

Press Release

## **World Vision Viet Nam Supports 1.7 Million Vulnerable Children and Families in 35 Districts in Vietnam in response to COVID-19's Aftershocks**

**Hà Nội, Việt Nam** – In a growing effort to protect Viet Nam's most vulnerable children and families against the rapid global spread of COVID-19, World Vision Viet Nam has officially launched its national response and recovery program.

The program, with a budget of **\$800,000**, will be implemented from April to September 2020 and is expected to support more than **1.7 million** people in in 35 Area Programs of World Vision Viet Nam (present in 35 districts across Viet Nam's 14 provinces and cities), of which **612,034** people are direct beneficiaries.

Up to 26 June 2020, the program has reached **253,384** of which **181,877** were impacted children. The program's progress also includes: **58,031** information and education materials on COVID-19 prevention and child protection that were printed and distributed; **22,346** people who have benefited from food-aid support (rice, instance noodle, cooking oil, milk, fish sauce); **331** households that have received livelihood support with chicken, ducks, agriculture seeds, organic fertilizers, animal feeds, and veterinary, etc.

"Not just being the main cause of the current economic downturn, COVID-19 is also a development dilemma, which carries tremendous negative impact on vulnerable children and families," stated World Vision Vietnam National Director Tran Thu Huyen.

"World Vision Viet Nam's recent assessment with beneficiary groups, which included poor households and households with vulnerable children, has revealed that many of them are in very difficult financial circumstances due to job losses and their crops not yet being ready to harvest. Due to the loss of income, parents or caregivers are encountering countless difficulties to take proper care of their children, which will directly affect their well-being, development, and future. This is now the most crucial time for World Vision Viet Nam to help protect children from vulnerable issues such as infection, malnutrition, violence, exploitation, abuse, and human trafficking," explained Tran Thu Huyen.

World Vision Viet Nam has addressed the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic focusing on communicating preventive messages through community engagement and online platforms, which aims to scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of the virus; strengthen local health system and workers; support children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, food and livelihood intervention; and advocate for the protection of all children.

More specifically, with this national response and recovery program, World Vison Viet Nam has provided poor and near poor households with immediate food aid, supplies for personal hygiene, production input and technical trainings to improve household livelihood. Vulnerable children are also supported through case management together with extensive promotion of child protection skills tailored for community workers, parents, and children themselves.

World Vision Vietnam will continue to work hand in hand with the local government, local partners, and communities toward the safety and well-being of vulnerable children in this crisis. World Vision Vietnam encourages individuals, corporations and all those who care about the well-being of children to do more to address the needs of the most vulnerable children in the face of the devastating aftershocks caused by COVID-19.

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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 Vietnam with emergency relief assistance in 1988 and opened an office in Hanoi in 1990. Since 1990, World Vision has implemented many relief and development programs, partnering with the Vietnamese government, other non-governmental organizations and communities. World Vision's long-term development programs are currently operated in 18 cities and provinces throughout Vietnam.

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