

# CHILD FUND VIETNAM ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14



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

ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 12 organisations which assists more than 15 million children and families in 58 countries. ChildFund Australia is a registered charity and is 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 operates community development programs in the areas of education, water and sanitation, sustainable livelihoods, food security, child rights and child protection and maternal and child health, including HIV prevention.

ChildFund's programs are being implemented across 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.

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Front and back cover: Thousands of children in rural northern Vietnam have benefitted from ChildFund Vietnam's Access to Quality Education program this financial year.

# From the country director

**ChildFund's work in Vietnam has resulted in significant improvements to the lives of more than 33,700 children and their families over the past year.**



Deborah meeting children at a ChildFund-supported school

In the last year, Vietnam has experienced numerous changes as the nation continues its economic growth. We saw many visible changes of increased and improved infrastructure. However, issues of inequality and poverty continue to challenge the country. Access to adequate water and sanitation, to health services and to education are major issues. Ethnic minorities are among the poorest and continue to benefit least from the country's growth.

This year has been successful for ChildFund Vietnam and our partner communities with significant achievements made in both our programs and our organisational development.

We have seen positive changes in child participation. Parents and schools are more and more engaged in social issues related to children. Parents share experiences and opinions through social networks on how to look after and educate children well and how to protect and support them. Working with children to build their confidence and leadership abilities is critical to the development of a strong and positive future. We are seeing success in the increasing voice and agency of children as well as positive changes to their wellbeing.

Our three programs continue to address the causes of poverty and are working



Over 6,600 children and community members participated in water and sanitation awareness sessions this year

to develop strong, confident children who will actively participate in their communities and in decisions that affect them.

The *Child Rights and Child Protection* program is working to develop the capacity of our local partners and increase the voice and agency of children through child club activities, campaigns and a national children's forum. We work with communities to establish child safe playgrounds and encourage behavioural change on child protection and child injury prevention through our *Community Fit for Children* model.

Our *Access to Quality Education* program has established Student Representative Councils in schools and has trained teachers as well as assisting in the construction of classrooms and school facilities. The ChildFund Vietnam models on teaching reading, comprehension and school management systems have been officially adopted by district education departments for wider application benefitting even more communities.

In our ***Building Strong and Resilient Communities*** program we have seen many successes including improved health of children and mothers, more employment opportunities and increased access to water and sanitation facilities.

These achievements and our ability to continue to commit to working with these children, their families and their communities are only possible because of your support. On behalf of the children, our partners and everyone at ChildFund Vietnam I would like to express our gratitude and share that we look forward to more successes and positive change in the lives of children in the coming year.

*Deborah Leaver*

**Deborah Leaver  
Country Director  
ChildFund Vietnam**

# 2013-14 Highlights



Children enjoying lessons at a ChildFund-supported preschool



Almost 100% of children under five participated in a growth monitoring

## ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION



**3 NEW SCHOOLS** with 18 **CLASSROOMS** were built to provide over **300 CHILDREN** with equipped learning spaces



**174 TEACHERS** were trained on a range of child-friendly learning methodologies



**4 SCHOOLS** were provided with **249 ITEMS** of learning equipment, including **156 SETS** of new desks and chairs



**7 KINDERGARTEN PARENT CLUBS** were established for **200 PARENTS** to discuss child development and education issues



**4 SCHOOLS** received new outdoor play equipment, including swings, slides and climbing frames



**86 PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY TEACHERS** received training on teaching Vietnamese as a second language to ethnic minority children



**12,175 CHILDREN** were provided with either new uniforms or educational books



**300 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS** were distributed to teachers on teaching Vietnamese as a second language



**1,917 CHILDREN** from **42 COMMUNES** were provided with bicycles and helmets to help them get to school

## CHILD RIGHTS AND CHILD PROTECTION



**33 PLAYGROUNDS** and commune cultural centres were built or improved to provide children with safe entertainment spaces



**48 CHILD CLUBS** were established and provided with equipment



**21 CHILDREN** with disabilities received wheelchairs to support their daily activities



**94 CHILDREN** from Child Club management boards were trained on child protection and child rights



**166 AWARENESS SESSIONS** were conducted on child rights, child protection, child abuse and injury prevention for local communities

During the 2013-14 financial year, ChildFund Vietnam implemented programs which are improving the lives of children and their families in Cao Bang, Bac Kan and Hoa Binh provinces.

BUILDING STRONG AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES



2 NEW COMMUNE HEALTH CENTRES were built, providing over 4,000 COMMUNITY MEMBERS with better healthcare services



880 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS participated in 33 WORKSHOPS on adolescent reproductive health



50 YOUNG PEOPLE received vocational training on construction work



303 DISTRICT, COMMUNE AND VILLAGE HEALTH WORKERS were trained on maternal and child health



480 PEOPLE received support at ChildFund-supported HIV voluntary counselling and testing centres



5 GRAVITY-FED WATER SYSTEMS were constructed and 2 WERE IMPROVED, bringing clean water to over 2,500 PEOPLE



ALMOST 100% OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE participated in a growth monitoring program



4,021 CHILDREN were provided with either warm jackets or sets of socks and gloves



6,640 TEACHERS, PARENTS AND STUDENTS participated in water and sanitation awareness sessions



1,553 MALNOURISHED CHILDREN were provided with monthly mineral supplements and calcium biscuits, which helped to drop the rate of malnourished children by 4%



32,520 CHILDREN under 18 in 41 COMMUNES were provided with canvas shoes to improve their health



396 HOUSEHOLD LATRINES were constructed



2,945 METRES of irrigation canals were built to provide water for 59 HECTARES of fields benefitting more than 1,060 PEOPLE



996 WATER PURIFIERS, WATER PITCHERS, TOWEL AND SOAP KITS were provided to 93 SCHOOLS to improve hygiene and sanitation conditions



650 PREGNANT WOMEN were advised about maternal healthcare and given monthly supplements



512 POOR HOUSEHOLDS received loans from ChildFund-supported village credit funds to finance their income generating activities



Huyet received a wheelchair from ChildFund this year



Over 300 health workers were trained on maternal and child health

# Helping children's confidence grow

**After suffering from low self-esteem all his life, things are looking up for this Vietnamese teen who is participating in ChildFund's global Connect program.**



Tuong (third from left) acting in one of his group's films



Tuong and his peers use pocket cameras to film short videos

**F**ourteen-year-old Tuong lives in Hoa Binh, a mountainous province in northern Vietnam. Despite being just 74 kilometres from Hanoi, most people in Hoa Binh live in poverty. Low educational background and limited access to basic services means promoting the well-being of vulnerable children is a challenge. Yet, ChildFund Vietnam's Child Rights and Child Protection program, of which ChildFund Connect is a part, is helping to change this.

"I felt shy as my voice is different from my friends' due to my disability, especially when I read out loud in class," says Tuong.

Tuong was born with a cleft lip and could not have corrective surgery until he was seven years old. Tuong's disability left him with low self-esteem and limited his participation at school and with his peers.

Today, things are looking up for Tuong, who is now a member of one of four Young Reporter groups that are taking part in ChildFund's Connect program.

ChildFund Connect is a global education program that connects children in communities in Vietnam, Australia, Laos, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste. The program is helping children like Tuong to learn about different parts of the world and develop their abilities to communicate issues that are important to them.

"The thing I like the most about ChildFund Connect is that it helps me to communicate with other children and build my confidence in speaking with others. I knew my appearance was not the same as other children when I was young. At that time I was too shy to play with them," he says.

**"THE THING I LIKE THE MOST ABOUT CHILDFUND CONNECT IS THAT IT HELPS ME TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER CHILDREN AND BUILD MY CONFIDENCE IN SPEAKING WITH OTHERS."**

"I received encouragement from my family and teachers to be more confident but ChildFund Connect really boosted me to overcome my shyness."

Tuong's group is connecting with children in Australia and is helping to educate their Australian counterparts about their lives in Vietnam through film and photo stories. Tuong participates in all parts of the program, but there is one part he likes best. "I tried to play different roles in the filming crew when working with my group members; however, I prefer to be an actor as it enables me to act and speak!"

As part of the program, an annual film festival is organised in each country to showcase all the films that have been produced by children over the past year.

Tuong's mother attended their community's film festival this year. When she saw her son on the big screen she could not hide her happiness, "I am so happy my son joined this activity. It made him get along with other friends, learn and play with them freely".

After several months participating in the program, Tuong is more confident and more sociable with other children his age. This is because ChildFund Connect is giving him the opportunity to communicate, exchange information and work with children from his community and from around the wider Asia-Pacific region.

# Collaborate to achieve change



Thank you to our ChildFund Alliance partners who have supported ChildFund Vietnam's child-focused development programs

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



Taiwan Fund for Children and Families  
ChildFund



Un enfant grandi, un village avance

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade • Becher Foundation • Hanwha Life Insurance • KB Financial Group • Kids-M Education Corporation • Mr. Dinh Huy Giap & Mr. Nong Van Thong, vice chairmen of Quang Uyen district people's committee • Mr. Le Duc Hung, vice chairman of Kim Boi district people's committee • Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Son, vice chairman of Bach Thong district people's committee • Mr. Nong Danh Hien & Phan Thi Xuyen, chairmen of Na Ri District people's committee • Mr. Pham Van Long, chairman of Cao Phong district people's committee • Mrs. Le Thi Nien, vice chairwoman of Tra Linh district people's committee • Mrs. Nguyen Thi Hanh, vice chairwoman of Ky Son district people's committee • New Zealand Government Aid Programme • TOMS shoes • Women Plans Foundation



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## Financial report

Financial Report For Year Ended 30 June 2014

Income Statement	2014 (VND'000)	2013 (VND'000)
Income	104,884,831	109,096,479
Expenditure	100,619,089	120,995,149
Excess of Income over Expenditure	4,265,742	(11,898,670)

Balance Sheet	30 June 2014 (VND'000)	30 June 2013 (VND'000)
Total assets	58,310,870	54,109,715
Total liabilities	18,995,591	19,060,178
Net assets	39,315,279	35,049,537

