

Press release

World Vision Viet Nam Organized the Closing Workshop for The “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project

Ha Noi, October 30 and 31, 2021 – Within the framework of the “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project’s third area of impact¹, World Vision Viet Nam has collaborated with the Department of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs of Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, and Quang Binh to organize a workshop to share results and summarize project activities. Attending the seminar were representatives of relevant authorities at all levels, partnering organizations, experts, and the potential victims/victims of human trafficking.

At the event, the participants looked back at the contents that the “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project implemented at the central and local levels, including advantages - challenges, achievements, and lessons learned from multiple perspectives. This was also the basis for the parties to discuss plans to maintain and replicate the Project’s successful models, thus promoting migrants’ integration/reintegration into the community.



Picture 1: Mr. Mark Holton, Second Secretary Migration and Immigration Liaison Manager, British Embassy in Viet Nam, delivered a speech at the event.

¹ Within the framework of the “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project, World Vision Viet Nam implemented the third area of impact: Support the recovery and reintegration into the community of the potential victims/victims of human trafficking through the successful identification, protection, and supporting system on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Mark Holton, Second Secretary Migration and Immigration Liaison Manager, British Embassy in Viet Nam, delivered a speech acknowledging the contribution of the Project in connecting relevant actors to bring the most comprehensive support to help the potential victims/victims of human trafficking to overcome mindset barriers and rebuild their lives.

"For the first time, the UK government implemented a project on such a big scale with several delivering partners and a wide range of government and provincial stakeholders. Within the framework of the third area of impact, the Project has brought together a wide range of agencies and sectors from central to local joining hands for awareness-raising, community engagement, sustainable direct assistance, and capacity building for government and civil society partners at the national, provincial and commune level," shared Mr. Holton.

After more than two years of implementation, the "Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam" Project has achieved numerous results. It fostered the utilization and connection among local resources, which promoted community-based interventions and accelerated the recovery and reintegration into the community of the project's target audience - potential victims/victims of human trafficking.

"The open, logical and creative coordination among different actors (World Vision Viet Nam, local authorities, partnering organizations and the target audiences) is the reason for the Project's successful implementation," emphasized Mr. Bui Van Hung, Deputy Director of Nghe An Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs.



Picture 2: Deputy Director of Nghe An Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs Bui Van Hung spoke at the event.

Specifically, with the target audience-centered support method - based on an understanding of trauma, individual and community strengths, the Project has achieved outstanding results, including:

- Increase the capacity building for more than **541** support staff at all levels: (1) social workers & local coordinators including local leaders and/or from the labor, justice, women, and police sectors (2) collaborators including union officials, members of women's unions at ward/commune level, village/neighborhood heads, and reputable people in the community.
- Supported **355** potential victims/victims of human trafficking with health, education, legal, psychological, and livelihood services.
- Promoted policy advocacy in supporting human trafficking victims and strengthened connections with domestic and international organizations and units to provide support services for Vietnamese migrants/people with trafficking experiences living overseas.

"Although the Project implementation was affected by natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic, the 'Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam' Project has actively contributed to the target groups' psychological well-being and change of mindset. Furthermore, thanks to the experts' enthusiastic and dedicated guidance, the potential victims/victims of human trafficking have initially developed and implemented a clear and specific livelihood plan, helping to improve the quality of life for themselves, their families, and the community," said Mr. Le Hong Tinh, Deputy Head of the Labor and Social Affairs Division of Nghi Xuan District, Ha Tinh Province.

"The confidence, understanding and broadening vision brought by the Project is the key to removing the confusion and ambiguity, thereby inspired and motivated the potential victims/victims of human trafficking to stay and build a life in their homeland," added Ms. Pham Thi Nhung, Specialist of the Division of Children and Prevention of Social Evils in Ha Tinh Province.

In addition, within the framework of the third area of impact, World Vision Viet Nam also joined hands with World Vision UK and ECPAT (UK) to research and develop a database for Vietnamese migrants and/or residents in the UK. It includes valuable information about the rights of migrants in the UK and reputable agencies that can assist them when needed, including the National Hotline 111's Zalo account.

These are encouraging outcomes resulting from the persistent efforts, flexible and innovative approach of World Vision Viet Nam, governmental/international partners, and the target groups, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic across the country.

Ms. Nguyễn Thu Hà, Manager, "Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam" Project, World Vision Viet Nam, concluded: *"24 months are not lengthy but enough time for the Project and partners to work together to inspire and help each member of the target groups promote their strength, walk confidently in the journey of writing their own story, thus reduce the vulnerability and the risk of human trafficking and free migration."*



Picture 3: “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project Manager Nguyen Thu Ha shared the Project’s outcomes.

Being implemented from 2018 to 2021, The “Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam” Project – funded by the UK Home Office - is an interagency partnership initiative working with the Vietnamese Government and local actors to realize their potential to reduce individual and community vulnerabilities to modern slavery including human trafficking.

Together with consortium partners, Vietnamese Government partners and local community actors, the Project aims to change behaviors and promote alternative livelihood opportunities, strengthen access to the local justice system and victim services to maximize the impact of collective action in reducing vulnerabilities to modern slavery.

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About World Vision Viet Nam:

World Vision is a Christian relief and development humanitarian organization, working to improve the quality of life of people, especially children, who are marginalized and living in poverty. World Vision helps all who are in need regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender. World Vision started working in Việt Nam in 1988. Since then, World Vision has implemented many relief and development programs, partnering with the

Vietnamese government, other NGOs, and communities. World Vision's long-term development programs are currently operated in 18 cities and provinces throughout Việt Nam.

Media Contact:

Ms. Ngô Thu Trà | Senior Executive Communications & Media Relations Officer

Email: ngo_thu_tra@wvi.org | Tel.: (+84) 911.420.880