



ANNUAL REPORT

2017 – 2018

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 more than 14 million children and 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 with children, their communities, local organisations and governments to create lasting change, respond to humanitarian emergencies and promote children’s rights. Projects are 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.

ChildFund Vietnam’s projects focus on education, water and sanitation, sustainable livelihoods, child rights and child protection, food security, and maternal and child health, including HIV prevention. ChildFund Vietnam also prioritises building the resilience of young people, by giving children and youth the opportunity to take part in sports, vocational education and life skills training, and supporting their participation in local decision-making processes.

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Front cover: Bac Kan Province, Vietnam

FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR



This is my first year working in the position of the Country Director of ChildFund Vietnam. After 17 years working at ChildFund in many positions, I was given the opportunity to direct the organisational operations of ChildFund Vietnam at the start of 2018.

The work we do in Vietnam is ensuring children and youth can confidently say: “I am safe. I am educated. I am heard. I have a future.”

In Vietnam we have seen many significant developments in the fight against poverty over the past 20 years. Children and their families have better access to water and healthcare, and the quality of education has improved.

Yet, despite these positive developments, many children still live in extreme poverty. The majority are from ethnic minority groups, with whom ChildFund Vietnam works.

You may remember Ngan, the little girl on our cover last year. I am pleased to let you know that in her community, all the children under the age of five are now benefiting from a newly built preschool that includes five new classrooms, a kitchen and toilets.

In addition, a project to give women like Ngan’s mother opportunities to learn and practise agricultural production and marketing skills has been introduced into the community. The project is helping 450 households boost their incomes, ensuring children can stay in school and have better futures.

In the past year, ChildFund has also strengthened child protection systems in local communities by training social workers and local officers in child protection skills and providing them with a better understanding of child protection laws.

We are living in a time of change and disruption, which is creating new risks and challenges for children. At ChildFund, we are continuing to adapt our programs to ensure child protection systems are strong and effective, and children’s rights are respected.

In the past year, our work has tackled issues such as declining economic opportunities, and the safety of children and youth in an increasingly connected world. In the coming years we will continue to ensure children are safe and protected, and have opportunities to reach their full potential.

ChildFund’s work is only possible because of the support and work of many people. On behalf of all the staff at ChildFund Vietnam I would like to sincerely thank all the donors, partner organisations, governments, local leaders, and children and families with whom we work.

Yours sincerely,

Nguyen Thi Bich Lien
Country Director
ChildFund Vietnam





**I AM
SAFE**



GRAVITY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

In the remote area of Ngoc Dong commune in Cao Bang province, northern Vietnam, only 41 per cent of the population had access to clean water in 2015. Most families would collect water from natural sources or wells at their homes, which was often unsafe.

Since 2015 ChildFund has worked with local families to implement a gravity water supply system

to ensure more households have access to clean water.

The system, which has been designed to take advantage of the mountainous environment in the area, allows water to be collected and treated from streams at higher altitudes, and distributed to hundreds of homes below.

More than 450 households, including Chien's (pictured above, middle, with his family), three

schools and a government office now have access to clean water every day.

"The water is so clean," Chien says. "Now I can use water daily at home."

Every household has installed a counter to calculate their water consumption, and pays the cost of about US\$0.1 per cubic metres. Families have also been trained on how to maintain the water supply system.



**I AM
SAFE**

HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY CHILDREN

About a third of households in Kim Boi district in northern Vietnam live in poor conditions, and have limited access to healthcare services and information.

Among pregnant women and mothers, there is a lack of knowledge about the importance of prenatal and postnatal healthcare. There are also high rates of child malnutrition in the region.

ChildFund has been supporting families in six communes in Kim Boi district to ensure children grow up healthy and strong, by raising awareness on the importance of breastfeeding and preparing nutritious meals for young children.

In May 2018, information sessions were organised to educate parents about the importance of good nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life. The sessions attracted more than 700 pregnant women and parents of children under the age of five.

One mother, Hong (left), says the session she attended motivated her to plan and create better meals, using local ingredients, for her children. "I understand now that I am in charge for the development of my children," she says.

SAFE AND STIMULATING LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Access to quality education helps ensure children can reach their full potential. ChildFund has been working with vulnerable communities in Don Phong commune, in Bac Kan province, to build new infrastructure and improve the quality of teaching at three schools. The transformation of the commune's main school – Don Phong primary – from a single-floor room with a dirt yard to a two-storey building with eight classrooms has provided children with a “safe and stimulating environment for studying,” vice-principal Dung says.

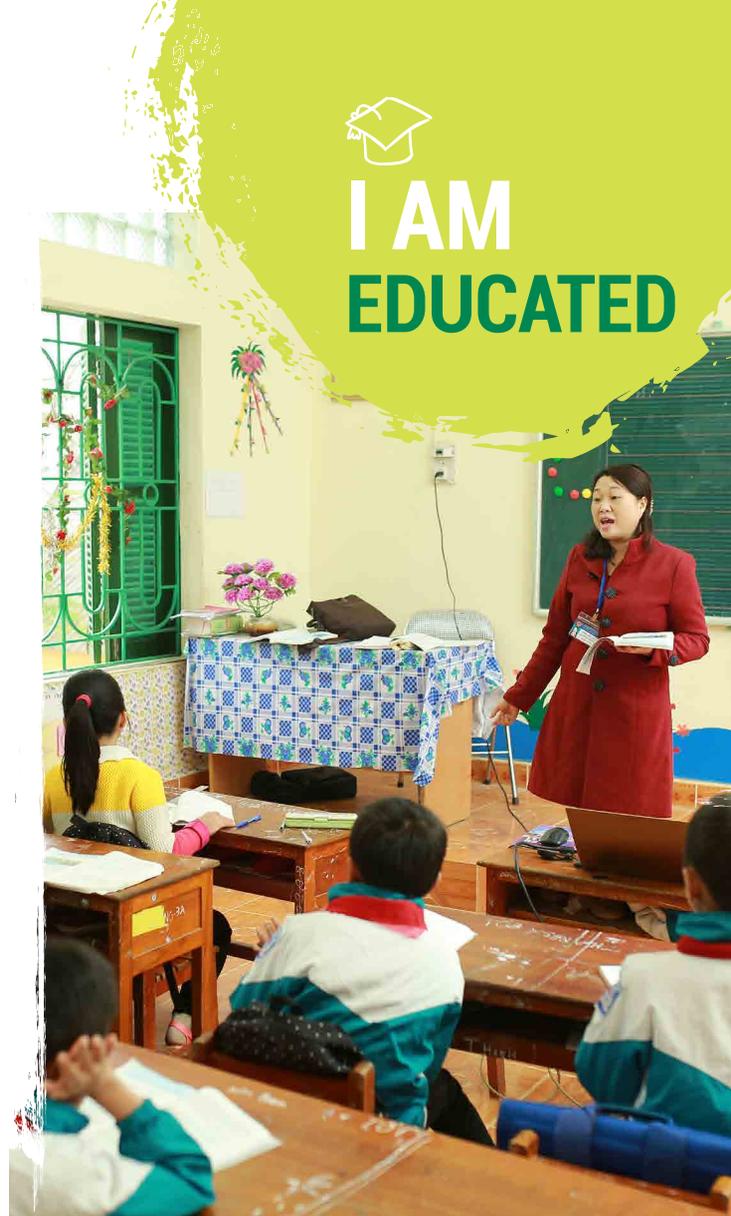
“We have been able to accommodate more children in the school now,” he says.

In addition to infrastructure support, ChildFund has been training teachers in child-friendly teaching methods that focus on students' different learning abilities. Van, a teacher at Don Phong primary, says the new methods have been “highly valued”.

“The student analysis method allows teachers to really know the capacity of different students, so they can arrange the level of tests and exercises to best support the development of their students,” she says.

Teachers have also been trained to deliver more engaging, interactive lessons. “When positive teaching methods were applied in my classes, the students became more interested and involved,” Van says. “That change encouraged me to continue using these methods.

“I love seeing my students passionate about studying.”



I AM
EDUCATED

PLAYING RUGBY FOR TOMATOES

Kim Chi (right) is a young girl from a remote district in northern Vietnam. She plays rugby for a team called Tomatoes.

Kim Chi is also one of hundreds of girls from Laos, Vietnam and other disadvantaged communities in Asia who have been given the opportunity to take part in organised sport for the first time, through ChildFund Pass It Back.

An innovative sports for development program, ChildFund Pass It Back uses the game of rugby to teach important life skills, including leadership, problem solving, gender equity, conflict resolution and financial planning, for vulnerable children and youth.

But it hasn't been an easy transition for Kim Chi; girls and

team sports aren't a natural combination in her small village. First, she had to get her parent's approval to participate.

“They told me that I should stay home and help them with housework and that I should spend my free time doing my homework,” Kim Chi says. “They also thought I should not play sport because I got sick quite often.”

But her persistence paid off, and her parents eventually changed their mind. Since joining ChildFund's Pass It Back program, Kim Chi's health has improved and she has started to save money. “This has made my parents happy,” she says.

Today, she shares the life skills she's learnt in the program with other children and youth so they, too, can lead and drive change in their own communities.



I AM
HEARD



I HAVE A FUTURE



BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CREATE FULFILLING CAREERS

Supporting young people to develop their passions and skills can lead them to fulfilling careers, and to become positive contributors in their communities.

After finishing high school and studying information technology, Hung (above right) spent two years searching for a job without any success. During this time his interest in pursuing a career in IT subsided.

“I realised that IT was not my passion,” Hung says. “It was very hard for me to find a good job.”

ChildFund Vietnam is working with young people like Hung in remote, disadvantaged communities to build their resilience by helping them develop their skills, and start and grow their own businesses.

With the help of ChildFund, Hung

was able to explore other career options and develop new skills.

He and five other young men in his commune were given the opportunity to complete three-month mechanic apprenticeships, as well as learn teamwork and business operation skills.

It was working in a mechanics workshop during his apprenticeship that Hung discovered a passion for working with tools and his hands.

“I worked all day and night without feeling tired,” Hung says.

After completing their apprenticeships, ChildFund helped the group of young men set up their own mechanics shop, where they sold iron products such as gates and handrails. ChildFund also helped buy machines for

their shop and connect them with potential customers and other youth mechanic groups in their region.

“Through discussions with other people, I found a new way to upscale our workshop,” Hung says. “We want to focus on glass and aluminum products.”

Today, Hung and his team earn about AU\$2500 a month, from mainly selling mechanical products for construction buildings, which comfortably covers every staff member’s daily living costs.

“I want to help other young people like me to find their own ways of developing their careers in their homeland, by sharing my experiences and skills,” Hung says.

THANK YOU

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:



ACDC • Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade • CCIHP • Chungcheongnam-do sponsor association • Family Run Marathon • Gyeongsangnam-do sponsor association • Gyeongsangnam-do office of education • Hanwha Life Insurance • iSEE • Korea Investment and securities Co.Ltd • 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 Cao Phong, Kim Boi and Tan Lac District and Hoa Binh City • Microsoft Vietnam LLC • Mr. Craig Philip Trent and Mrs. Deborah Jane Trent • From Cao Bang people's committee: Mr. Luong Tuan Hung - Chairman, Mr. Lam Duc Xuan, Vice Chairman • From Cao Bang province: Mr. Ha Minh Tran - Head of Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs; Mr. Pham Viet Cong - Deputy Head, Department of Labour - Invalid and Social Affairs; Ms. Vu Van Duong - Deputy Director, Department of Education and Training and Mr. Le Thanh Chung, Head of Foreign Affairs Department; Ms. Nguyen Thi Nguyen, Deputy Head of Foreign Affairs Department; Ms. Ha Thi Ly, Deputy Head of Planning and Investment Department; Mr. Vu Khac Quang - Secretary of Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union • From District People Committee in Cao Bang: Mr. Dinh Huy Giap - Chairman of Quang Uyen, Mr. Trinh Truong Huy - Chairman of Tra Linh, Mr. Luong Ngoc Huu - Chairman of Thach An; Mr. Ngo The Manh, Vice Chairman of Thach An; Mr. Trieu Luu Cuong, and Mr. Nong Quoc Hoan, Vice Chairmen of Tra Linh; Ms. Hoang Thi Hieu, Vice chairwoman of Quang Uyen; Mr. Nong Van Thong, Vice Chairman of Quang Uyen; Mr. Pham Ngoc Tung, Vice Head of Finance and Planning Office, Thach An; Mr. Tran Bang Nguyen - Vice Chairman of Thach An District • From Hoa Binh province: Mr. Bui Trong Dac, Head of Education and Training Department; Mr. Tran Hong Quang, Head of Foreign Affairs Department; Mr. Nguyen The Dzung, Vice Chairman of People Committee; Mr. Nguyen Trung Dzung, Head of Labour-Invalids and Social Affairs Department; Ms. Nguyen Thi Ngoc Linh, Deputy Head of Labour-Invalids and Social Affairs Department; Ms. Hoang Thi Thuy, Deputy Head of Health Department; Ms. Ngo Thi Phuong, Director of Reproductive Healthcare Centre; Mr. Ho Xuan Dung, Vice Chairman of Cao Phong • From District People Committee in Hoa Binh: Mr. Le Duc Hung, Vice Chairman of Kim Boi; Mr. Bach Cong Thi, Vice Head of Finance and Planning Office; Mr. Pham Van Long, Chairman of Cao Phong; Mrs. Nguyen Thi Hanh, Vice chairwoman of Ky Son; Mr. Bui Van Tinh, Vice Chairman of Tan Lac • From Bac Kan Province: Association of People with Disabilities Protection of Bac Kan Province; Centre for Agriculture Promotion and Development of Bac Kan Province; Reproductive Healthcare Centre; Youth Union of Bac Kan Province • From District People Committee in Bac Kan: Mr. Nong Quang Ke, Chairman of Na Ri; Mr. Doanh Thiem Huy, Vice Chairman of Ngan Son • Ms. Do Thu Thuy, Officer of Mother and Child Healthcare Department - Ministry of Health • New Zealand Government Aid Programme • People's Aid Coordination Committee - PACCOC • Smilegate Foundation • 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; Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment • NGO Resource Centre • Service Department for Diplomatic Corps • Taiwan Fund for Children and Families • The Fund to End Violence Against Children • The Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations - VUFO • UNICEF

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2018

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	2018 (VND'000)	2017 (VND'000)
Income	106,929,267	106,643,813
Expenditure	106,482,405	97,711,345
Total Comprehensive Income	446,862	8,932,468

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	30 JUNE 2018 (VND'000)	30 JUNE 2017 (VND'000)
Total Assets	92,538,919	90,888,759
Total Liabilities	16,331,451	17,027,501
Net Assets	76,207,468	73,861,258

**BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD**

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