



Action to Community Development Center (ACDC) was established on 02 November 2011. the undertaking mission to pioneer in creating better а living environment for people with disabilities (PWDs) and

disadvantaged groups.

ACDC has been operating for 8 years and gone halfway to completing the 2016 - 2025 strategy. We have witnessed a lot of considerable changes in PWDs' movements as well as the community's awareness of inclusion. These are positive signs that have recognized the efforts of PWDs, the contributions of DPOs, including ACDC.

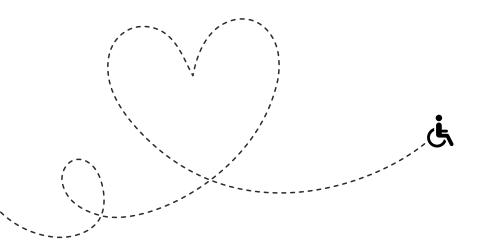
Adhering to the principle "Sharing beliefs and empowering" PWDs in Vietnam, in 2019, ACDC carried out a variety of activites and new models to support PWDs in gaining equal access to opportunities and improving the

quality of their life. Above all, the strong will of PWDs and the community have become the biggest motivations for ACDC to overcome difficulties and challenges to cooperate with PWDs, policy formulating and enforcing agencies for a world where "nobody is left behind".

On behalf of all ACDC staff, I would like to express my gratitude to PWDs, partners, sponsors and friends. The new decade has begun, and I hope we will still continue to work together to achieve equality, progress and inclusion for everyone, aiming at 17 global Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs).

Best regards,

Nguyen Thi Lan Anh Director of ACDC





# About ACDC

Action to the Community Development Center (ACDC) is a Vietnamese non-governmental organization working to support persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups in the Vietnam.

As a young, enthusiastic and experienced team, we are looking for possible solutions to building a barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities with a consistent goal, "Sharing vision bringing empowerment for persons with disabilities in Vietnam".

#### Our vision to 2025

ACDC will become a pioneer organization creating a better living environment for persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

#### **Our mission**

ACDC is committed to contributing to the inclusion of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups through support activities designed to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities through the implementation of innovative service delivery models.



#### Overall goal

ACDC aims to contribute to improving living and legal rights of persons with disabilities & other vulnerable groups in Vietnam to be fully and equally integrated into society.

GOAL

Contribute to improved laws & policies on PWDs and vulnerable groups

GOAL 2

Support the establishment and development of PWDs' networks

GOAL 3

Improve society's awareness of PWDs GOAL 4

Strengthen PWD support services & models

# **MAJOR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

### 1 Project "Raising voices, creating opportunities" funded by USAID

**Location:** Quang Tri Province, Thua Thien-Hue Province and Quang Nam<sup>-</sup> Province.

The project aims to promote the implementation of policies for PWDs (focusing on access to transportation and healthcare) and to build sustainable support models for PWDs.

Within the first year of the project, ACDC cooperated with Transport Development Strategy Institute (TDSI - MOT), Department of Administration for Medical Service (MOH) and Health Strategy and Policy Institute (MOH) to promote advocacy. PWDs' key issues have been included in the first 2 drafts of Universal Design Criteria in transportation and Law on Medical Examination and Treatment (amended).



Particularly, Phu Vang Transition House for PWDs was inaugurated in Thua Thien Hue Province in 2019. This is the first transition house model in Central Vietnam that meets design standards according to National Technical Regulation issued by Ministry of Construction.

Capacity building and policy advocacy activities in 3 provinces achieved important outcomes such as:



**2520** PWDs in Quang Nam Province, Quang Tri Province and Thua Thien Hue Province received direct support through various activities, including capacity building, awareness-raising and legal advice.



**590** officials from DOTs, DOCs, DOHs, DOLISAa, PCDs and OPDs in 3 provinces were trained in physical access, social work towards PWDs and disability inclusion.



**441** PWDs participated in the trainings in gender-based violence, especially **21** of them became core trainers in this field.



**3** OPDs/ groups of disabled people in Quang Tri Province, Quang Nam Province and Thua Thien Hue Province got involved in the monitoring and evaluation of local programs for PWDs as well as raising their voices regarding PWDs-related issues.



The supporting network for PWDs involving **15** organizations and service delivery systems who serve PWDs, namely DOTs, DOCs, DOHs, DOLISAa, PCDs and OPDs in **3** provinces, has been strenghthened through developing local disability policies.









# Project "Empowering Women and Girls with Disabilities" funded by UNDEF

**Location:** Ba Vi District, Hanoi and Thanh Khe District, Da Nang.

The project aims at mitigating the sexual violence against women and girls with disabilities, through raising awareness of and empowering women and girls to be more independent to protect their rights, establishing a support network to protect and prevent sexual violence, and strengthening legal framework and policies to eliminate sexual violence against women and girls with disabilities in Vietnam.

The project conducted 1 baseline survey in 2 project areas. The survey results reveal alarming statistics such as: 4 out of 10 women and girls with disabilities have experienced at least 1 form of sexual violence; 50% had no idea about the skills in avoiding the risks of sexual violence; 80.4% have not received any forms of education to equip themselves with knowledge and skills in preventing or dealing with sexual violence.



In 2019, the project equipped women and girls with disabilities and stakeholders with 12 skills in preventing sexual violence; the number of PWDs and their family who raised awareness of PWDs-related issues is 364 while those of local officals is 78; 9 training courses were organized; 30 local agencies in 2 project areas got involved in the support network for women and girls with disabilities who suffered from sexual violence; 11 network meetings were organized; etc.



Project "Strengthening capacity to respond to gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in Nghe An Province" funded by JIFF

Location: Nghe An Province

The project aims to raise awareness, build capacity for women and girls with disabilities in responding to q e n d e r - b a s e d



From August to December 2019, the project built capacity for 186 women and girls with disabilities as well as their families, provided legal advice for 130 cases; 30 supporters and collaborators from Provincial State Legal Aid Center and lawyers' offices of legal support units in the province were provided with knowledge and skills of disability inclusion, legal counseling and support for PWDs.

Particularly, the connection among ACDC's Legal Counseling Department, Legal Aid Center and local agencies was strengthened to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities.





4 CBM-funded "Monitoring, evaluating and advocating policies for the implementation of United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)" project

The project aims to increase the capacity of DPOs in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of CRPD in Northern, Central and Southern Vietnam.

In 2019, DPOs and experts completed Independent Report on Monitoring the Implementation of CRPD. The report was compiled from March 2016 to November 2019, going through stages of preparing, collecting information by thematic groups, drafting Independent Report; consulting the report and publishing the lists of priority issues; editing and finalizing the report; etc. It is expected that the report will be submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs for presentation at United Nations Conference in early 2020.

Also in 2019, there were **854** people participating in capacity building courses organized by the project, of which more than **150** people are from state agencies; more than **660** people are members of associations and groups nationwide; **18** conferences and training courses were

organized to establish and develop DPOs.

In addition, the project provided adequate technical support for creating information channels for Vietnamese Deaf Community on Facebook and Youtube in order to assist them in gaining access to information through sign language videos. The information channels not only teach sign language vocabulary, but also regularly update news about socio-cultural situation, new legal documents and healthcare. When 2 training courses on basic filming and video editing skills ended, 18 trainees from 7 Deaf People's Clubs produced 8 video clips after 3 months' working.

# 5 Childfund Australia-funded: VN5-002 Increasing the intergration of persons with disabilities into society – We Can project

**Location:** Tra Linh District, Cao Bang Province and Na Ri District, Bac Kan Province.

Project aim to promote rights of PWDs, and to support them to be active citizens to contribute for the inclusive development of their family and community. Enhancing PWDs' integration not only economically but socially and culturally is a key focus to promote the "We can!" attitude of PWDs and of community towards PWDs.

In 2019, the project improved the knowledge and skills about PWDs' rights and disabilities inclusion for **92** 



PWDs and **56** local authority officials; built capacity for community-based rehabilitation and relevant issues for **126** medical staff.



**90%** of PWDs/family members/local officials attended training courses on the legal framework related to their rights and life skills improvement.



The project piloted a livelihood model for 20 households with PWDs, of which 60% (13/20 households) applied the foster care process to the model very effectively.

### 6

# "Promoting publicity, transparency and citizens' involvement in state budget management" project funded by Oxfam in Vietnam

#### Location: Hoa Binh Province

The project aims to enhance budget transparency, accountability and participation in Vietnam while increasing the effectiveness of development activities for people from disadvantaged communities in project areas.

In 2019, the model of citizens monitoring the budget continued to become more popular in Hoa Binh Province, with 6 newly formed communities carrying out monitoring activities with Community Investment Monitoring Board and Peoples' Inspection Board in communes; 10 communities took the initiative in local monitoring activities.



Transparency and accountability in budget management

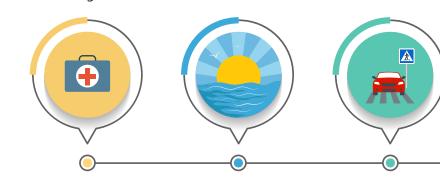
was improved through developing, training and sharing activities of a criteria set for choosing public portfolios for **79** participants from People's Council, Fatherland Front Committees, Farmer and Women Unions in Mai Chau district. Application instructions were also provided in **03** communues: Mai Hich, Bao La and Na Meo in July 2019. The results of Mai Hich Commune led to the selection of **05** public investment projects, according to the results of **14** proposed projects for investment in 2020.

### 7

#### Policy research and leval support

#### 7.1. Policy research

In 2019, Law Department conducted research, contributed ideas and proposed the integration of policies on PWDs into **08** drafted legal documents in the following aspects: medical examination and treatment; heath insurance; water resources; road traffic; criminal investigation; social protection; etc. These involve **05** legal documents directly related to the rights and benefits of PWDs and other disadvantaged groups, including:







#### Law on Medical Examination and Treatment

Amending and supplementing Law on Medical Examination and Treatment 2009

#### Law on Water Resources

Amending Law on Water Resources

#### Law on Road Traffic

Drafted revised Law on Road Traffic 2008

#### Law on Health Insurance

Amending and supplementing Law on Health Insurance

#### Criminal Code

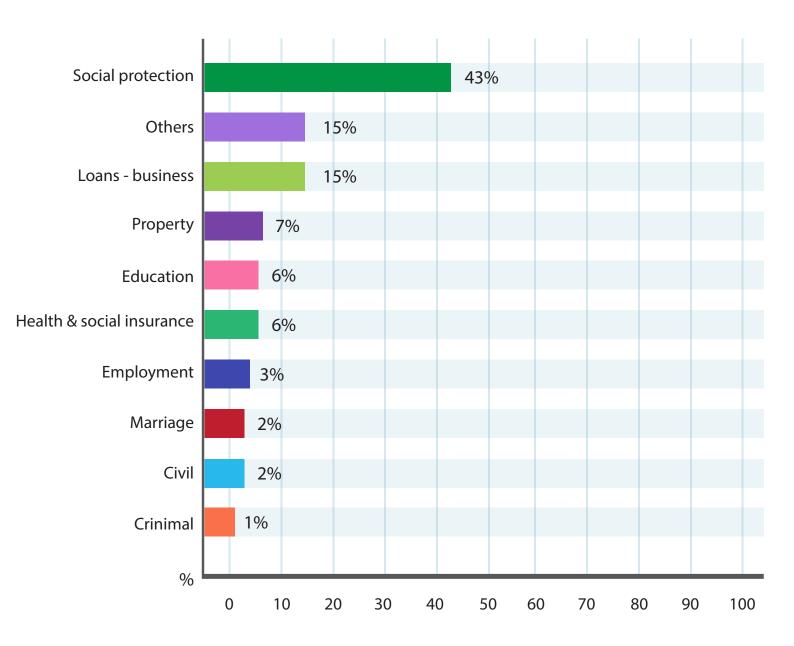
Completing Drafted
Resolution of the Council
of Judges of Supreme
People's Court on
guidelines on the
application of Articles
141 to 147 in Criminal
Code regarding trials of
child sexual abuse cases.

#### 7.2. Legal advice

In 2019, ACDC's Law Department provided counseling for **1803** groups of PWDs/families of PWDs in different forms, of which **1479** groups finished counseling (including online and face-to-face counseling in the locality, accounting

for **82.1%**). Counseling is related to many aspects, in which social protection is of greatest concern, followed by loans – business, property – housing and health insurance.

# **Aspects of counseling**



# REMARKABLE STATISTICS



1364 PWDs/families of PWDs were provided with counseling in different forms. Counseling is related to various aspects, in which social protection is of greatest concern, followed by loans – business, property – housing and health insurance. Besides, Law Department conducted research, contributed ideas and proposed the integration of policies on PWDs into 08 drafted legal documents in the following aspects: medical examination and treatment; health insurance; water resources; road traffic; criminal investigation; social protection; etc.



The awareness of 3,892 groups of PWDs and families; 1,510 groups of people from policy making and implementation agencies; 115 visits from enterprises; 606 groups from the community and 64 groups from the media was raised regarding PWDs.



O1 transition house was built and put into use. Phu Vang Transition House was built at Rehabilitation Department, Phu Vang District Medical Center. This is the first transition model in Central Vietnam that meets design standards according to National Technical Regulation set by Ministry of Construction. The building consists of: kitchen and dining areas, restrooms, bedrooms, common rooms; surrounding area; daily necessities that are suitable for PWDs' heights and completely safe for PWDs so that they can move around easily.



Nearly 580 PWDs, including those from ethnic minority groups, received free health examination. This was implemented in 04 provinces and cities in Vietnam: Hanoi, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Tri and Quang Nam. Thank to the examination, many women identified their health problems and go to specialized medical facilities for timely treatment.



14 training courses on inclusion of PWDs were organized for nearly 500 participants from ACDC's partners, including DOH, DOLISA; Department of Justice and DPOs in the following provinces: Dien Bien, Ninh Binh, Nghe An, Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Thua Thien Hue, Da Nang and Quang Ngai.



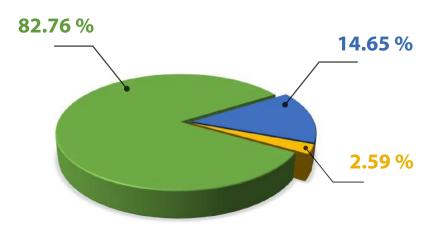
03 livelihood models were applied in Tra Linh District (Cao Bang Province) and Na Ri District (Bac Kan Province). Among 20 households with people with different disabilities (11 men and 9 women) selected to participate in the models, 15 carried out chicken farming, 2 raised buffalos and 3 others raised pigs.







- Project
- Human resources
- Strengthening organizational and other capabilities



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