

## Press release

### **World Vision and ADH support ethnic minorities enhance their resilience to natural disaster risks**

**Dien Bien Phu City, April 24, 2024**—The project "Increasing The Resilience To Risks Of Ethnic Minorities In Dien Bien" (also known as IREM) was launched. The project is supported by Germany's Relief Coalition (ADH) through World Vision to increase Dien Bien ethnic minorities' resilience to disasters.

Dien Bien is one of the poorest provinces of Viet Nam, located in the mountainous northwest of Viet Nam. The local community is facing numerous obstacles to maintaining secure livelihoods. Equally severe, numerous extreme weather events, including thunderstorms, hail, cyclones, landslides, pipe floods, and flash floods, frequently impacted the areas. There are 19 ethnic minority groups in Dien Bien, accounting for more than 80% of the total population. Our initial assessment indicates a critical need for enhancing the resilience of ethnic minority communities in Dien Bien Province. As a result, IREM project will be implemented in some communes of Dien Bien Phu City and also in three districts of the province (Muong Ang, Muong Cha and Tuan Giao).



*The delegations participated in the IREM project launch event in Dien Bien Phu City, April 24.*

During the project launch event, World Vision representatives introduced IREM project goals and impacts to implementing partners. The event was attended by representatives of governmental departments and agencies of Dien Bien Province such as the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, the Department of Education and Training, and the Provincial Military Command, Women's Union. At the occasion, representatives of Dien Bien Province and Muong Ang, Muong Cha and Tuan Giao districts were also informed about the project implementation timeline (from October 2023 to November 2024) and co-implementation plan.

The launching event also reflected the highly spirited cooperation of the community leaders in strengthening the capacity to respond to natural disasters for ethnic minorities in Dien Bien Province.



*Mr. Tran Van Thuong, Deputy Director of the Dien Bien Department of Agriculture and Rural Development demonstrated the Department's commitment to support IREM implementation.*

Dien Bien showed high commitment to implementing the project effectively. Mr. Tran Van Thuong, Deputy Director of the Dien Bien Department of Agriculture and Rural Development remarked: "In the coming time, the mutual efforts and effective coordination between stakeholders will help the project achieve determined outcomes". Mr. Thuong also asked the delegates to "join hands to accomplish project framework's activities to build up local socio-economic development and multiply positive results in the community and other localities."



*Mr. Dang Van Bai, Zonal Programme Manager of World Vision International in Viet Nam, presented World Vision's vulnerable community well-being priority.*

Mr. Dang Van Bai, Zonal Programme Manager of North 1 (Dien Bien, Hai Phong, Hanoi), World Vision International in Viet Nam, stated "World Vision's 2023-2027 strategy aims to ensure children's well-being sustainably. IREM, one of our special projects is one of our commitments in working alongside the Vietnamese government to look after our communities and children, through strengthening the most vulnerable communities' resilience to natural disaster risks."

After the project launch event, provincial-level activities will be conducted in Dien Bien such as training of trainers on Community-based Disaster Risk Management and Safe Schools Framework; providing basic rescue kits for Community Rapid Response Teams; co-organizing National Week for Disaster Risk Management (May 15-22, 2024) with the theme: "Anticipatory action—A proactive approach to disaster management", World Environment Day (June 5, 2024), etc.

With a budget of more than 17 billion VND, IREM project will directly benefit more than 20,700 people including vulnerable households, children, single mothers and fathers, and people with disabilities. Main project activities involve raising community awareness of natural disaster risks, strengthening community capacity, and supporting equipment and facilities to mitigate damages from natural disasters. With a GEDSI approach, which ensures gender equality, disability and social inclusion, the project encourages women's participation in the community capacity-building process and the integration of people with disabilities in activities such as disaster risk planning and response.



Besides special projects such as IREM, World Vision is also implementing area programmes (lasting 10–15 years) in five districts of Dien Bien Province including Dien Bien Dong, Muong Ang, Muong Cha, Tua Chua, Tuan Giao to improve the well-being of Vietnamese children. Through long-term projects, such as Child Protection & Child Participation, Health & Nutrition, Livelihoods, Community Engagement & Sponsorship Plan. Also, Cross-cutting topics such as Responding to Climate Change, Natural Disaster Risk Reduction, Gender Equality, are also of special interest to us and integrated into projects.

### About Germany's Relief Coalition (ADH)

Germany's Relief Coalition (ADH) is an alliance of German relief organisations working to help people in need with concerted, quick and coordinated emergency relief.

In order to reduce overlaps and supply gaps in German relief efforts, in 2001, ADH was founded by ten renowned relief aid organizations to provide fast and effective help in severe catastrophes. Today, the alliance of 23 aid organizations is active in over 100 countries worldwide.

### Về World Vision

As a leading child-focused organisation, World Vision is driven by our desire to ensure that every boy and girl has what they need to grow in mind, body, and spirit. World Vision works alongside governments, sponsors, communities and children to create positive impacts and, as a result, the lives of communities and children are enriched. Our staff in nearly 100 countries work hard together with our partners to positively impact the lives of more than 200 million vulnerable children around the world, including more than 200,000 in Viet Nam. World Vision is privileged to have received the Registration Certificate for its operations in Viet Nam since 1988. In 2023, we received support from the Government of Viet Nam in implementing our programmes and projects in 14 cities and provinces across the country.

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