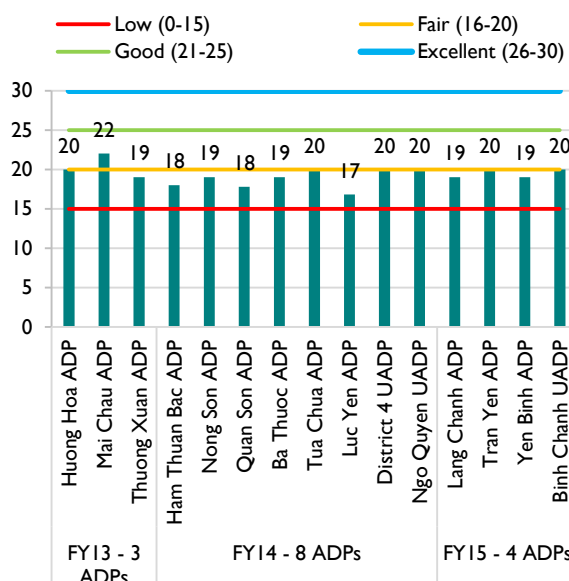
## Life Skills Education through Children's Clubs as one of the most significant interventions for children aged 12-14

In FY15, 11,501 students in 722 Children's Clubs benefited from life skills education<sup>18</sup> as reported by 33 ADPs. Six evaluation reports in FY15 reported that life skills education through Children's Clubs were appreciated by children for bringing about positive changes in their behaviors and especially their communication skills.

Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) scores on internal assets in 15 ADPs measured in FY13-15 indicated that majority of the ADPs are at "Fair" level and only one (Mai Chau ADP) has reached "Good" level (Chart 19). It can be interpreted that adolescents in target areas still face challenges in internal assets building. A deeper analysis of three asset categories (Positive Values, Positive Identity, Social Competencies) that are recommended to be used as proxy indicators to measure life skills shows that the most challenging area is "Positive Identity". This has been confirmed by children participated in Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) after DAP surveys.

Therefore, life skills intervention should be strengthened and integrated into school agenda. In addition, it is necessary to monitor the application of life skills among trained Children's Club members to see the progress and changes over time.

Chart 19 - DAP Internal Asset Score at Baseline in FY13-15



*"Training on life skills helped us to have more knowledge and skills. I become more confident, and have made a lot of changes. I believe in myself and become stronger, and have better communication skills,"*

*said a child from children club in Tien Phuoc ADP*

## Most Vulnerable Children

The Education projects continued to prioritize MVC under three categories: CwD, drop-outs and children from poorest families. 5,409 MVC in 21 ADPs received support such as health check-up and inclusion of CwD in Children's Clubs, Reading Clubs. Drop-outs aged 15-18 were supported with vocational training and endorsed for job placement. Poor children had their critical needs met at school such as supplies and essential learning items. MVC households were also prioritized in livelihood projects in order to support the educational needs of their children and reduce their vulnerabilities.

## Sustainability

**Partnering:** All ADPs are implementing Education projects and practices in partnership with both local governments and community members. As a highlighted result, local DOET in Trieu Phong and Vinh Linh ADPs allocated their resources for the replication of ALM in non-WV areas, and parents actively participated and contributed through PTA, VCRC and EMA models.

**Advocacy:** In collaboration with MOET, Vietnam Association for Education for All and its coalition agencies including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Child Fund, Save the Children, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Culture, Women Union, Youth Union and Study Promotion Association, WV Vietnam took part in organizing the 2015's Global Action Week (GAW) on Education with the theme "Everyone has the right to a quality education". This is a major annual advocacy event implemented from grassroots to national level to raise awareness of educational issues and promote dialogues among education policy makers, teachers, parents and students to enhance all stakeholders' participation in ensuring quality education for all.

<sup>18</sup>The training covered all 5 life skill groups of Communication, Critical Thinking, Emotional Management, Social Responsibility and Relationship Building.

With support of WV Vietnam's ADPs, 18 other advocacy events were conducted at local level to advocate for more budget allocation and clear replication plan by local governments for proven effective models and practices such as ALM and CCM. In FY15, a total of 205,215 students under age 14 benefitted from these advocacy activities in terms of both participation opportunity and improved learning condition. Strong commitment was made to ensure education right of the most vulnerable children, including better collaboration with mass organizations and families to ensure children's going to schools and learning at school and home with adequate learning aids.

## Learning and Recommendation

Table 2 - Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Objective 2

The was a lack of reliable data for school readiness of children aged 5.

▶ Conduct measurement of school readiness as part of baseline surveys in 18 ADPs in FY16

VCRC is a relevant model for improvement of reading comprehension areas among EM children.

▶ Replicate the model with a clear guideline for EM areas with intentional inclusion of CwD, EM children and RC

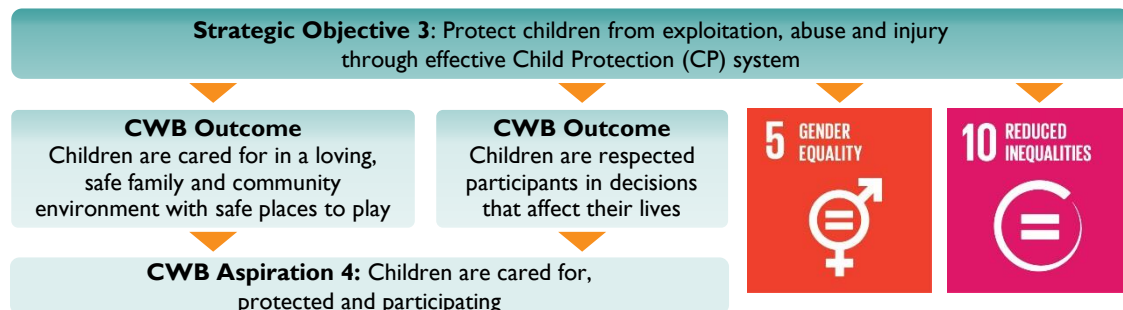
The application of life skills among trained children has not been well monitored to see the progress and changes over time due to lack of monitoring tool.

▶ Use DAP tool to monitor life skills application among direct beneficiaries on annual basis in ADPs which have already used DAP at baseline survey



# OBJECTIVE 3 CHILD PROTECTION

## Strategic Linkage



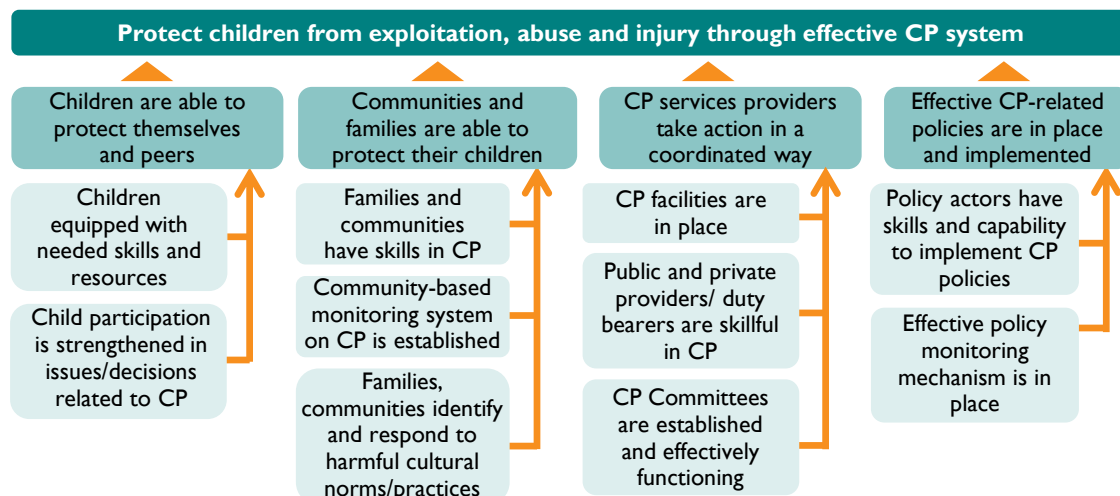
## Summary of Logic Chain

The critical child protection issues in WV Vietnam’s working areas are child labor, child marriage and child injuries:

- The primary root causes of child labor is poverty and the lack or limited awareness of child rights among parents, caregivers, children, employers and labor brokers. Poor children in rural areas are often lured to drop out of school and migrate to big cities with the promise of good income to help their families. The lack of appropriate skills for the job market and inadequate information on working conditions often lead to child labor and other forms of exploitation.
- There is an increasing prevalence of child marriage among ethnic minorities, which is caused by customary acceptance in community, parents’ indifference and lack of guidance for adolescents on pre-marital intercourse and reproductive health. Early child marriages perpetuate a cycle of poverty as young couples are often without livelihood means. It also results in a heavy toll on girls and babies health at childbirth.
- National Statistics indicate that traffic accident and drowning are the primary causes of child injuries due to unsafe driving practices, violation of traffic laws and limited knowledge and skills for self-protection.

In response to the emerging child protection issues and to honor its commitments as a signatory of the CRC, child protection system has been expanded nationwide by Vietnam’s Government in collaboration with INGOs. However, child protection services are not yet effective, especially in terms of systematic coordination between agencies to respond to reported cases. This is due to limited capacity of CBCPC members and service providers, inadequate resources for quality services and inconsistent implementation of child protection policies. To address these issues, WV Vietnam collaborates with CBCPC at all levels to i) empower children to protect themselves and their peers, ii) increase capacity for community and families to protect their children, and iii) reinforce policy implementation.

Figure 12 - Pathway of Change for Objective 3





## Resources

**Number of Projects** 26

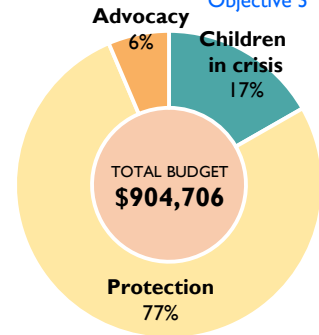
(including End Trafficking in Persons Project, Child Protection and Advocacy Project)

**Technical Staff** National level: 2 Full-time staff Zonal level: 5 Part-time staff

### Key Partners

- Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)
- Departments of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs at Provincial and District levels
- District and Commune CPCs
- Schools, Village Development Boards (VDBs)

Chart 20 - FY15 Expenditure for Objective 3



## Children Impacted



## Results

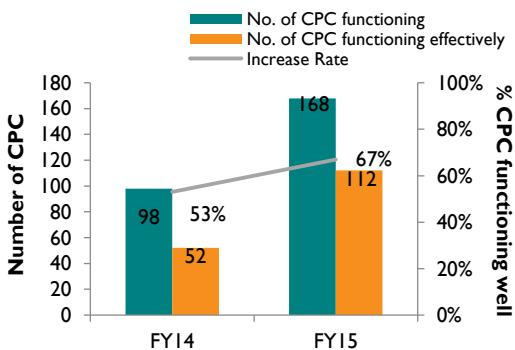
#	Indicator	FY14		FY15		Progress
		Achieved	# of ADPs	Achieved	# of ADPs	
1	No. of functional commune CBCPC	98	23	168	29	+71.4%
2	No. of commune CBCPC functioning effectively	52	14	112	24	+115.4%
3	No. of Children's Clubs	798	30	851	32	+6.6%
4	No. of Adolescent-Led Initiatives	144	30	243	22	+68.8%
5	No. of Children's Forum at district level	11	11	15	15	+36.4%
6	No. of Households meeting Safe House Standards	3,596	6	4,396	11	+22.2%

## Analysis

### Growth and Functionality of CBCPCs improved CP case reporting and management in community

WV Vietnam started partnering with MOLISA, UNICEF and other INGOs in initiating Community-Based Child Protection System (CPCPS) in 2009. By the end of FY15, WV Vietnam has supported to set up 168 commune CBCPCs in 5 provinces among a total of 5,510 commune CBCPCs nationwide.

Chart 21 - Status of Growth and Functionality of CBCPCs



FY15 witnessed an expansion in CPCPS and improvement in operational quality of CBCPCs (Chart 21). Monitoring results show that 70 additional committees are effective, with improved capacity for case management and consultation and better counselling service for children on child-related issues. This is resulted from more technical training provided by ADPs and increased local partners' buy-in.

WV Vietnam's effort in capacity building and dissemination of technical guidance also contributed to rapidly replicating CBCPCs in 114 non-WV communes, compared to 64 communes in FY14.

Evaluation report of Tra My ADP also reveals that CBCPC has contributed to the improved well-being of children in the area.

*"Every year, in each hamlet, there are about 3-7 Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances receiving support. The community members have been actively reporting child protection incidents, either to the local authority [CBCPC] or through the hotline 18001567. CPC members then conduct visits to families to encourage and identify needed support."*  
shared one of the CBCPC members

## Children's participation improved their capacity to protect themselves

851 functional Children's Clubs in 33 ADPs in FY15 have provided more opportunities for children to enhance and apply their learned knowledge and skills related to child protection (Chart 22). Having participated in Children's Clubs, communication events and festivals, 9,482 children were educated on child marriage, 12,718 children were trained on Child Injury Prevention, 23,241 Children's Club members were communicated on child rights and protection. In addition, 11,501 children in 722 Children's Clubs benefited from life skills education, which helped children better communicate and become more confident.

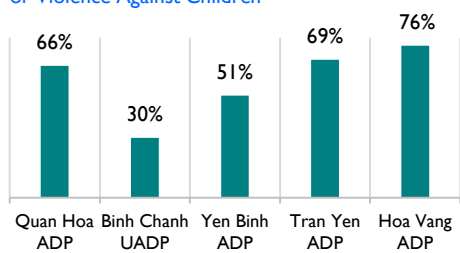
Remarkably, children's life skills, including self-protection, have been improved through adolescent-led initiatives. The impact review of Adolescent-Led Initiative model conducted in FY15 by WV Vietnam with the participation of 44 girls, 37 boys, and 16 teachers/adults in 6 ADPs showed that the model has contributed significantly to improved children's knowledge and practice of child rights, child injury prevention, environmental protection, climate change, and social responsibilities. Core Children's Club members participated in FGDs in Ngo Quyen ADP shared:

*"Taking part in adolescent-led initiatives, we have gone through many levels of emotion. Before we felt life was so boring, but now things have changed, we feel happy and enthusiastic. We want to help others and start to think about our future."*

Indeed, the model has inspired children to exercise their rights of participation and protection.

In addition, 4,800 children took part in district Children's Fora organized in 15 ADPs in FY15 to dialogue with local authorities about child protection and child rights issues. To elevate the recommendations, WV Vietnam in collaboration with the MOLISA and other INGOs organized a national Children's Forum in FY15, giving 192 children representatives from 30 provinces a great opportunity to dialogue with national decision makers.

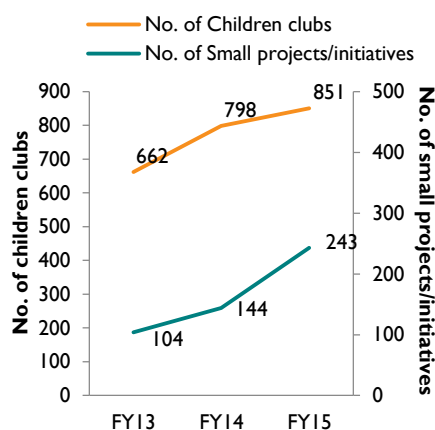
Chart 23 - % of Adolescents Aged 12-18 Who Know of the Presence of Services and Mechanisms to Receive and Respond to Reports of Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation or Violence Against Children



Overall, from FY14 to FY15, the total number of deaths has decreased among both RC (from 42 cases to 27 cases) and non-RC (from 55 cases to 37 cases). Number of RC deaths by drowning has remarkably decreased compared to FY14 and FY13 (Chart 24). This can be a result of collaborative effort in child injury preventions by WV Vietnam and its partners.

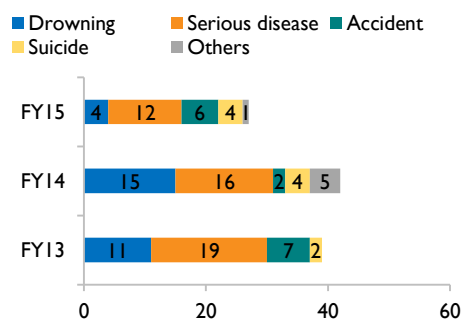
Unfortunately, RC death cases due to suicide still exist in Dien Bien and Yen Bai although ADPs have implemented BCC activities to positively change the mindset and behaviors of children and youth. This issue happened due to complex causes, which needs further research to inform future response.

Chart 22 - Growth in Children's Clubs & Adolescent-Led Initiatives



Regardless of the above efforts, there has not been any significant evidence to show that children's action and efforts have resulted in the reduction of child protection incidents. Average percentage of adolescents who know of the presence of services and mechanisms to receive and respond to reports of child protection issues ranged from 30% to 76% as reported by 5 ADPs (Chart 23). An in-depth analysis on child sexual abuse cases revealed that children are still not well-equipped enough with self-protection skills and caregivers' awareness and skills of child protection and parenting are still limited. These are gaps that need to be addressed strategically.

Chart 24 - RC Deaths by Reasons



## End Trafficking in Persons

Toward the goal of improved well-being of Victims of Trafficking (VOT) and those who are vulnerable to trafficking, End Trafficking in Persons (ETIP) Project obtained the following achievements in FY15:

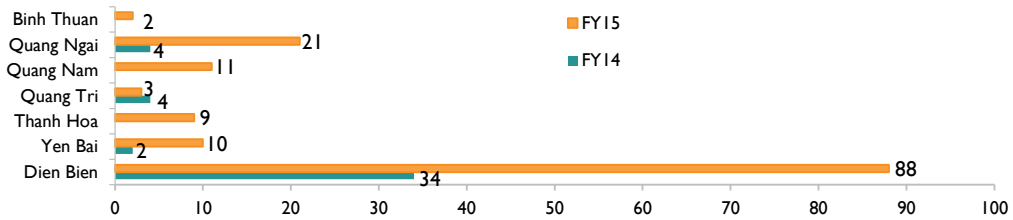
- 296 youth clubs members equipped with knowledge on human trafficking, and safe migration
- BCC activities organized by Child Protection and Advocacy groups, reaching over 900 youths and migrants on safe migration

- 80 MVC identified and supported with vocational training, family livelihood and education
- 580 Government officials equipped with basic knowledge on anti-human trafficking
- 8 VOT assisted with reintegration, 3 VOTs with referral and 41 VOTs with networking support
- Recommendations/inputs provided for revision of penal code, development of National Plan of Action against Human Trafficking period 2016-2020, and national preparation for the 8th ASEAN forum on migrant labor.

### Child Marriage remains a serious issue in Dien Bien and Quang Ngai provinces

According to ADPs’ annual reports, communications in various forms reached 9,482 children and their parents in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Dien Bien and Yen Bai provinces to alter their attitude towards child marriage. Yet, in FY15, reported cases of child marriage among RC tripled the reported data in FY14 (Chart 25). This possibly resulted from increased number of RC who reached the minimum age for marriage with parental consent. WV Vietnam should increase holistic interventions to address the root causes of child marriage.

Chart 25 - Marriage by Province in FY14-15



### Most Vulnerable Children

Chart 26 - Direct MVC Support by Support Type

- Basic Needs (Shelter, Food, Clothes)
- Legal Legal Aids (birth registration, residency registration, etc.)
- Family Livelihood Support
- Education, Vocational Training and Job Opportunities
- Health support
- Psychological Support (Counseling, etc.)

In collaboration with DOLISA, WV Vietnam has supported CBCPCs to annually map out and update the MVC list to identify the vulnerable children in need of prevention and protection services. In FY15, in 34 ADPs, 30,696 MVC were identified in which 17,703 MVC were supported by WV Vietnam according to their respective needs (Chart 26). Compared to FY14, an increase of 11% in the number of MVC supported in FY15 (Chart 27) was a result of WV Vietnam’s intentional prioritization of MVC.

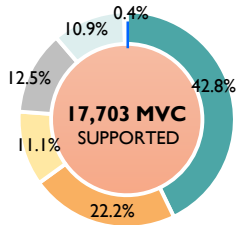
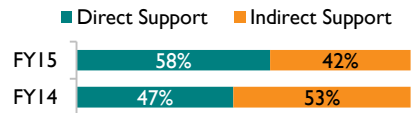


Chart 27 - MVC Support by WV Vietnam in FY14-15



### Sustainability

In Child Protection projects, the consistent application of systems approach helped promote the ownership of local partners. CBCPC is an effective model to strengthen child protection in communities as well as build relevant capacities for local partners. The local government has now replicated 114 CBCPCs in non-WV communes from the best practice of WV Vietnam’s implementation.

At the national level, WV Vietnam has successfully advocated to MOLISA to include the Adolescent-Led Initiative model in the Child Participation Program approved by the Prime Minister for period 2016-2020.

### Learning and Recommendation

Table 3 - Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Objective 3

As a new standalone objective in FY15-17 strategy, Child Protection was still implemented as cross cutting theme in most ADPs with budget allocation of only 3%.

- ▶ Include CP interventions in new and redesigned ADPs where it is relevant;
- ▶ Scale up CBCPC in Dien Bien to address critical child protection issues including suicide, child marriage and child labor

WV Vietnam’s interventions have not yet focused on strengthening awareness and skills of child protection for caregivers.

- ▶ Provide training on parenting for caregivers/families in ADPs with existing CP projects, using Celebrating Families and Positive Parenting

There is a lack of good outcome and monitoring indicators and measurement tools.

- ▶ Select standard outcome and monitoring indicators, then, adapt and develop tools for measurement

# OBJECTIVE 4 RESILIENCE & LIVELIHOOD

## Strategic Linkage

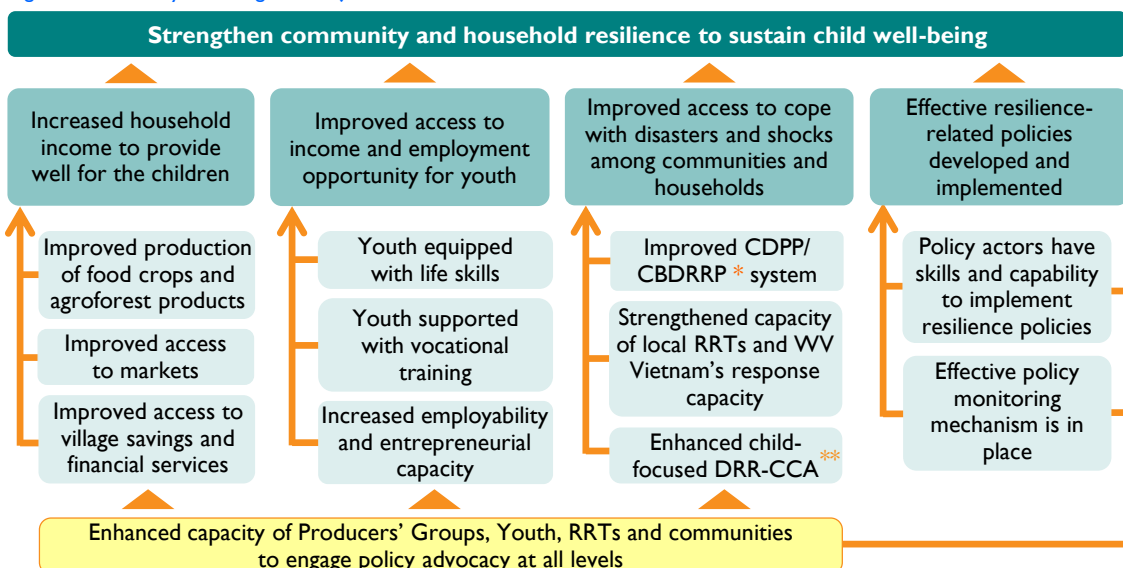


## Summary of Logic Chain

Household and community resilience in remote and mountainous areas remains weak despite the overall socio-economic gains of the country. The poverty reduction rate has slowed down and poverty incidence in remote and mountainous areas remains high at 27%<sup>19</sup>. The inequality in income and socio-economic development among different geographic localities and ethnic groups is still significant. Livelihoods in these areas remain unstable and susceptible to economic shocks. In many areas, existing livelihood options are unviable due to undeveloped markets linkages, lack of access to capital, financial services and markets as well as limited tools and technologies to improve productivity. Limited economic options for the rural youth force many to migrate, especially to urban centers to earn income. Youth unemployment rate has increased to 6.47% in 2015 from 5.2% in 2011. Nearly 48% of the total 1.12 million unemployed people are aged 15-24<sup>20</sup>.

Furthermore, there is an increasingly devastating effect on the livelihoods of the poor due to the climate change impacts which manifest in the escalating frequency of extreme weather events as well as the rising sea levels<sup>21</sup>. These problems pose huge challenges for Vietnam in its efforts to boost economic growth and ensure sustainable social development. In FY15, WV Vietnam worked with household members to increase income and assets as well as empower the vulnerable youth to access employment and business opportunities through tested and evidence-based package of livelihood interventions. Also, WV Vietnam worked with the communities and partners to develop and implement disaster preparedness plans and build a strong network of RRTs at district, commune and village levels, they are the strong front-liners in emergency response and disaster risk reduction.

Figure 13 - Pathway of Change for Objective 4



\* Community Disaster Preparedness Plan/ Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Plan  
 \*\* Disaster Risk Reduction - Climate Change Adaptation

<sup>19</sup>Poverty Analysis, World Bank 2012

<sup>20</sup>Vietnam General Statistics Office

<sup>21</sup>UNDP Vietnam Country Report 2014

## Resources

Number of Projects  
Technical Staff

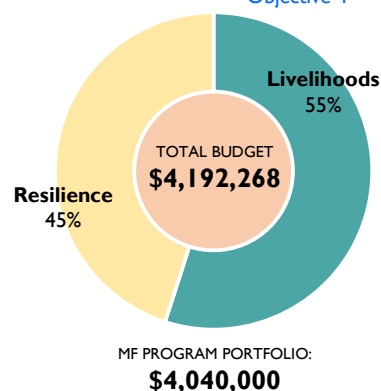
**Resilience**  
43<sup>22</sup>  
National level:  
• 2 Full-time staff

**Livelihoods**  
31<sup>23</sup>  
National level:  
• 3 Full-time staff  
Zonal level:  
• 3 Full-time staff  
• 2 Part-time staff

### Key Partners

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
- Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) at Provincial and District levels
- Extension Centers, VET Stations, Plant Protection Stations
- Farmer Associations, Women Unions
- Private Sector: multi-national, national and small-sized enterprises

Chart 28 - FY15 Expenditure for Objective 4



## Children Directly Impacted



## Results

#	Indicator	FY14		FY15		Progress
		Achieved	# of ADPs	Achieved	# of ADPs	
1	No. of ASCA/Savings groups	307	10	351	15	+14.3%
2	No. of savers	4,978	10	6,807	15	+36.7%
3	Average savings amount per household	US\$ 13	10	US\$ 19	16	+46.2%
4	No. of households with loans from MF program	12,963	11	14,245	11	+9.9%
5	No. of children directly benefiting from MF services	16,543 <sup>24</sup>	11	18,477	11	+11.7%
6	No. of youth having completed vocational training	335	7	505	15	+50.7%
7	No. of youth employed after vocational training	149	7	211	15	+41.6%
8	No. of youth having started small business after entrepreneurship training	59	7	65	15	+10.2%
9	No. of households with increased income from livestock raising	4,245	6	5,976	6	+40.8%
10	No. of communes with CDPP/CBDRRP	204	35	236	39	+15.7%
11	No. of villages with CDPP/CBDRRP	959	32	1,133	36	+18.1%
12	No. of RRTs functioning properly	256	32	507 <sup>25</sup>	24	+98.0%
13	No. of schools with child-focused DRR-CCA activities	249	28	389 <sup>25</sup>	29	+56.2%

## Analysis

### Poverty Rate Reduction in all evaluated ADPs as a result of implementation of R&L interventions

Chart 29 indicates that the reduction of poverty rates in 15 ADPs evaluated in FY15 ranges from a minimum of 2% in Bac Binh ADP to as high as of 19% in Tien Lu ADP. The most significant accomplishment is found in four closing ADPs which achieved and even surpassed the ambitious phasing out threshold of 15% set by WV Vietnam. These includes Tien Phuoc ADP (15%), Cam Thuy

<sup>22</sup>Includes Grant Funded Projects and Emergency respond in non ADP areas

<sup>23</sup>Overlaps with MF Program and Agriculture, some ADPs are simultaneously implementing

<sup>24</sup>FY14 data has been adjusted using new formula taking into account actual number of impacted children and no longer using average ratio per household

<sup>25</sup>Scaling up of those models in Cam Thuy to all 20 communes (instead of 11 target communes)



ADP (15%), Vinh Linh ADP (14%) and Trieu Phong ADP (9%). Despite remarkable progress in Muong Cha, Lac Son and Tuan Giao ADPs by the end of phase 1, the poverty rate is still intolerably high, which requires greater investment from local government and other stakeholders including WV Vietnam. The result also informs of the need to allocate more funding on R&L in Tra My and Quan Hoa ADPs given their very high poverty rate at transition phase and less funding on R&L in Bac Binh ADP given its low poverty rate of 5% at the end of phase 2.

Chart 29 - Poverty Rate Reduction of Evaluated ADPs in FY15

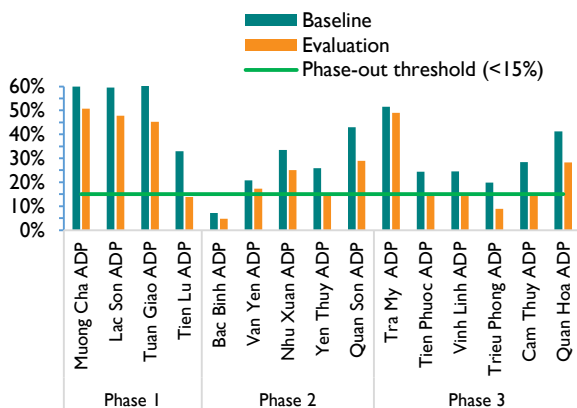
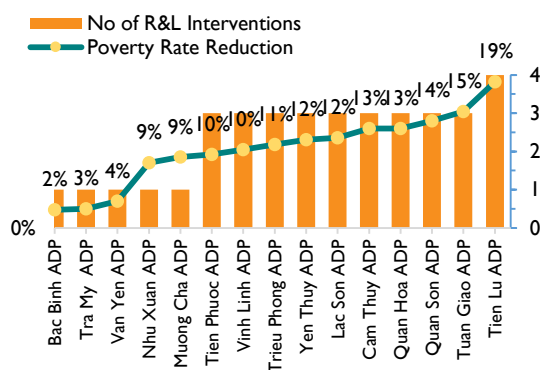


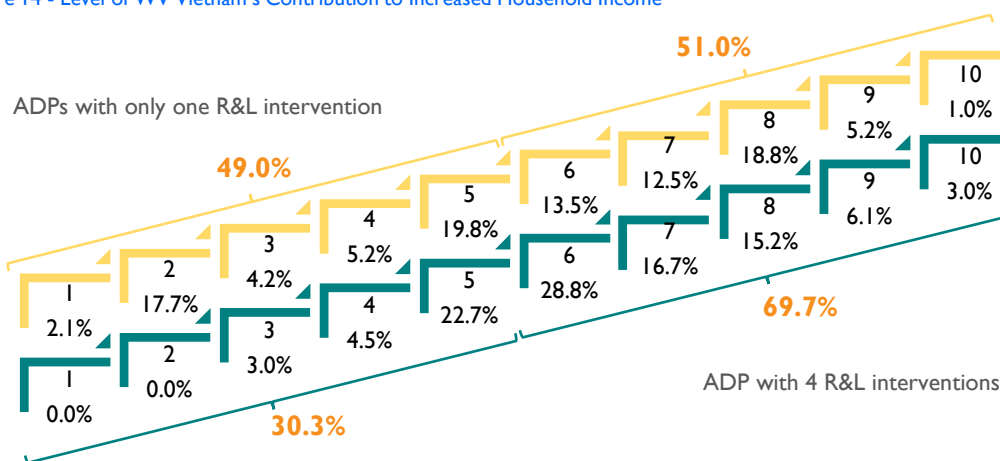
Chart 30 - Poverty Rate Reduction versus Number of R&L Interventions



The reduction of poverty rates can not be solely attributed to WV Vietnam’s interventions but to various factors and variables in the target communities. It can be noted that there is a consistent trend that indicates a correlation between poverty reduction and the implementation of more than two R&L interventions in ADPs with poverty reduction rate of 10% or more. Tien Lu reached a startling 19% reduction (Chart 30).

Figure 14 shows the level of R&L interventions’ contribution to increased household income, as rated by a total of 162 surveyed farmers. In Tien Lu ADP where 4 R&L interventions were implemented, 69.7% of farmers evaluated WV Vietnam’s contribution to increased household income at high to excellent level (6 to 10) compared to 51.0% in evaluated ADPs with only one R&L intervention (Bac Binh, Nhu Xuan, Van Yen). According to Tien Lu ADP’s evaluation report, 323 out of 877 (36.8%) poor households in target communes have escaped poverty, in which 73 households (22.6%) were supported by WV Vietnam’s R&L interventions.

Figure 14 - Level of WV Vietnam’s Contribution to Increased Household Income



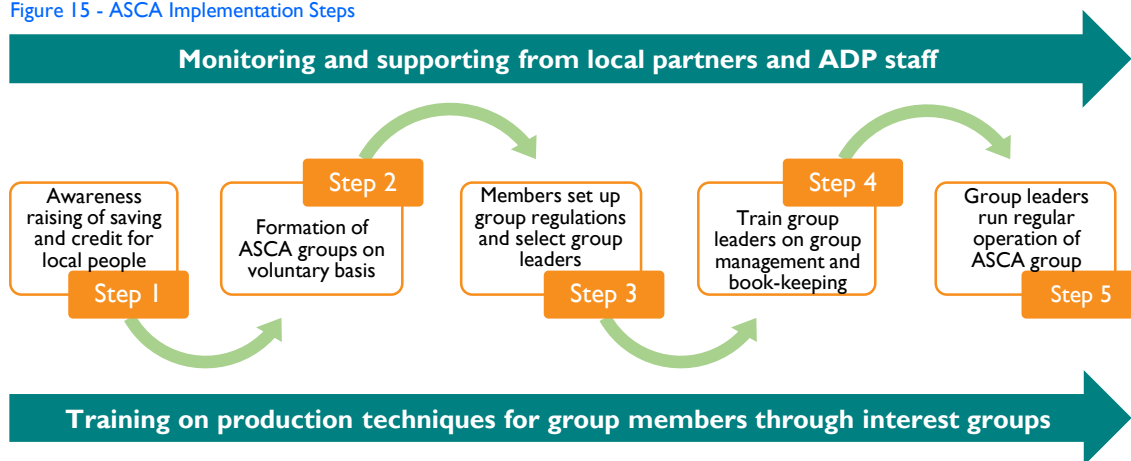
Therefore, it can be concluded that an intentional integration of multiple R&L interventions including Livestock Initiative for Transformation (LIFT), Sustainable Rice Intensification (SRI), Business Facilitation, Local Value Change Development (LVCD), MF and ASCA/Saving Groups can help reduce poverty in the target communities.

### Increase in access to financial services amongst households in the target areas

WV Vietnam is implementing the ASCA model which is similar to the Savings Groups model recommended by WV Partnership. This model is developed to increase access to micro-savings and credit for local households, especially the poor, allowing them to build up their savings and invest in

inputs and other needs to boost production and income (Figure 15).

Figure 15 - ASCA Implementation Steps

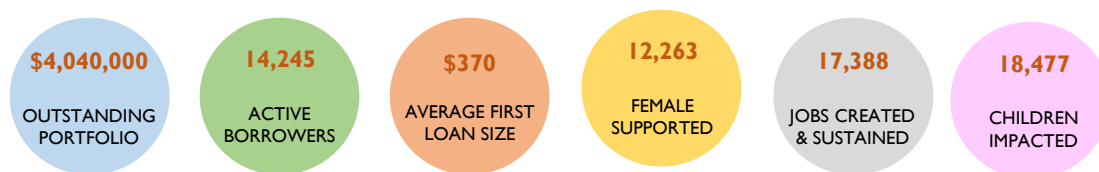


With the increase in ADPs implementing ASCA model in FY15, there was a simultaneous increase in the number of groups by 14.3% and the number of savers by 36.7%. Members of ASCA groups deposit a small amount of monthly savings to come up with bigger sum by the end of a savings cycle. They could also access small loans from the pooled savings of the group. There was a congruent growth in the savings portfolio as the number of savers grew. Total savings portfolio increased by 101.1% in FY15 (FY14 = US\$63,189, FY15 = US\$127,080).

This model has been effectively integrated with different groups that are existing in the community, especially NCs and Interest Groups such as Producers’ Groups, Youth Clubs and MF Clusters. MF program provided financial literacy education for ASCA members to manage household budget effectively and invest their savings wisely. ASCA members also “graduated” to access to MF services. The integration is considered as an efficient way to ensure the sustainability of the models, especially when ADPs/APs phase out.

The below snapshot (Figure 16) described the overall performance of MF program in FY15. By the end of FY15, MF program served 14,245 households - 9.9% higher compared to FY14 - with a total portfolio of almost US\$4 million - 18% bigger compared to FY14. It is worth noting that 78% of households reported increased income and 39% increased assets<sup>26</sup>. MF program continued to provide financial literacy training to 33% of its total borrowers (4,664 households).

Figure 16 - MF Program Performance Snapshot



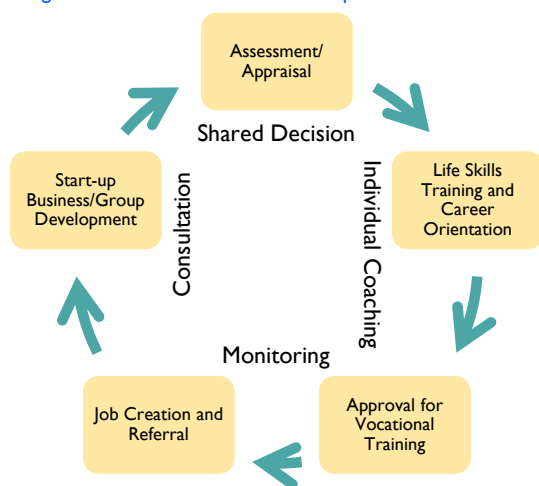
### Increased access to employment and new businesses opportunities for Most Vulnerable Adolescents

With support from WV Vietnam in FY15, 505 youth, especially those in difficult circumstances (orphans, from poor households, living with disability, etc.) were equipped with life skills and trained on vocational skills. 211 youth were supported with job placement in local business/service establishments. 65 youth received support to set up their small business and become self-employed (hair-dressing, tailoring, bakery, etc.). Most notable achievement in FY15 was the increase of 41.6% in youth who are employed after vocational training compared to FY14.

Figure 17 describes the approach used by WV Vietnam in youth livelihood development. WV Vietnam’s contribution is not simply to provide most vulnerable youth with vocational skills, but also to walk alongside them on their development journey, from hopeless, powerless, neglected to empowered adolescents with strong hope for future, joy in labor and compassion for family and community members.

<sup>26</sup>MF Program’s MIS 2015

Figure 17 - Youth Livelihood Development



As reported by Youth Livelihood Project in Ngo Quyen Urban ADP, Hai Phong city, not only 100% of employed youth earned enough for their living expenses but 85% employed youth also can share partly expenses or contribute to monthly savings of their families. Recognizing project outcome, some siblings of employed youth have been enrolled in new vocational training batches with training fee partly contributed by their families.

The project has learned that one of the key success factors is to partner with private sector such as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in addition to local government, as they have expertise (job skills and understanding of market), resources (finance, location, and network) and are willing to support vulnerable people, including poor youth.

### Increased income and asset in households that applied LIFT and SRI

WV Vietnam adopts the social and collective approaches in Livelihood Development interventions. Through ADPs' facilitation, Livelihood Groups (LGs) are organized and mobilized to work collectively to purchase inputs, process and sell their product(s), thus building their competitive advantages. Applying Field Farmer School (FFS) approach, WV Vietnam provides training for LGs on how to increase yields by using improved inputs and better agronomic practices.

In FY15, SRI model was applied in 14 ADPs where average rice yield of target households, as a result, increased to 5.53 ton/ha, up 8.6% compared to FY14. It is worth noting that farmer households were able to save an average of US\$ 50 per hectare per crop<sup>27</sup>.

Besides, LIFT model supported LGs to systematically raise livestock for sale, generating income and assets, thus improving household economy to provide well for their children. LIFT model was integrated with NCs to provide nutritious food for children under 5, with Business Facilitation and LVCD models to ensure high profit for the poor through local input supplier and market linkage when selling products. SRI also made use of livestock excrement to produce micro-organic fertilizer, which improves rice as well as other crop products.

There were 32 ADPs that implemented livestock raising activities in FY15, benefiting a total of 7,312 households which is 33.7% higher than FY14. A total of 339 calves and piglets were produced from the reproductive livestock owned by households, thus increasing their productive assets or income.

Additionally, there were 5,976 households in 9 ADPs<sup>28</sup> supported with short-term livestock such as piglets, chickens and ducks. Majority of the households reported an additional income from sale of livestock that ranges from US\$22 to US\$100 while the average monthly household income in rural Vietnam is US\$100.

### Increased disaster preparedness capacity in ADPs and projects' areas

The increase in disaster preparedness capacity among household members, communities and local partners made important contributions towards the reduction of community's vulnerabilities against disasters and the effects of climate change in the target areas as illustrated in 16% increase in the CDPP/CBDRRP at commune level and 18% at village level. More importantly, the 56% increase in the number of schools implementing child-focused DRR-CCA activities gave priority to strengthening the children's ability to prepare for and cope with disasters while at the same time making them "active agents of change" for their own families and communities.

Charts 31 and 32 show that Thanh Hoa zone registered the highest increase in the number of village level CDPP/CBDRRP completed and implemented (426) and number of functional RRT (268). The surge is attributed to the high vulnerabilities in this zone, the effective implementation of CATREND project in the province as well as continued advocacy discussions and joint actions with local, district and provincial government to implement the program on Community-Based Disaster Risk Management and the National Disaster Prevention Law.

<sup>27</sup>FY15 Annual Reports - Tram Tau, Ba Thuoc, Luc Yen, Quan Son, Yen Binh, Tua Chua, Thuong Xuan ADPs

<sup>28</sup>Annual Reports 2015 - Yen Thuy, Nong Son, Tien Lu, Tram Tau, Tran Yen Evaluation Report - Van Yen

Chart 31 - Number of CDDP/CBDRRP at Village Level by Zone

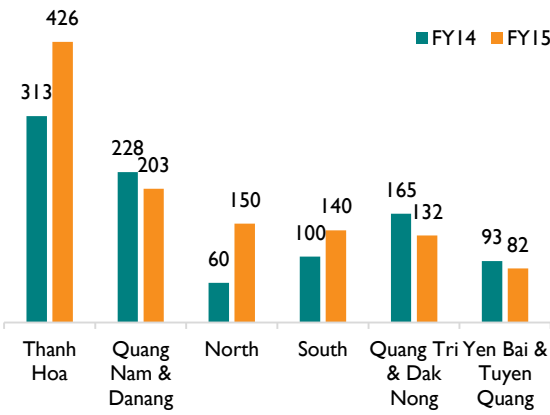
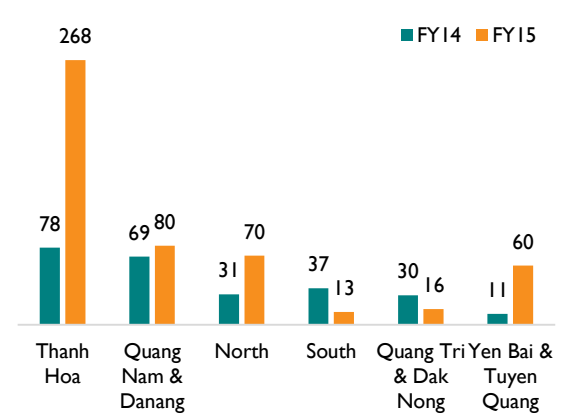


Chart 32 - Number of RRTs Functioning Well by Zone



## Timely and Appropriate Emergency Responses

WV Vietnam continued to provide emergency response in FY15 mostly in localized small-scale disasters caused by floods in the Northern Vietnam. WV Vietnam was able to support 122 families (451 people, among which 156 were children) affected in Tuan Giao district, Dien Bien province and Cat Hai district, Hai Phong city by providing food and non-food items. The funding of US\$7,585 for this response was mobilized from National Emergency Preparedness Response Fund (NEPRF).

## Most Vulnerable Children

FY15 is the first year of implementing the strategic objective on R&L. Specific R&L models intentionally targeted MVC. The Youth Livelihoods Development Project in Ngo Quyen Urban ADP targeted most vulnerable youth aged 15-24, including school drop-outs, youth from extremely poor families, youth whose parent(s) are addicted to drugs, alcohol or are imprisoned, youth with disabilities or suffering from domestic violence, survivors of human trafficking, migrants and street youth. A total of 103 most vulnerable youth were provided life skills education and attended vocational training. 56 are already employed while 4 have their own small businesses.

Livelihoods projects are prioritized for poor and near poor families with vulnerable children. In Quan Son ADP for example, 305 households with MVC were part of a total of 747 households benefiting from the ADP's activities. The most notable interventions include supporting poor and near-poor households to increase income, improve daily meals, conditions for their children's study, and child care quality through different livelihood development models such as raising chickens, pigs, cows and goats, planting rice, corn and soy-bean.

While there are data from some projects on MVC, much is to be done to track and improve the status of MVC targeting, especially in R&L projects.

## Sustainability

The sustainability of R&L projects focus primarily on two factors: partnership and local ownership.

**Partnership:** Strong partnership is best demonstrated in the collaborative relationships that exist in DRR-CCA project implementation. Hai Phong City Resilient to Climate Change and Disaster Risks (HRCDD) project established partnerships with SMEs, thereby ensuring that their businesses and employees reduce the vulnerabilities caused by natural disasters. According to the FY15 annual report of HRCDD project, 320 business partners were engaged and mobilized. As the concept of Public Private Partnership (PPP) is quite new in Vietnam, especially for DRR-CCA, it is not easy for NGOs to work with private sectors due to different methodologies, approaches and interests. The project was attempting to partner with the Confederation of Labor at City and District levels, Alliance of Cooperatives and Enterprises (ACEs) and the Energy Conservation and Cleaner Production Centre, which have responsibility and competence to engage and facilitate the participation of private sectors in DRR-CCA activities.

**Local Ownership:** WV Vietnam acknowledges the importance of working in collaboration with the government at all levels to ensure that WV Vietnam contributes to the overall development programs of the country as well as local ownership.



*“Strong partnership is established among local authorities, WV, mass organizations, training centers and local businesses, each played significant roles in increasing youths’ access to vocational training and job placement. World Vision and partners can provide youth with timely counselling and orientation and stakeholders feel they are responsible.”*  
*said Mr. Hoang Xuan Son, vice director of PACCOM in Hai Phong city where Ngo Quyen Urban ADP operates*<sup>29</sup>

## Learning and Recommendation

Table 4 - Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Objective 4

Improved integration and implementation of R&L models can lead to better outcomes.	▶ Conduct a review of best practices on integration and implementation of R&L models in performing ADPs
Partnership with businesses improves sustainability and synergy in development efforts.	▶ Document lessons learned on PPP from HRCD project and develop clear Guideline on partnering with private sector for R&L projects
There is a lack of good outcome and monitoring indicators as well as measurement tools.	▶ Select standard outcome and monitoring indicators, then, adapt and develop tools for measurement



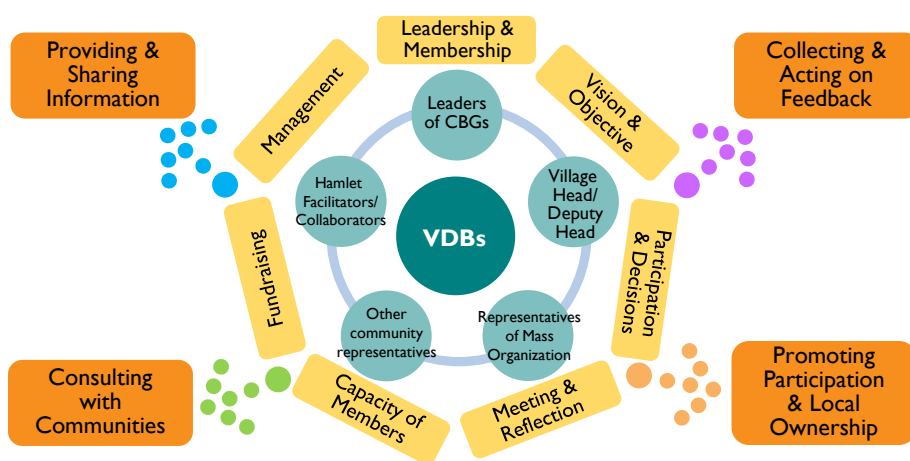
<sup>29</sup>Annual Report - Youth Livelihood Development Project, September 2015



# DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APPROACH (DPA)

WV Vietnam’s primary role at the ADPs is to serve as catalyst in the delivery of relevant and appropriate development programs in areas where children face critical well-being needs that require both immediate action and long-term interventions in order to improve and sustain their well-being. ADP staff work with local authorities to create action plans to address CWB issues while strengthening local partners through the formation and capacity building of VDBs which assume its role over time. Most importantly, WV Vietnam’s DPA process gives priority to children and youth aged 11-17 to participate in planning, reflections and evaluations to provide information as well as engaging them in the development initiatives, thereby strengthening their sense of confidence and ownership of the program activities. Children, especially Children’s Club members use simple tools such as photo-voice, spider diagram to identify and express their views on child well-being priorities. In the current governance context of Vietnam wherein community planning has to be done through local government set-up in accordance with the grassroots democracy policy, VDBs provide a platform for non-cadre community members to participate in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development initiatives, making it more inclusive and participatory.

Figure 18 - Village Development Board: Composition and Capacity Areas



## Growth and Functionality of VDBs

Chart 33 - VDB Growth and Functionality in FY13-15

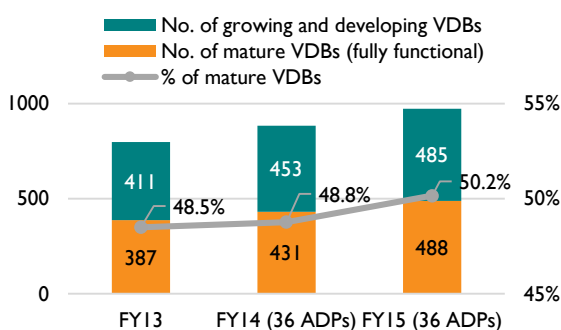
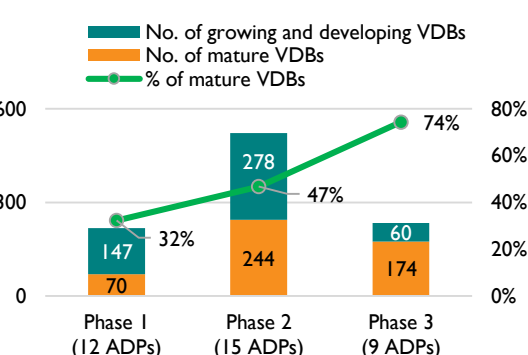


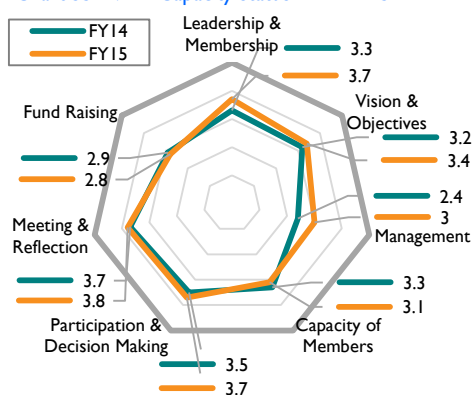
Chart 34 - VDB Functionality by ADP Phase in FY15



VDBs are mostly composed of representatives from the local government, mass organizations and ordinary community members who don’t have any political affiliation but are unanimously elected by community members to represent them. As a platform for community engagement and local partnering, VDBs are supported by WV Vietnam to develop seven areas of organizational capacity (Figure 18).

There were 89 additional VDBs established in FY15, adding up to a total of 973 in 36 ADPs. These VDBs are at different levels of capacity but in FY15, 50.2% of VDBs were already fully functional compared to 48.8% in FY14 (Chart 33). Further comparison of the VDB Capacities and ADP life cycle (phases) indicates that most ADPs in phase 3 had the highest proportion of fully functional VDBs, which indicates that WV Vietnam is able to build the capacity of local community to assume the leadership and management role for sustainable development upon WV Vietnam’s exit (Chart 34).

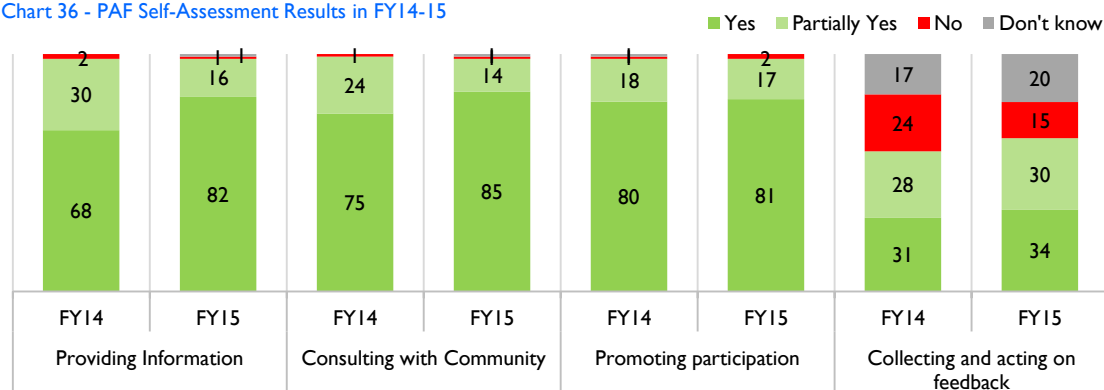
Chart 35 - VDB Capacity Status in FY14-15



According to a thorough review conducted by WV Vietnam for 626 VDBs in 25 ADPs using the VDB checklist, there was improvement in five out of seven capacity areas (Chart 35). Nevertheless, the areas of fundraising and capacity of members slightly went down in FY15. An in-depth analysis shows that many VDBs did not have its own operating funds and only 87 hamlet facilitators were promoted to a higher position at village and commune levels, which is fairly humble compared to the expectations in terms of VDB members' capacity. This result confirms an increasing urgency to strengthen the capacity of growing VDBs, especially in ADPs at phase 2 and 3.

## Program Accountability Assessment result and DPA process in WV Vietnam communities

Chart 36 - PAF Self-Assessment Results in FY14-15



The Program Accountability Framework (PAF) serves as a tool to further DPA implementation and help improve community engagement alongside capacity building of VDBs and community members. Two more additional ADPs (Dien Bien Dong and Ham Thuan Bac) and one grant projects (CATREND) started using the PAF in FY15 in addition to the 39 ADPs in FY14. The assessment result in FY15 shows progress in all four PAF areas compared to FY14, especially in the area of collecting and acting on feedback (Chart 36).

## Providing Information

Providing information to communities in WV Vietnam's ADPs is done through various community engagement processes such as program design and integrated in meetings and workshops with local partners and communities. More posters/fliers to introduce about WV's images and interventions were disseminated in the community.

### DPA Process - Evidence on Providing Information

Table 5 - Participation in Annual Planning

Participants	Total number
Adults FY14	19,147
Adults FY15	21,193
Children FY14	6,977
Children FY15	7,039

Every third quarter of the year, WV Vietnam initiates the annual planning sessions (for the next FY) with community members who are mobilized by the VDBs and supported by Program Management Boards (PMBs) and WV staff. It is during these planning process that communities are informed about the goals and plans of the programs based on the approved program design and the budget available for the year. This annual session also overlaps with community consultation. There are also

other opportunities (i.e. monthly/quarterly ADP reflections with local participation, VDB meetings) to share information and this is only one evidence. Even though WV Vietnam has been performing very well in this dimension, further improvement is required for some ADPs to inform communities about all plans and activities throughout the entire project cycle.

## Consulting with Communities

In FY15, efforts in this area were made, especially in 11 ADPs that are at design or redesign process. Community representatives in the program areas, including groups of men, women, boys and girls were consulted through their participation in exercises of project visioning and identifying development priorities. All ADP program design documents were developed in close collaboration with local partners and communities.

## DPA Process - Evidences of Community Consultation and Engagement during Re/design Process

During the design and re-design processes of ADPs, community members were consulted, including children. There was a total of 438 meetings and FGDs conducted among adults, in which 126 were in FY14 and 312 in FY15.

Total number of consultation activities with children was 175, including 76 activities in F14 and 99 in FY15.

Table 6 - Consultation in Re/design Process

Participants	Total number
Adults FY14	3,952
Adults FY15	4,896
Children FY14	836
Children FY15	1,247

Regardless of WV Vietnam's overall high performance in this PAF dimension, there are still ADPs that need to strengthen some areas such as sensitization of communities about their rights to be consulted, documentation of consultation outcomes and diversification of consultation means. Surveys and FGDs, which are usually used during baseline and evaluations, need to be conducted on a more regular basis

## Promoting Participation

Participation is the manifestation of local ownership as well as a measurement of the community commitment to the development initiatives that they have prioritized during the planning and consultation processes. On average, most of WV Vietnam's ADPs are fully engaging community members through fully functional CBGs, increasing local contributions, and Community Development Initiatives (CDIs), especially those addressing the needs of MVC as well as led by adolescents.

### DPA Process - Evidences of Promoting Community Participation during Program Implementation

The communities even mobilize their resources to signify their contribution to the development of their communities. The level of local contribution continued to rise in FY15 (Chart 37).

VDBs play an increasingly important role in the formation and coordination of CBGs with whom WV Vietnam's project models are implemented to avoid duplication of activities. Table 7 illustrates the progress in CBGs and CDIs in FY14-15. In FY15, there were 2,477 CBGs functioning well compared to 1,846 in FY14. The number of CDIs implemented by VDBs to address the needs of MVC increased by 122 in FY15, accounting for 83% of the total number of CDIs. Impressively, 62.5% (25 out of 40) of ADPs have all CDIs addressing the MVC's issues. This progress shows WV Vietnam's effort in addressing previous CWB reports' recommendations on this matter.

Chart 37 - Trend in Local Contribution in Cash

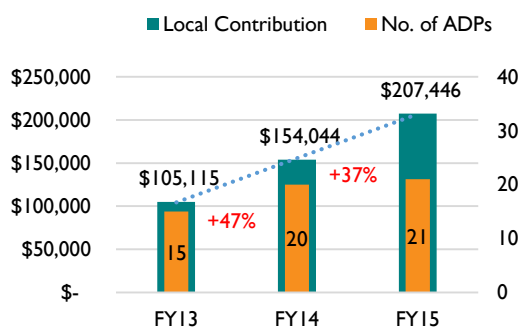


Table 7 - Progress in CBGs and CDIs

Number of CBGs/CDIs	FY 2014	FY 2015
No. of Effective NCs	400	640
No. of Village Child Reading Clubs	85	128
No. of RRTs functioning well	256	507
No. of ASCA Groups	307	351
No. of Effective Children Clubs	798	851
No. of CDIs implemented by VDBs	463	641
No. of CDIs addressing MVC needs	410	532
No. of CDIs led by adolescents	144	251

## Collecting and Acting on Feedback

The communities' ability to provide feedback and offer solutions to resolve issues is a sign of maturity of its community members and the community groups to take ownership and lead the development of their communities. Feedback encourages transparency and accountability as mutual partners in development.

This is still a weak area for WV Vietnam as only two thirds of ADPs are fully or partly implementing the process. There has been a slight improvement since FY14, yet much more needs to be done among the ADPs moving forward. In this context where national governance is mostly a 'top-down approach', providing feedback is uncommon. There is a need to change the mind-set among both WV Vietnam staff and community members to develop a culture of providing feedback. There have been efforts from management level on enhancing feedback mechanism and there is a need to revisit the implementation of this mechanism to improve the area of community engagement. Midterm and End-of-Phase Evaluations are currently the most useful feedback mechanism but may not be the most effective way. These are mostly WV Vietnam-initiated processes, and there was very few voluntary feedback from community members.

## DPA Process - Evidences of Collecting and Acting on Feedback

Table 8 - Feedback from Children

Children Participants	Total number
Photo Voice FY14 - 3 ADP/projects	42
Photo Voice FY15 - 3 ADPs	50
Evaluation Participants FY14 - 5 ADPs	320
Evaluation Participants FY15 - 10 ADPs/projects	799

Table 9 - Feedback from Adults

Adult Participants	Total number
Adults as respondents FY14 - 5 ADPs/projects	1,609
Adults as respondents FY15 - 11 ADPs/projects	3,967
Adults as evaluators FY14 - 5 ADPs/projects	252
Adults as evaluators FY15 - 11 ADPs/projects	307



## Learning and Recommendation

Table 10 - Lessons Learned and Recommendations for DPA

Program Accountability on Collecting and Acting on feedback needs to be strengthened.

▶ Revisit and revise current feedback mechanism in consultation with VDBs, then communicate to communities on established feedback mechanism

Staff face difficulty in using PAF as a tool to measure DPA given it was introduced last year.

▶ Provide advanced orientation on PAF to ADP staff to deepen their knowledge and skills of using PAF as a tool to measure DPA

VDBs play an increasingly important role in coordinating CBGs with whom WV Vietnam projects models are implemented to avoid duplication of activities.

▶ Document and replicate the best practices of VDBs that function as a platform to link different smaller CBGs at village and community levels





## CONCLUSION

CWB reporting process has deepened the culture of reflection and evidence-based decision making within WV. Developed based on the results of previous CWB reports, WV Vietnam's National Strategy for period FY15-17 outlines a more focused effort in addressing the most imperative needs of children, especially MVC living in the persistent poverty pockets of the country. As the first implementation year of the newly set National Strategy, FY15 marks WV Vietnam's concentrated contributions toward sustained child well-being, particularly reduced malnutrition, improved reading comprehension and strengthened child protection/child participation among disadvantaged children in remote ADPs.

Through our programs and projects across 14 provinces, 835,970 children were directly reached, including 30,696 MVC in need of protection services identified by WV-supported CBCPCs. Meanwhile, our advocacy effort in promoting child participation has reaped considerable success - WV's good models of Children Club and Adolescent-Led Initiative were recognized and included in the latest Vietnam's National Program on Promoting Child Participation, which will ensure 15,024,591 children can exercise their participation right and have their voice respected.

Besides the opportunity to evaluate impacts created throughout the year, CWB reporting process has been a valuable occasion for WV Vietnam Management Team and staff to have a closer look at the organization's M&E system. CWB reporting process has also led to improved capacity for data analysis of WV Vietnam's staff, which will serve as an advantage in LEAP 3 implementation when data at both outcome and monitoring levels is required to be aggregated for a more frequent use at National Office. However, it is necessary to mention that limited standardization of indicators, lack of comprehensive monitoring system and lack of convincing evidences for scale-up of models have been identified as the hindrances to thorough impact assessment.

In order to address the existing shortcomings to heighten the impact of CWB work as well as the report quality in coming years, WV Vietnam will give more attention to enhancing the following areas:

- M&E system (Horizon 3.0), especially the use of standard indicators
- Tracking change/progress in areas of program sustainability, accountability and advocacy
- Strong evidences of project models (such as impact assessment, cost-effectiveness analysis, operation researches) to inform scale-up decision and advocacy

CWB report has proven to be practically useful for the review and development of organizational strategy rather than annual planning process. Besides, it requires high-level participation by different teams in the extensive process of data collection and analysis, thus WV Vietnam proposes that the report be done once every two or three years instead of every year.





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