



Our vision: a global community, free from poverty, where children are protected and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Our mission: to work in partnership with children and their communities to create lasting and meaningful change by supporting long-term community development and promoting children's rights

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13



COUNTRY DIRECTOR overview

communities and the authorities to continue making progress towards this critical goal.

Internationally ChildFund has launched the *Free* campaign to lobby for the elimination of child violence and exploitation to be included in the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals. Please also take the time to visit our campaign website www.freefromviolence.org and contribute to realising the rights of children all around the world.

I hope that by sharing the stories of our work you can see the many positive changes you are helping us to achieve in Vietnam and around the world. Once again, on behalf of the children of Vietnam and our many partner communities, I would like to thank you for your support.

Deborah Leaver

**Deborah Leaver, Country Director
ChildFund Vietnam**

The year 2013 has been a time of significant change for children and communities in Vietnam. It is more than 20 years since Vietnam became one of the first countries in the world to sign the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

During that time, much progress has been made but many complex child rights issues are yet to be addressed.

ChildFund Vietnam, together with the Government of Vietnam, held a national child consultation to get the views of children on the progress that has been made and areas that continue to need work. Overwhelmingly children said that violence against them, either at home or at school, must be eliminated. In Vietnam we will continue our work with children, their families and

FINANCIAL report

INCOME STATEMENT	2013 (VND'000)	2012 (VND'000)
Income	109,096,479	107,590,611
Expenditure	107,057,695	108,159,145
Operating surplus/(deficit)	2,038,784	(568,534)

BALANCE SHEET	2013 (VND'000)	2012 (VND'000)
Total assets	54,109,715	68,497,142
Total liabilities	39,861,106	56,287,317
Net assets	14,248,609	12,778,359

CHILDFUND Vietnam

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 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

Thanks to our Partners



of people are from ethnic minority groups, often the most vulnerable or marginalised sections of the population.

PROGRAM achievements

ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

- Six primary schools and kindergartens were built giving 400 children access to education.
- 23 schools were provided with teaching and learning equipment.
- Preschool and primary teachers were trained on child-centred learning methodologies.
- Almost 2,000 preschool and first grade primary school parents received training on child education and development.

BUILDING STRONG AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

- 29 district hospitals and community health centres were provided with equipment.
- Nine child-friendly healthcare corners were established.
- Water and sanitation facilities were built at three primary schools, and facilities upgraded at six schools.
- 997 household latrines, 351 compost pits and 128 rainwater tanks were constructed. ChildFund also provided training and financial support for the construction of 240 bathrooms.
- Children under five with malnutrition were provided with supplementary food items, reducing malnutrition rate from 9% to 7%.
- 8,066 metres of irrigation canals were constructed.
- 690 people received HIV counseling and testing at the voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) room.
- More than 1,000 households received loans of US\$150 for income generating activities.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- Children's Day Events were organised in 10 communes, attracting nearly 5,000 children.
- Over 20,000 children received TOMS shoes.
- Over 8,000 winter gifts and 12,000 other sets of school supplies were distributed to children.

CHILD PARTICIPATION

- Children and parents were trained on child abuse, injury and risk prevention, child club operation and facilitation skills.
- Children helped design two manuals and community educational materials on topics such as adolescent reproductive healthcare and communications.
- Secondary school students were trained on HIV prevention and life skills and participated in a model exhibition on HIV and AIDS.
- Themed talks and other educational activities on adolescent reproductive health were conducted at over 30 secondary schools.
- Students organised 70 extra-curricular adolescent reproductive sessions held at the friendly health corners in schools.
- 100 children joined over 6,000 children from 47 countries in the Small Voices, Big Dreams survey.
- 105 children created eight films for the ChildFund Connect Water World film festival, and connected with over 400 children from five different countries in the world

ChildFund built six new primary schools and kindergartens



Two school water systems were newly constructed and one upgraded



16 new child clubs were established



1,500 bicycles were provided to children



Two new community healthcare centres were built



FROM SMALL beginnings

Increasing education and awareness on health and sanitation issues is an important part of ChildFund's Building Strong and Resilient Communities program.

Pac Cam is one of the most isolated villages in Cao Bang. The village has 29 households. The majority of people are from the Nung ethnic minority group.

Nong Van Minh, 39, has been the village head since 2007. "Before ChildFund's project there were only nine temporary latrines which were not used frequently. The villagers used to defecate in the forest or gardens. When it rained, human waste flowed along streams and formed big smelly pools in residential areas. Human waste was spread everywhere," said Minh.

ChildFund held a Community Led Total Sanitation Approach session in the community. Minh and the community made a map of where people went to the toilet in public areas around the village. They went back to these sites and learnt about disease transmission from excrement and the lack of sanitation facilities.



"It is so disgusting! I can't imagine that I used to spread disease every day," Minh expressed after the lecture. "Open defecation is dangerous. It affects not only our health but also the public environment and water resources." Other villagers also felt the same way.

After the session, Minh built a temporary latrine using ChildFund's construction guidelines. The neighbours curiously visited his latrine. Minh told them about the benefits and encouraged people to build their own latrines. However, poor living conditions and limited construction knowledge are some challenges the Pac Cam community face.

With this understanding, Minh volunteered to help people construct latrines. Minh helped 15 households build latrines which were clean, tidy and safe. Building hygienic latrines soon became a popular activity in the village. Now, after just six months, all 29 households have hygienic latrines.

Pac Cam villagers have seen a definite improvement in their community. The rates of conjunctivitis and diarrhoeal diseases reduced by 5% in the six month period after constructing the latrines. Minh played an important part in this change. "He was very enthusiastic and has proactively supported people to build latrines, so we encourage ourselves to work together," said To Thi Nu, a villager.



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