

The cover of the annual report features a close-up photograph of a young child with dark hair, smiling broadly and showing their teeth. The child is wearing a bright yellow shirt. In the background, another child is partially visible, also wearing a yellow shirt. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor setting like a classroom or play area.

**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2019 – 2020

ChildFund Vietnam is the representative office of ChildFund Australia – an independent international development organisation that works to reduce poverty for children in developing communities.

ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 11 organisations which assists almost 16 million children and their families in over 60 countries. ChildFund Australia is a registered charity, a member of the Australian Council for International Development, and fully accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade which manages the Australian Government’s overseas aid program.

ChildFund began working in Vietnam in 1995 and works in partnership to create community and systems change which enables vulnerable children and young people, in all their diversity, to assert and realise their rights.

Projects are implemented in the northern provinces of Bac Kan, Cao Bang and Hoa Binh, where the majority of people are from ethnic minority groups; often the most vulnerable or marginalised sections of the population.

ChildFund Vietnam’s projects focus on child rights and child protection, education, health, and wellbeing for children. ChildFund Vietnam also prioritises building the resilience of young people, by giving them the opportunity to take part in sports, life skills learning, and supporting their participation in local decision-making processes.

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Front cover: Quan, age 5, Vietnam



COVID-19 has changed our world and our work. During the past year, we have faced numerous challenges, but there have also been many inspiring accomplishments, and I would like to acknowledge some of ChildFund Vietnam's significant

achievements during the past year.

Firstly, more than 33,000 children are now enjoying better learning conditions because of new school facilities and child-focused teaching methodologies.

We are also proud to have been able to facilitate meaningful change for young people through our unique sport for development program, ChildFund Pass It Back. As COVID-19 restrictions relaxed in Vietnam, more than 2000 children, more than half of them girls, returned to the field to take part in the program's Reconnect curriculum.

On 20 November 2019, the world marked the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. ChildFund collaborated with the government, fellow child-focused organisations and civil society to advocate for increased child protection initiatives. These advocacy efforts continue today.

Over the past year we have also worked closely with government partners and local authorities to improve child protection systems and ensure children have a say in decision-making processes.

During the latter half of financial the year, ChildFund has focused on responding to the pandemic. The children, families and communities with whom we work are particularly vulnerable to the economic and social impacts of this global crisis. ChildFund's priority has been to keep them safe and support them through this uncertain time.

To date, 32,000 people, including 5,000 over the age of 60 who have underlying health conditions, have access to the information and resources they need to protect themselves from COVID-19.

The past months have shown us that collective co-operation is key when dealing with a global emergency like COVID-19. We have been reminded of how important it is that children continue their education, and that they have places and spaces where they can feel safe.

The pandemic has also been a stark reminder of why we must continue to improve and support existing healthcare systems.

ChildFund has worked in close partnership with the Government as it implemented distance learning for children, and other recovery efforts in poor, remote areas where families struggle to access basic needs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us more agile as an organisation. We recognise there will be challenges ahead as global crisis continues to evolve. ChildFund is committed to a process of continuing innovation to ensure our programs drive positive change in the lives of children and their families. This includes people with living disability and ethnic minority communities.

We are also determined to empower the young people with whom we work, and facilitate new opportunities for them to influence and contribute to the development of their communities.

These achievements have only been possible because of the unwavering support of our sponsors and donors, and the tremendous efforts of ChildFund staff and our partners.

ChildFund looks forward to continuing its strong collaboration with governments, fellow child-focused organisations, and civil society.

We believe that, together, we can overcome the challenges that disadvantaged children in Vietnam face. Thank you for your continuous trust in our work and your support for children.

Nguyen Thi Bich Lien
Country Director
ChildFund Vietnam

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say:

I AM SAFE

New app helping to strengthen child protection systems

ChildFund Vietnam has partnered with Microsoft and Vietnam's Department of Child Affairs to develop a new child protection application.

The Hotline 111 app can be used by anyone to report incidents of child abuse and seek support. A key function of the digital service is an online library that provides users with information on children's rights and safety skills for children.

The child-friendly app was launched in late 2019 after a year of development, and works on both iOS and Android systems.

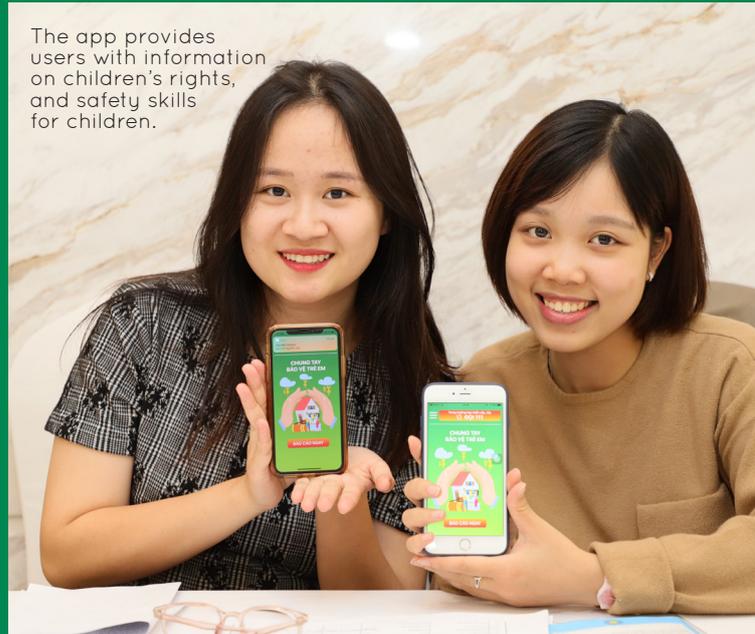
At the end of June 2020, 300 cases had been reported through the app, with the national child helpline responding immediately to each case.

ChildFund Vietnam Country Director Lien says that the app helps to fill the need for a digitalised child case management system and a quick, effective way to report child abuse related incidents.

"Developing the app 111 is one of our most important milestones in supporting the Government and grassroots-level authorities in building and

strengthening child protection service systems," she says. "With the support from Microsoft, ChildFund will be able to implement data management and raise awareness through education applications that are highly practical."

The app provides users with information on children's rights, and safety skills for children.



I AM EDUCATED

Building and upgrading schools to encourage learning

In a remote village, a four-hour drive from the Bac Kan's town centre, a group of preschool and primary school children are enjoying learning in new classrooms.



The families in this village are from one of Vietnam's ethnic minority groups, and rely on farming and growing wood for income.

For many years, the children in the village attended school in an old wooden building without electricity. The building was unsafe and the facilities were

The old and new school.



of poor quality, which led to children dropping out of school or parents sending their children to the next school, 35km away.

In early 2020, ChildFund Vietnam supported the community to build a new school with two concrete classrooms, furniture, learning materials, electricity and toilets.

Ly, head of the village, says the new school means children no longer have to travel long distances to access a quality education. "The children are excited to attend school, and parents are content to send their children here every day," he says.

The two new classrooms are among 14 others that have been built or upgraded by ChildFund Vietnam in Ngan Son District, Bac Kan Province, over the past year.

I CONTRIBUTE

Young coaches step forward to stop spread of COVID-19

Ha is a ChildFund Pass It Back coach and a trained community-based health officer in her commune in Hoa Binh Province.

As a ChildFund Pass It Back coach, she helps to educate young people in her community about important topics such as gender equity, problem solving, conflict resolution and planning for the future.

With her leadership skills, healthcare expertise and a commitment to protecting her community, Ha (pictured right) has been playing an active role during the COVID-19 emergency.

She has been helping to screen individuals returning to their communities for signs of illness, and has been raising awareness in her community about the importance of wearing masks and washing hands properly. Ha has also worked with ChildFund staff to distribute personal protective equipment to rural health clinics.

For Ha, helping her community is part of who she is. "It's my responsibility not only as a community health officer, but also as a coach," she says. "ChildFund Pass It Back works to build safe and healthy communities, and it is important that coaches take action and are role models in the fight against COVID-19."



ChildFund Pass It Back coach, Ha, has been working hard to help protect her community from COVID-19.

I HAVE A FUTURE

Keeping children and their families safe during the pandemic

ChildFund Vietnam has been working closely with partners and governments to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the communities in which we work.

Since April 2020, more than 27,000 children across the provinces of Cao Bang, Bac Kan and Hoa Binh have received personal protective equipment and other essential items to keep themselves and their families safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes:

- more than 90,000 face masks;
- 44,900 bars of soap;
- more than 8,000 bottles of disinfectant; and
- 375 kilograms of disinfectant powder.

Seven hundred sets of protective suits have also been distributed to local health officers.

Information materials about COVID-19 prevention methods have also been distributed in communities to ensure families understand the virus and know how to protect themselves.

ChildFund Vietnam Country Director Lien says: "The children and their families with whom we work are our top priorities.

"We are committed to working together with the government to overcome this pandemic, and we call for our donors, more than ever, to continue their support for children who are already vulnerable during this crisis."



ChildFund Vietnam has helped to deliver personal protective equipment to combat the virus.

Ngoc, age 15, now has the knowledge and skills to make the most of the online world.



I AM SAFE

Helping children to safely navigate the online world

Increasing internet availability in Vietnam, accompanied by low levels of digital literacy, means children are at a greater risk than ever before of being exposed to online abuse and exploitation.

Currently, more than one-third of Facebook accounts belong to young people, aged between 15 and 24.

Fifteen-year-old Ngoc (pictured above) created her Facebook account when she was in Grade 6. She found that on Facebook she was able to make many new “friends” from around the world, and the number of people she connected with quickly reached the thousands.

“I did not know most of the people on my friend list in real life,” she says.

Ngoc shared a lot of information on her Facebook page, and the time she spent on social media began affecting her schoolwork.

“For a time I neglected my studies because I spent so much time taking photographs, posting them, counting likes and answering comments on Facebook,” Ngoc says.

Sometimes she and her classmates felt unsafe interacting online. “If we did not accept an invitation to go out with our friends on Facebook, we received threats and other bad words,” Ngoc says. “We felt frightened.”

Ngoc later joined workshops delivered by ChildFund Vietnam’s Swipe Safe project. Young people participating in the workshops learn about the risks of using the internet, and how they can better protect themselves online, ensuring they have the skills to make the most of their online world.

ChildFund is also training parents and teachers on online safety, and working with internet cafes to create safer environments for young people.

In schools, ChildFund is helping to develop and promote online safety policies and guidelines.

Since its launch in 2017, Swipe Safe has helped more than 12,000 children such as Ngoc in Vietnam navigate the online world more safely.

COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE CHANGE

Thank you to the following organisations and individuals whose generous support and assistance is vital to the work of ChildFund Vietnam:



- Action for Community Development Institute (ACDI) • Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) • Bumhan Cable & System Co. Ltd • Centre for Creative Initiatives for Health and Population (CCIHP) • ChildFund Korea - Gyeongnam Regional Office Supporter's Group • Groupe Bel • Hagar International • Hanwha Life Insurance Co. Ltd • Industrial Bank of Korea • Institute for Studies of Society, Economy and Environment • Laureus (Sport for Good) • Local Authority and Relevant Offices of Na Ri and Ngan Son District and Bac Kan City • Local Authority and Relevant Offices of Quang Uyen, Tra Linh, Thach An District and Cao Bang City • Local Authority and Relevant Offices of Kim Boi and Tan Lac District and Hoa Binh City • Microsoft Vietnam LLC • Mr. Park Jung Yun • New Zealand Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Aid Programme (MFAT) • People's Aid Coordination Committee – PACCOM • Vietnam Government – Ministry of Education and Training; Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Ministry of Health – Mother and Child Healthcare Department • Ministry of Labour – Invalid and Social Affairs - Department of Children Affairs • NGO Resource Centre • Service Department for Diplomatic Corps • Taiwan Fund for Children and Families • The Shilla • The Embassy of New Zealand in Vietnam • The Fund to End Violence Against Children • The Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations – VUFO

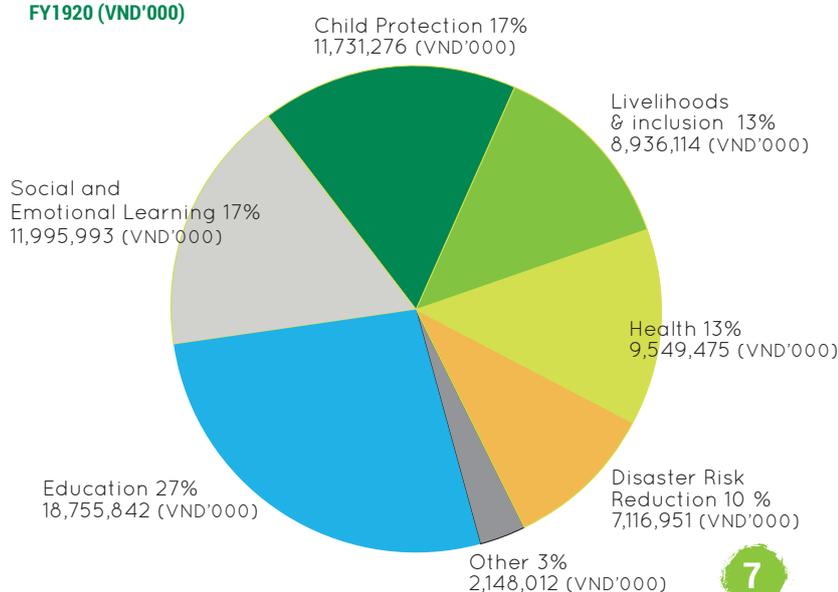
FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2020

REVENUE	FY1920 (VND'000)	FY1819 (VND'000)
Donation	68,173,556	70,850,823
Grants	13,559,705	24,043,863
Other income	8,195	19,174
Total revenue	81,741,456	94,913,860

EXPENDITURE	FY1920 (VND'000)	FY1819 (VND'000)
Program and projects	70,233,663	90,733,949
Program support	11,067,239	3,118,431
Accountability and administration	14,566,066	15,484,605
Total expenditure	95,866,968	109,336,985

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE FY1920 (VND'000)



**BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD**

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