

#### **Message from National Director**

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented difficulties for all and a development dilemma across the globe. Yet even in the midst of this devastating pandemic, World Vision Vietnam was still privileged to have received donations and support from our sponsors, donors, and partners inside and outside of our country.

Thanks to this profound faithfulness and trust, we were able to sustain our service to 235,238 children in our target areas during the Financial Year (FY) of 2020. This number included 13,157 of the most vulnerable children, whose lives were further challenged due to the negative impact of the pandemic on social welfare.

The first and foremost priority of our programs in FY20 was to promptly provide aid to our target children and their families whose livelihoods were disrupted and thus whose food security was severely threatened. This was accompanied by support to help families swiftly switch to alternative livelihoods for subsistence in the context of strict social distancing. We also collaborated closely with government partners and peer child-focused agencies to safeguard children's physical and mental well-being which was susceptible to being compromised by the stresses that the pandemic produced.

Besides our emergency response to COVID-19, our staff worked diligently to implement our activities as planned and meet our targets for FY20. Among these activities, 874 children under 5 joined our nutritional rehabilitation sessions and are no longer severely malnourished. 13,474 parents and caregivers learnt and practiced positive parenting with their children, thus fostering peaceful relationships at home, and 13,861 farmers learned about sustainable cultivation and husbandry, helping many of them to increase their productivity and incomes.

These are just a few examples of the many encouraging results that our staff achieved over the past financial year. I would like to cordially invite you to read more about how your faithful prayers, donations, and collaborations have enabled us to work towards the sustained well-being of for children in Vietnam.

#### Dan Mtonga

Chief Representative

# Annual Report 2020 – Foreword







# We are **World Vision**

World Vision is a movement of people called to improve the lives of vulnerable children around the world. We believe that a country, and a world, where all children are protected and free from extreme poverty and able to reach their full potential is possible.

We are driven by our desire to ensure that every boy and girl has what they need to grow in mind, body, and spirit. Our more than 40,000 staff work hard to empower children to live lives filled with joy, to fulfill their God-given potential and to go further than they could ever have imagined.

Guided by more than 70 years of experience and expertise, our dedicated staff employ proven, effective development and relief practices to empower communities to become self-sufficient and bring real, lasting change.

As a leading global partner, we labour alongside supporters, stakeholders, families and communities to transform lives and bring hope and, as a result, all our lives are enriched.

Together, we and our partners have positively impacted the lives of more than 235,000 vulnerable children in Vietnam and 200 million vulnerable children around the world. We are privileged to serve and work to see relationships restored and communities transformed and we humbly acknowledge that without the goodness of God and the generosity of donors we would not be able to do what we do.

# Overview of Vietnam **priority sectors**

#### **Child Protection**

Besides children's clubs, where children learnt about how to look after themselves and behave ethically, we worked closely with schools and community leaders to provide children with opportunities to internalize and practice what they had learnt. Specifically, children were given the leading role in organizing children's club activitiesv and communications events for their peers on self-protection against physical violence, injury, child marriage, and online sexual exploitation. They were also empowered to meet and speak with local decision makers through children's forums and put forward recommendations to improve the protection of children in their communities. During the COVID-19 outbreaks, our engagement with children was sustained through multiple platforms, including online.

Parents across our working areas received training in positive, non-violent discipline. They were taught practical methods to build a peaceful, loving, and nurturing environment at home. As a result, in FY20 only 8.2% of parents believed that physical punishment was necessary to bring up a child compared to 18.6% in FY19.2

Advocacy remained a key focus to fill the policy gaps in child protection. Advocacy related to policies on investment in child protection systems and services at community level, child protection in emergencies, and online child protection.

#### **Nutrition**

With safety measures fully in place to prevent a COVID-19 outbreak, our core models were maintained to provide nutritional rehabilitation for malnourished children as well as tailored counselling for caregivers about nutritional behaviors and child healthcare. This contributed to a reduction of 2.1% in the prevalence of stunting (from 29.2% down to 27.1%) and underweight (17.7% down to 15.6%) compared to our FY19 results.

Our interventions to improve household water, sanitation and hygiene continued to be integrated with our nutritional interventions. As a result, 55% of the target population had improved sanitation facilities and 60% had sufficient drinking water, which was almost 10% higher than FY19.

Together with other members of SUN-CSA Vietnam, we sucessfully advocated for child nutrition to be a priority in Vietnam's Socio-Economic Development Program in mountainous areas and ethnic minorities for the 2021-2030 period. This will secure government funding to improve nutrition for the most vulnerable children.

#### Livelihoods

We conducted training for 17,414 farmers on the sustainable cultivation of rice and vegetables, as well as on raising chickens and cows. 80% of the course participants reported applying the techniques they learnt into household production. This contributed to better nutrition for children as 80% of our target households reported sufficient diet diversity.

To speed up farmer's recovery from the economic impact of COVID-19, we worked closely with 33 producer groups to help them optimize the available resources (livestock, seeds, other inputs, production tools, and technical knowledge) to improve their position in the market and form a strong mutual support system to sustain the success of their agricultural production. Livelihood intervention was woven into our programs on preventing modern slavery (including human trafficking) in order to provide at-risk individuals with income-generation opportunities in their home towns to encourage them to forego their intention of migrating in search of work.

In both urban and ruralareas, we partnered with the Women's Union and local businesses to provide orientation workshops and on-the-job training for adolescents not on the formal education path. Specifically, 1,976 youth received career guidance, vocational training, and life skills training, which prepared them for meaningful employment and a productive life.

#### Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs

Strengthening communities' capacity for and involvement in disaster risk management continued to be our approach to increasing local disaster resilience. To that end, we integrated refresher training for 10,739 adults and children to be aware of disaster types, possible risks, and viable damage-minimizing measures. Both adults and children also participated in developing disaster preparedness plans at community and school levels. As a result, 456 plans were put in place which clarified the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and the actions to be taken to prepare for and respond to disasters.

Another important focus of our work in FY20 was our response and recovery program to address the impact of COVID-19. Over 1.25 million US dollars were spent on directly supporting 650,000 direct beneficiaries through food aid, livelihood support, the supply of masks and hygiene items, and child protection initiatives. Local health systems and communication on preventive measures were also strengthened.

#### **Micro-Finance**

86% of micro-finance clients were female. Through VisionFund, our micro-finance services proved instrumental in helping farmers cope with the lasting negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic. With simple procedures and a speedy processing time, 11,939 new clients were able to access our loans at an interest rate of 0.85%. The average loan size was 769 US dollars per client, and it was used to maintain household agricultural production or small business operation. A small percentage (6.7%) of the loans helped the clients respond to urgent medical or educational needs.

Total disbursements throughout the year amounted to over 9,183,240 US dollars, contributing to sustaining the well-being of 21,645 children. Of the 6,503 clients surveyed, 94% reported their family income had seen an increase to varying extent.









75,740 children were registered in our sponsorship program in FY20. All of these children and their families were intentionally included in our technical programs, which cover child protection, nutrition and livelihoods. Approximately 98% of these children participated in at least three program activities that were age-appropriate and need-based.

Children in our Sponsorship program took part in taking photos and videos and writing letters to their sponsors to share the positive changes in their own lives and the lives of their families and communities. They also regularly received letters and gifts from their sponsors, which made them happy and showed them the value of love and care among people.

Yet our sponsorship program is more than maintaining connections and correspondence between children and their sponsors. Its most important purpose is to help children find and experience the meaningful things in life that can spur them on to a better future with hope. With that goal in mind, our activities are designed to bring the whole community together and give them opportunities to care for and protect their children. Specifically, tens of thousands of children and adults participated in birthday parties, international children's day celebrations, and communication events where messages on child rights and child protection were conveyed clearly and repeatedly.

Children's active participation was our central focus as we aimed to empower children to be confident enough to tell their own stories and be the voice of change in their communities. To this end, we encouraged and supported children to take the lead in organizing events. We also engaged children in different stages of program management, from planning to evaluation. 4,467 children participated in our annual strategy review process to share their thoughts and recommendations for World Vision's intervention in their communities. This was valuable input to our program planning and led to activities which better served children's needs.

KOICA Korea International Cooperation Agency

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KOICAccer Korea International Cooperation Agreecy VIET NAM COVID-19 response

COVID-19 has been the main cause of the global economic downturn and has set back the socio-economic progress that vulnerable communities have made. It gravely threatens children's well-being, development, and future.

Even though the outbreak itself has been kept under control, many poor households have been placed in difficult circumstances due to job losses. According to a survey conducted by World Vision Vietnam in June 2020, with the participation of 6,856 people in our target areas, the impact associated with COVID-19 was tremendous. Specifically, 91% of the surveyed households had been suffering from food shortages, 66% had their livelihoods severely affected, and 80% were struggling to pay back their loans.

The impact on children's emotional and mental well-being was equally serious. Due to social distancing and lockdown, prolonged school closure, fear of infection, and negative coping behaviors at home, 30.1% of parents admitted yelling, shouting and threatening their children, and 63.6% of surveyed children shared that they constantly felt worried about themselves and their families. What's more, due to the long-term absence from school, students in remote areas were prone to drop out of school or even get married before they reached adulthood.

By swiftly reallocating our program budgets and seeking additional financial support from the Korean International Cooperation Agency, over 1.25 million US dollars was utilized to respond to the crucial needs identified in our needs survey, which directly benefited up to 650,000 adults and children. The four main objectives of our response and recovery program were:

### Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease

This objective consisted of:

 distribution of soap, masks, and hand sanitizer to classes and families,

 $-\ensuremath{\operatorname{establishment}}$  of handwashing stations at schools and homes,

 provision of water tanks to enable families to have continuous access to water,

 development and dissemination of behavior messaging on COVID-19 prevention for children and their caregivers.

#### Strengthen health systems and support health workers

Part of our response budget went to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for health workers and school staff, as well other health-related items such as infrared thermometers, and patient beds with mattresses, pillows, blankets, and mosquito nets.

# 3 Support impacted children through interventions in child protection, food, and livelihoods

This objective consisted of:

 communication on child protection issues to parents, children, leaders and other community members,

– close coordination with Child Protection
Committees and our community collaborators to
provide timely child protection services to children,
– provision of food aid to affected families, with
additional micronutrient products or fortified food

for malnourished children,

 livelihood restoration support (agricultural input distribution and technical training) to help affected families to earn an income in the short and medium term.

### Collaborate and advocate to ensure children are protected

This objective consisted of:

 rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on children,

 local-level advocacy for Child Protection Committees' functions and response to child protection issues during COVID-19,

 rollout of public engagement initiatives that prevented violence against children and promoted family relationship building during COVID-19. Each part of our response and recovery program took into consideration safeguarding measures for all beneficiaries, and gender equality and disability inclusion to ensure safe and equal access for all.

## 34,006 **people**

received food aid packages to cope with the impact of COVID-19.



### 5,392 **health workers**

received personal protective equipment. Other support items for health facilities included

22,400 face masks2,052 disinfectant kits345 glove sets



received livelihood training, such as livestock raising and gardening.

391 handwashing stations and 181 water tanks/ sanitation facilities were established within communities.



#### 1,465 households

received breeding animals, seedlings, vaccines, and other agricultural inputs to kick-start their alternative livelihood.







# 235,238 children

were reached, of which 13,157 children were classed as Most Vulnerable Children, equal to 99.95% of total most vulnerable children\* identified in our program areas.

\* World Vision defines Most Vulnerable Children as children whose quality of life and ability to fulfill their potential is most affected by extreme deprivation and violations of their rights. These children often live in catastrophic situations and relationships characterized by violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, exclusion, and discrimination.



## 9,054 **children**

#### participated in activities that supported ending violence against children.

During these activities they learnt about and promoted online safety, child marriage prevention, school violence prevention, child injury prevention and many other practical topics.

### 13,474 parents & caregivers

demonstrated an increased knowledge of positive parenting and building peaceful relationships within their families.



involved in the child protection sector increased their capability to prevent and respond to violence and abuse against children.

#### Communities in 26 Area Programs



brought recommendations on child protection to their local governments,

including those to address child protection issues during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 177 villages

conducted intensive nutritional rehabiliation sessions for children under 5.

As a result, by the end of FY20

#### 874

### children

were no longer severely malnourished.



#### 798 households

with malnourished children were supported to improve nutrition and hygiene practices at home

through the integration of multiple interventions (livelihood, saving, and sanitation) into nutritional rehabilitation sessions.

4,309 expectant mothers

#### mothers/caregivers with children under 2

received timely and targeted counselling on nutrition and infectious disease prevention.

#### 6,797 households

with children under 5 had sanitation facilities constructed for their own family's use.



#### 80% of 17,414 trained famers

have applied sustainable cultivation and husbandry models into household production.

#### 212 farmers' groups

received training on business development and entrepreneural skills.



### 12 provincial dialogues & meeting

were led or supported by World Vision to facilitate the connection among farmers, companies, and decision makers.

### 16,398 **people were members of** 861

### savings groups

that operated stably under World Vision's and local authorities' supervision and support.

Therefore, they became part of a mutual support system and had access to loans in times of needs.

### 1,976 adolescents

received job orientation, life skills education, vocational training (such as hairdressing, manicure, motorbike repair), and/or support to find a stable job as per their needs.



### 10,739 community members including children

were trained in identifying different types of disasters, possible risks, and potential measures to minimize losses and damages.





#### 456 communities

updated their disaster preparedness plans, whose function is to consolidate community efforts in preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters.

# Financial Summary

Over 17 million US dollars was invested to improve the well-being of children through World Vision Vietnam's operation in 14 cities and provinces across the country.

Upholding the value we place in good stewardship of the resources entrusted to us, World Vision Vietnam has rigorous financial management processes in place to assure the transparency and accountability of all our spending. We adopt an uncompromising policy towards all acts of bribery, embezzlement, and corruption. We make it mandatory that every cent be accounted for.

#### **Total Income**

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
\$26.26	\$18.35	\$17.61	\$17.91	\$18.00	\$17.30	millions
Total Expenditure by Category						
A STANCE		RA	Disaster Risk	Capacity Bui	ilding &	
Child Protection <b>\$4.28 million</b>	Nutrition <b>\$3.61 million</b>	Livelihoods <b>\$2.82 million</b>	Reduction <b>\$0.78 million</b>	Community	Engagement	Other <b>\$2.87 million</b>

Our work is made possible thanks to the valuable grants by international funds, governments, and corporations, as well as the faithful donations of individual sponsors from all over the world.

For the positive results achieved in FY20, our deep appreciation goes to the **Federal Ministry for Economic Coop**eration and Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Korea International Cooperation Agency, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, LG, MC365, MadeBlue Foundation, and Orion Foundation.





**World Vision** is a movement of people called to improve the lives of vulnerable children around the world. We believe that a country, and a world, where all children are protected and free from extreme poverty and able to reach their full potential is possible.

Our vision for every child is life in all its fullness. **Our prayer for heart is the will to make it so.** 

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