

A man with short dark hair, smiling, is crouching and carving a wooden vase. He is wearing a dark blue polo shirt with a "MAXIS" logo. The vase has a circular carved pattern. In the background, there are stacks of similar wooden vases and some debris on the ground.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



INTRODUCTION TO ACDC

The Action to Community Development Institute (ACDC), formerly known as the Action to Community Development Center (ACDC), is a local non-governmental organization established in 2011. ACDC operates for and by persons with disabilities in Vietnam, supports persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in various aspects of life.

ACDC is an organization of and for persons with disabilities, promoting and supporting the activities of all partners providing services to assist persons with disabilities, improve their quality of life, ensure equal status, independent living, community integration, and their increasingly effective contribution to society under the motto "leaving no one behind."

ACDC's headquarters is in Hanoi, with three project offices in Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, and Quang Nam provinces.

VISION 2030

ACDC is a prestigious organization that enhances the quality of life and promotes the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups.

MISSION

ACDC is committed to contributing to the inclusion and equity of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups through activities that ensure rights and promote supporting models.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

OBJECTIVE 1: CONTRIBUTE TO CHANGE THE SOCIETY'S AWARENESS TOWARDS DISABILITY ISSUES

In 2024, through various projects, ACDC organized **112 training courses and workshops and 2 public events for an accumulated number of 24,170 participants** from state management agencies, service providers, disability support units, persons with disabilities, and their families across the country. Of these:

21.084

participants who were persons with disabilities and their family members



3.086

participants who were officials from legislative and law enforcement agencies, businesses, and media organizations



FEATURED ACTIVITY

Development and capacity building of community-based care teams for persons with disabilities

To help persons with disabilities perform their daily activities well, based on the human resources created from the project in 2022 and 2023, ACDC continued to build and develop a network of care teams for persons with disabilities from the provincial, district to commune levels and in the families of persons with disabilities. Aiming at the sustainable care activities for persons with disabilities, ACDC organized training courses for provincial/district-level resource teams (TOT) in project provinces. The TOT team includes **62 provincial/district health practitioners** related to the field of persons with disabilities such as doctors, rehabilitation/physical therapy technicians, occupational

therapy technicians, and nurses of 13 district health centers and provincial rehabilitation hospitals of Hue City, Quang Tri and Quang Nam provinces namely Quang Nam, Hue and Quang Tri. This is the core team in supporting family members of persons with disabilities. The training program emphasized knowledge and skills of personal care for persons with disabilities, replication training skills, goal-setting, and planning. These teams then train the community home-based care team of another **316 communal health workers**, with care skills to work directly with families of persons with disabilities. Thanks to these community teams, **1,276 family members of persons with disabilities** have been trained to improve their understanding and provide essential care and support for their persons with disabilities at home in performing daily living activities.



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Ms. Le Thi Thanh Huyen, a nurse at Cam Thanh commune health station, Cam Lo district, shared: *“Through this training, I have gained valuable knowledge, especially the checklists for caring for persons with disabilities. Depending on different disability types and needs, we can apply appropriate caregiving methods. I will apply these learnings in my daily work to support persons with disabilities in my locality.”*

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OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVE LAWS AND POLICIES ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

02

Commented and provided technical support on 02 draft national reports including the draft report on issues related to Vietnam's first report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the request of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and the draft report of Vietnam government on The impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups

02

Commented on 02 legal documents including the draft Law on Employment and the draft amending and supplementing legal document for several articles of the Law on Health Insurance

Commented on the draft set of Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluating the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Commented on the draft of Replicating the independent living model in Hue City

14 monitoring reports



01 provincial report and 13 district-level reports on disability accessibility surveys of public buildings and public transport facilities were conducted in Quang Tri province, Hue City and Quang Nam province with the support of ACDC.

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHENING THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES' SUPPORTING SERVICES



9

models have been maintained and expanded, including:



01

Transition House model



01

Independent living model



01

Legal counselling model



01

Shelter model



01

Home-based care model



01

Loan and improving livelihood model



01

Rehabilitation Model at Home and Medical Station



02

Disability accessibility model

(installation of increased accessibility for buses; design of accessible bus station model)



FEATURED ACTIVITY

Improving independent living skills and community inclusion for persons with disabilities



The Independent Living Model for persons with disabilities has been built and implemented continuously by ACDC since 2019 which has motivated many persons with disabilities and their families. In 2024, ACDC continued to apply and implement activities to improve independent living skills and community inclusion for persons with disabilities in the components under several projects in Hue city, Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Kon Tum, and Binh Dinh provinces. Results: **448 persons with disabilities and their families** were continuously visited by a group of peer counselors who are also local persons with disabilities and OPD officials to discuss and learn information/assess the level of independent living of persons with disabilities.

The highlight from ACDC Independent living and community inclusion models is the team of **peer counselors who are also persons with disabilities**. With their own personal experience of being a person with disability, they are further well equipped with knowledge and skills in Independent Living/Disability Inclusion/Prevention of Gender-Based Violence, as well as disability policies. As a result, the peer counseling team has understood, sympathized, shared, inspired, and established trust when they consult other peers with disabilities.

OBJECTIVE 4: SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES' NETWORKS, RAISING THEIR VOICES TO THE WORLD



Frequent networking with and supporting other organizations and groups/clubs of persons with disabilities in Vietnam and on an international level.





FEATURED ACTIVITY

Establishment of Clubs of Women with disabilities

In 2024, through projects, ACDC supported the establishment of **02 Clubs of Women with disabilities (Clubs)** including a Club in Cam Lo district (Quang Tri province) in August 2024 and another one in Huong Thuy district (Hue City) in July 2024 with the starting membership of 51 women with disabilities.

As of December 2024, 8 Clubs in Hue City, Quang Nam, and Quang Tri provinces have organized 50 regular thematic meetings for its members and interested people.



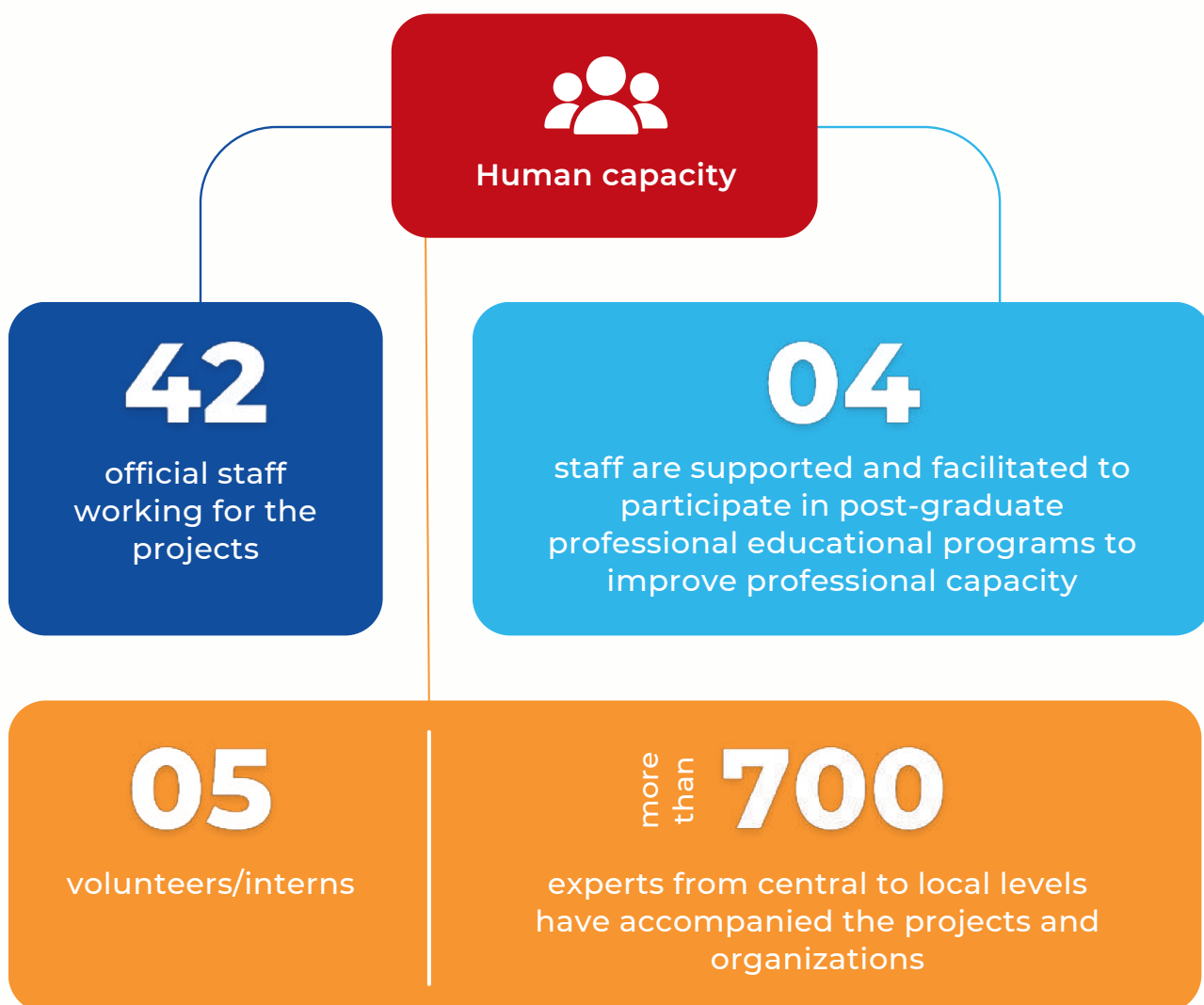
Ms. Le Thi Huyen, a member of Vinh Linh Club (Quang Tri province) shared: *"The activities are especially relevant to me because vocational training and a stable income are among the most basic needs of women with disabilities like us. We always want to generate an income for ourselves and our family, but due to challenging circumstances, we have been unable to do so. If the project provides us with breeding stock and production tools, this is the best thing we can hope for. Thank you to the project for caring for and supporting and allowing us to meet, exchange ideas, and generate numerous possibilities to develop."*



OBJECTIVE 5: DEVELOP ACDC'S CAPACITY

In 2024, ACDC maintained and expanded our human resources with knowledge, dedication, experience and expertise in disabilities, project management and implementation, law, policy, monitoring, and evaluation, etc. The projects also collaborated closely with a team of experienced experts in the fields of law, health-rehabilitation, accessibility, gender-based violence, and so on, to conduct tasks such as research implementation, document development, policy consultation, legal document review, and training courses for persons with disabilities, families, and relevant agencies.

In addition, ACDC also developed new tools and improved our current ICT system IT for quality monitoring, management and efficiency.



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1. Legal counseling and policy advocacy

In terms of legal counseling: In 2024, ACDC provided consultation for approximately 1.100 queries of persons with disabilities in more than 25 provinces and cities (including Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Ha Noi, Quang Tri, Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Kon Tum, Binh Dinh, Ho Chi Minh City, etc.) in many different forms. The counseling content spanned a wide range of topics in welfare allowance as the highest frequency, followed by loans, land law, education - vocational training, social insurance, health insurance - social insurance, labor - employment, etc.

In terms of policy advocacy: In 2024, ACDC conducted research; commented and recommended amendments, supplements, completion and integration of policies on persons with disabilities for 02 draft legislations including the draft Law on Employment and draft Law on amending and supplementing several articles of the Law on Health Insurance.

Additionally, ACDC commented and provided technical support to some following drafts:

01 Draft Set of indicators to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

01 Draft Document on replicating the independent living model in Thua Thien Hue province

02 National draft report including

the draft report on issues related to Vietnam's first report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the request of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and the draft Report of Vietnam on the impacts of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups

In addition, ACDC participated in over ten workshops and discussion sessions to contribute ideas and recommendations for integrating many policies to ensure the rights and legitimate interests of persons with disabilities in various fields such as health insurance, gender equality, human trafficking prevention, employment, legal aid, propaganda, dissemination, and legal education.



In particular, some of the comments of ACDC related to issues of ensuring the rights and legitimate interests of persons with disabilities have been considered and incorporated by the Drafting Agency, adding them to a number of policies and regulations in the draft Law on Employment (amended), expected to be approved at the 9th Session (May 2025), notably the following contents:

(i) Supplement the subjects "people in households directly raising and caring for persons with extremely significant disabilities; people raising and caring for persons with extremely significant disabilities" to be able to borrow capital to support job creation, maintain and expand employment with preferential interest rates.

(ii) Supplement the subjects "persons with disabilities; people in households directly raising and caring for persons with extremely significant disabilities; people raising and caring for persons with extremely significant disabilities" to the group of subjects given priority to participate in public employment policies.

(iii) Supplement persons with disabilities to the vulnerable and special groups in the labor registration information fields, etc.



2. Event “Job Fair for Persons with Disabilities: Opportunities for Everyone”



The event “Job Fair for Persons with Disabilities” took place in Hue City on December 20, 2024 with the attendance of 132 participants. The event also drew 19 units, including corporations, enterprises, vocational training and job placement agencies. . There was a wide range of different industries at the job fair, with many job opportunities for persons with disabilities in garments,

handicrafts, restaurants, hotels, medical services, computer technology, graphic design, and other fields. This is the province's inaugural event for persons with disabilities, as well as the kickoff for a series of job fairs in many other locations. Persons with disabilities were able to meet directly with businesses and learn about their preferred occupations. During the event, 19 persons with disabilities obtained work, creating prospects for a solid source of income for themselves and their families.

3. Operating “The Sunrise House – a safe and friendly address for women and girls with disabilities who are victims of violence in Hue City and provinces of Quang Tri and Quang Nam

Continuing the "Sunrise House" model in Quang Nam province, ACDC handed over 02 Sunrise Houses, a trusted and friendly address for women and girls with disabilities who are victims of violence in Hue City and Quang Tri in 2024.

“The SunriseHouse is a model that provides essential services to support those who are victims of gender-based violence. This is a pilot model with full physical accessibility for women and girls with disabilities who are victims of gender-based violence.”

In 2024, ACDC continued to support the operations of the SunriseHouse in Quang Tri, Hue City and Quang Nam. Through the support



of setting up hotlines and operational procedures along with communication activities, the Sunrise House in three provinces has started the online consultation via hotlines since September 2024. During the period from September 2024 to December 2024, with technical support from the ACDC, the Sunrise House has provided consultation and information to 59 women with disabilities in three provinces. Three media reports and more than 1,600 media products (1,100 leaflets, 500 fans) were produced to introduce and promote support services for victims of gender-based violence provided by Nursing Centers and Social Work Centers in three provinces/cities.



4. Developing Rehabilitation and Home-based Care Activities for Persons with Disabilities

Since 2022, the activities of providing rehabilitation services and home-based care for persons with disabilities have continued to be deployed and completed by ACDC. The activities include two types of services: home-based rehabilitation and home-based care for persons with disabilities.

Home-based rehabilitation service for persons with disabilities was provided by medical staff with expertise in rehabilitation, such as doctors, bachelors/technicians of rehabilitation, and nurses working at the Department of Rehabilitation & Traditional Medicine of 13 district health centers and provincial rehabilitation hospitals in three provinces of Quang Nam, Hue City and Quang Tri. Health practitioners at health stations in 144 communes of 13 district health centers in Quang Nam province, Hue City, and Quang Tri provided home-based care services for persons with disabilities. Home-based rehabilitation and care services were supported and monitored by a multidisciplinary team of



doctors to ensure output quality. The multidisciplinary team of doctors is composed of rehabilitation doctors, rehabilitation bachelors/technicians, and highly qualified nurses from provincial rehabilitation hospitals and district health centers.

In 2024, 62 provincial/district health workers and 316 commune health workers provided rehabilitation and home-based care to persons with disabilities. As a consequence, 1,276

persons with disabilities and their families received instruction in rehabilitation and home care techniques. Throughout rehabilitation and home care training, 96% of persons with disabilities reported improved health and mobility in daily activities.

5. Developing livelihood models

In 2024, ACDC developed livelihood models for 45 households in Hue City and provinces of Quang Tri and Quang Nam. The activity is within the framework of the Inclusion 1 project, with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

45 households with disabilities were selected after a survey of their livelihood activities and the development potential of some livelihood activities. Through the survey, 45 households were supported to develop separate and personalized livelihood development plans based on the capacity and economic status of each household. As a consequence, 9 groups of livelihood models were implemented, including: grocery;



chicken raising; tailoring; makeup service including hair cutting and shampooing; traditional embroidery; peanut oil pressing; hand-made pot making; electrical repair; photocopying - printing wedding invitations.

In 2024, ACDC provided initial support for means of production and guidance for persons with disabilities and households having persons with disabilities in their homes. According to the assessment, awareness of livelihood activities and participation of persons with disabilities in household livelihood development changed positively. Individual consultation activities for each household by livelihood experts contributed to improving capacity, knowledge and skills in household livelihood development.



Mr. Ngo Van Khanh - Thuy Duong Ward, Hue City shared: *“Before the project supported me, I was just staying at home and had no jobs. My mother was also a housewife, and most of my family income came from my father, who worked as a local bricklayer and had an unsteady job. Since the project helped me, I've changed a lot and have been able to participate in the majority of the activities since the grocery store opened. After receiving the project's initial supplies, my family purchased additional items, and the store has now provided me and my family with some revenue. I'd like to appreciate the initiative for the project encouragement, and I plan to continue this activity in the future.”*

Ms Le Thi Diem Phuong - Duy Xuyen district, Quang Nam province said: *“Before receiving project support, I was unsure about my future and didn't know what I should do to earn a living and support my family. When I acquired the sewing machine, shelves, ironing board, and so on, I felt like I had a real “tailor shop”; this is a career that satisfies my passion while also providing a more reliable source of income for me and my family. I feel thrilled, joyful, and grateful for the project's support. I am currently receiving products from factories that produce pillows and purses... to make at home. I am learning and working to enhance my skills, and I hope I will become increasingly proficient soon.”*



The development of a personalized livelihood model, tailored to the needs and capacities of each individual with disabilities, has yielded promising early results. Persons with disabilities have clearly demonstrated and improved their engagement in livelihood activities. Many of the households that participate in the livelihood model have seen their economies transform and progressively stabilize. With initial success, ACDC will continue to apply the livelihood model, which has the potential to be scaled up in the community.

2024 TITLES AND AWARDS

Certificate of Merit No. **1730/QD-UBND** dated July 19, 2024 of the Chairman of the People's Committee of Quang Nam province for "Having outstanding achievements in social work, charity and humanitarian work contributing to the development of Quang Nam province".

Certificate of Merit No. **2270/QD-UBND** dated August 22, 2024 of the Chairman of the People's Committee of Thua Thien Hue province for "Having made many contributions to the implementation of the project to support persons with disabilities in Thua Thien Hue province for the period 2021 - 2024"

Thank-you letter from the Vietnam Physical Therapy Association for being "the Gold sponsor for the second Vietnam Physical Therapy Scientific Conference held in Hanoi on June 16, 2024"

Thank-you letter from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) dated January 31, 2024 for long-term support in carrying out humanitarian efforts in Vietnam

Certificate of Merit No. **2060/QD-UBND** dated August 22, 2024 of the Chairman of the People's Committee of Quang Tri province on "Having many achievements in caring for persons with disabilities, Agent Orange victims and children in difficult circumstances in Quang Tri province, period 2021 - 2024"

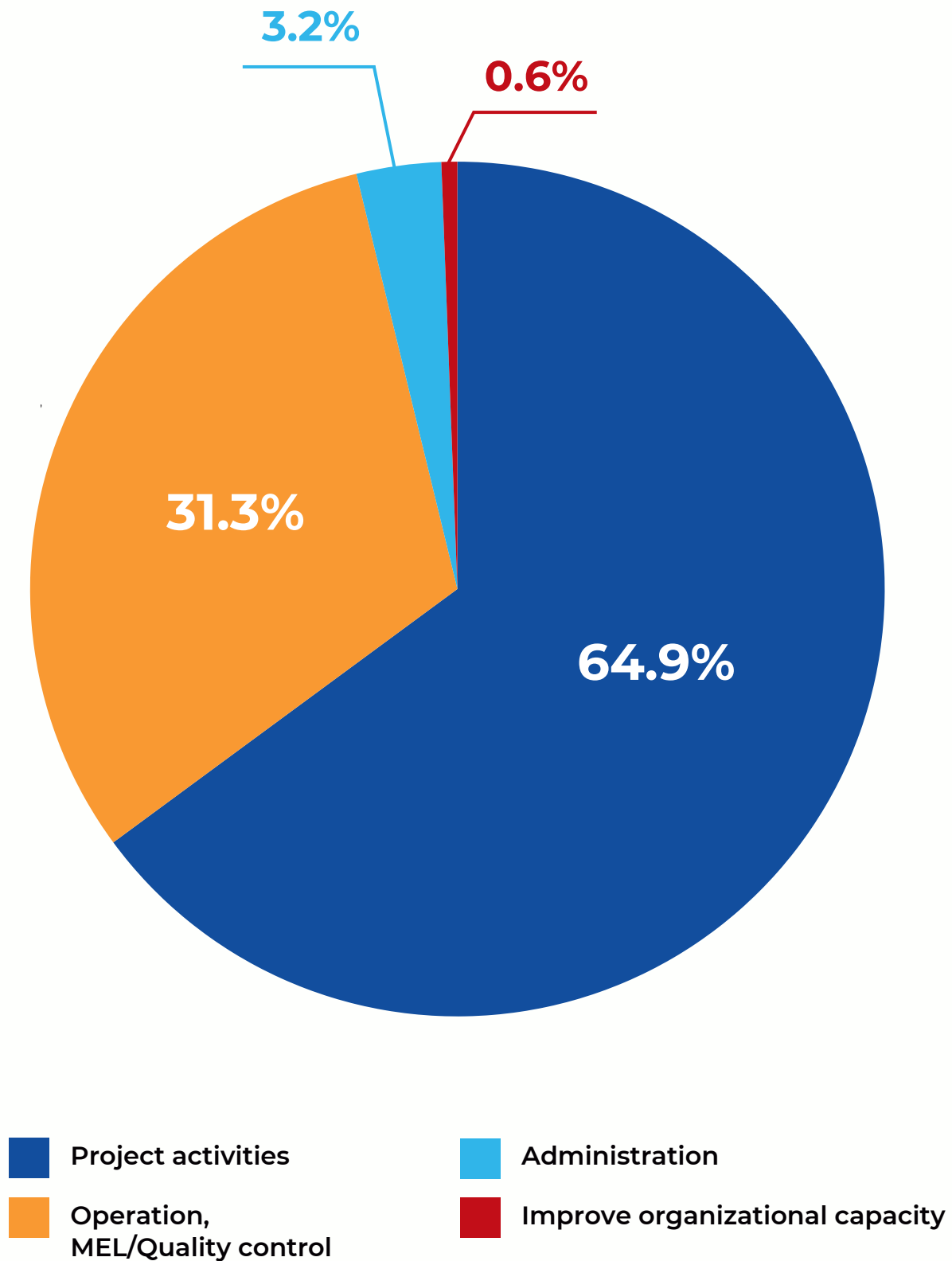
Recognition of the Golden Heart on August 12, 2024 of the "For the Poor" Fund Mobilization Committee of Quang Tri province for "Having made many contributions to social security activities in Quang Tri province in 2024"

Certificate of the Organizing Committee for the Establishment of the Vietnam Association of the Deaf on September 28, 2024 on "Contributing to the success of the Hearing with Eyes 7 Event"



FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Allocation Table 2024:



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