



actionaid

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

**ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS
FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

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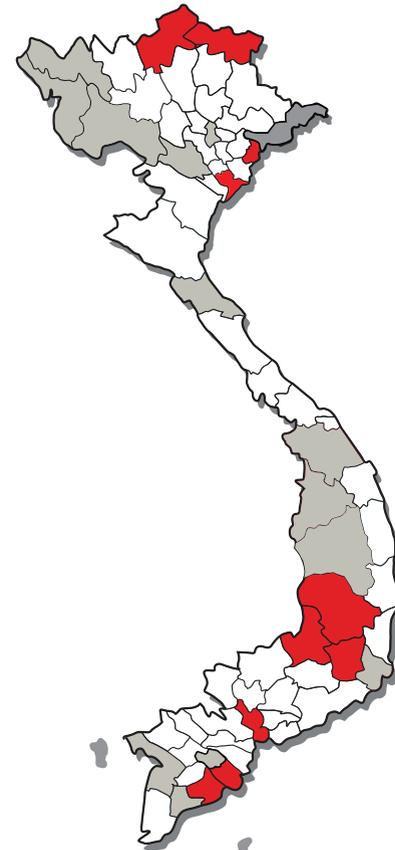
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-  Women
-  Children
-  People with disabilities
-  Migrants and ethnic minorities



In 2018, ActionAid Vietnam (AAV) continued to work closely with partners and communities in 11 regions across the country to develop sustainable livelihoods, build safe living environments and workplaces, and improve quality of public services. AAV has also contributed substantively to international networks and campaigns for global social justice and sustainable development.





Vision

A just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity.



Mission

To achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication by working with people living in poverty and exclusion, their communities, people's organizations, activists and social movements



Values

- Mutual respect
- Equity and justice
- Integrity
- Solidarity with people living in poverty and exclusion
- Courage of conviction
- Independence
- Humility



MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Dear supporters, partners, communities and friends:

In 2018, ActionAid Vietnam launched the Country Strategy Paper 6 (CSP6). In the first year of the period 2018 – 2023, we encountered many difficulties in fundraising and programme implementation, as well as developing and reinventing the organisation. Confronting the challenges and turning them into opportunities, AAV has accomplished momentous achievements.

AAV has completed the Baseline Survey in all 11 Local Right Programmes (LRP) across the country, collected data from 4,522 households (18,703 people), and provided baseline information designing programmes and projects, and monitoring and assessing the implementation, results and impacts of the Programme Priorities and Organisation Development Priority in CSP 6.

2018 marks AAV's active participation in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) progress. We have brought the voice of the communities at risk of exclusion to the national and international platforms. Taking pride in the initial achievements, we continue to go with other civil society organisations in the forefront, ally with the global networks, collaborate with the governments and private sector to ensure No one Left Behind in the SDG progress.

AAV fights restlessly for climate justice and tax justice for the disadvantaged groups. As a member of the international networks and alliances, we have made substantial contributions to the campaigns for tax equity and supported the people to solve environmental problems as well as demand that multinational corporations should bear responsibility viz-a-viz communities affected by natural disasters and climate change.

CSP6 acknowledges the emerging targeted groups including migrant workers, and in 2018, we have strongly demonstrated this commitment. Pioneering to end gender-based violence in factories and ensure social rights for women migrant workers, we have successfully mobilised the interest and action of the public, authorities at all levels, and stakeholders in implementing the rights of those marginalised in urban areas.

2018 is considered the first year of CSP, on the journey forwards arise challenges and obstacles; still we believe that with the solidarity from you, our colleagues, partners and communities, we will definitely reach the destination, contributing to advancing human rights for social justice.

Yours sincerely,

Hoang Phuong Thao
Country Director



GLOBAL CONTEXT AND OUR ACTIONS

SDG progress and the participation of civil society

In 2018, Vietnam presented the Voluntary National Review on SDG implementation at the United Nations' High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). Representing the Vietnam's civil society organisations (CSOs), Ms. Hoang Phuong Thao, AAV's Country Director called for the attention of the governments of Vietnam and other nations to:

- protect natural environment
- fulfill gender equality
- reduce/challenge economic and social inequity for workers in the informal sector, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities

and proposed that Vietnam needs to:

- finalise the SDGs indicators, particularly for the marginalised groups
- institutionalise the roles of CSOs in Vietnam's SDG process.



The project "**Leave No One Behind**" was implemented in 5 countries (India, Bangladesh, Kenya, Nepal, and Vietnam) aiming at bringing the marginalised groups to the centre of the SDGs process:

- analysed the gaps in SDGs data on the vulnerable/marginalised groups
- developed a research on the involvement of the vulnerable/marginalised groups in the SDG process in Vietnam to inform about activities of policy advocacy



Vietnam furthered its participation in international trade and investment agreements (The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement and the EU-Vietnam Investment Protection Agreement, etc.), which continues to bring about major changes in the socio-economic situation, especially:

- Labour and union: changes in the regulations on employment and labour relations, working conditions of workers, and work of workers' union
- Tax and non-tax: tax and non-tax instruments for export/import commodities can negatively affect the disadvantaged groups

Due to Brexit, the United Kingdom will need to consider signing/negotiating new trade agreements with various countries including Vietnam. This brings opportunities for negotiation on trade-related issues and cooperation priorities.



Women workers in factories are adversely affected by international trade and investment agreements



Vietnam Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc visited AAV's exhibition at the launching event of "Safety Year for Women and Children"



Demanding Tax Justice for women and disadvantage groups

In this context, ActionAid Vietnam advocated for workers' rights:

- strengthen the cooperation with government agencies and CSOs to advocate for revising the Labour Code, particularly pressing on safe working conditions, against labour exploitation and sexual harassment at workplace
- research and advocate to include the contents on labour rights, migrant workers and gender equality in trade into the next trade agreements to ensure the rights of these groups
- participate in different UK Parliament Committee inquiries concerning trade fairness, taxation, and climate change (Vietnam case)

The complex development of natural disasters and adverse climatic conditions had severe impacts on the life and production of people, especially those in the mountainous areas, highlands, and the Mekong Delta.

Domestically, ActionAid Vietnam supported to build capacity for the community and develop sustainable livelihood models that are resilient to climate change. On the international scale, AAV actively participated in campaigns for climate justice for the affected communities, discussed in regional and international forums about issues due to the use of fossil fuels and the environmental damages caused by mining companies.

Industrial revolution 4.0 and application in development work

The industrial revolution 4.0 takes place robustly with the core elements including Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, and Big Data. AAV progressively applies information technology to all activities:

- Digitising governance and organisational operations
- Management of local programmes
- Equipping the community representatives – the agents of change – with tools to address their problems



ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

PERIOD: 2018 – 2023

CSP6 AND FINDINGS OF BASELINE STUDY

3 Programme Priorities:



Improve people's capacity to build safe communities, and adapt to climate change and disasters with alternative sustainable livelihoods



Promote grassroots democracy to advance people's rights to gender responsive public services



Support partners, communities and organizations with practical capacity to advance social justice

3 Organisational Development Priorities:



Stabilize and diversify our funding base, and build our organizational profile to mobilize public involvement in social change



Continue to strengthen organisational governance and build an agile, committed and professional team



Invigorate the management system to improve organizational effectiveness and efficiency and monitoring, evaluation and measurement of change, and increase our own accountability and transparency



Baseline Study

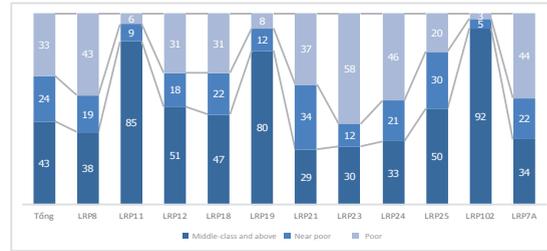
Conducted at the beginning of the period 2018 – 2023, the Baseline Study provided information on (1) Results of CSP5 implementation in the period 2012 – 2017, (2) Current situation of issues identified in CSP6 in the LRP; (3) Areas to prioritise during the implementation of CSP6, and (4) Recommendations for effective cooperation between AAV and partners to ensure the successful implementation of CSP6.



Some major findings: *

Among the total of 4,522 surveyed households (18,703 individuals):

- 33% of the households are poor and 24% are near poor
- Main income sources: cultivation (50%), wages (45%) and livestock keeping (34%)
- 40% of households' daily earning fails to cover expenses
- Illiteracy rates are high in Quan Ba district, Ha Giang province (36.5%); Thong Nong district, Cao Bang province (19.4%); Krong No district, Dak Nong province (13%), and Krong Bong district, Dak Lak province (16%)



	Theft	Robbery	Fight	Rape of women, children, PwDs	Physical violence	Mental violence	Economic violence
LRP8	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
LRP11	1.2	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
LRP12	1.3	0.5	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
LRP18	1.3	0.2	1.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
LRP19	1.2	0.4	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
LRP21	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
LRP23	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
LRP24	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
LRP25	1.6	0.2	1.1	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1
LRP102	0.9	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
LRP7A	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0

Rates: 0 – 3: 0 = no incidence, 3 = frequent incidence

* Source: CSP6 Baseline Study 2017 - 2018

- Gender-based violence at concerning level

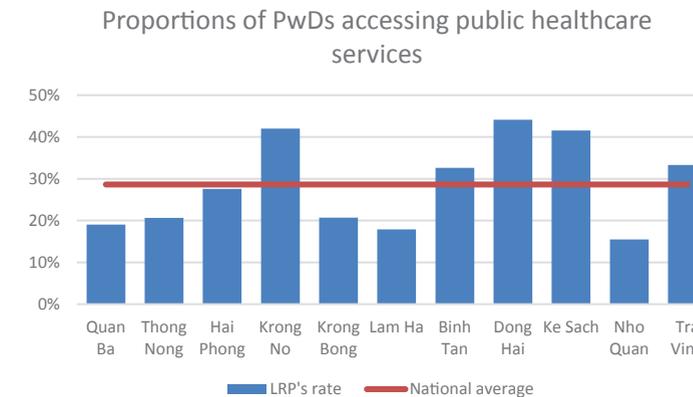
"Despite being beaten by my husband, I cannot report him. If he gets fined, I have to pay for it from family's budget. We live on crab fishing and day-wage, thus can't afford paying fine. When he beats me, it can't be helped." - Group discussion at LRP25

- The community is severely affected by natural disasters, but its preparedness and resilience are low

	LRP7A	LRP25	LRP12	LRP18	LRP19	LRP21	LRP23	LRP24
Abnormal changes in weather	1.7		2.0	2.0	2.0	2.2	1.7	1.6
Storms	1.5	1.7	2.3	2.0	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.6
Floods	2.1	1.5	2.3	2.4	2.0		1.8	1.8
Tides	0.6					2.0	2.0	2.2
Droughts	1.8	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.1		1.4	1.7
Prolonged periods of dangerous excessive heat	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0		1.9	1.9

Rates: 0 – 3: 0 = no impact, 3 = serious impact

- Very low accessibility of people with disabilities (PwDs) to public healthcare services



The Baseline Study's findings build the ground for AAV and partners to develop programme strategies for period 2018–2023 and work closely with Aid for social protection program Foundation Vietnam (AFV) and Community Knowledge Center (CKC) – AAV's strategic partners to implement the objectives set out in CSP6.

* Source: CSP6 Baseline Study 2017 - 2018

ORGANISATION REINVENTION



New structure to embark on the new Journey

Entering a new phase with CSP6 (2018 – 2023), ActionAid Vietnam is going through a transformation, encompassing the development of a structure to ensure the implementation of the new strategy. Moreover, the domestic context changes rapidly with higher pressure on political engagement, fundraising and programme implementation. Therefore, the organisation needs innovation to enhance work transparency and effectiveness.

Besides, AAV has become an Associate of the ActionAid Federation since 2015 and is planned to become an Affiliate. The Affiliation journey requires major changes in the culture, behaviour, procedure and system of ActionAid Vietnam.

The above conditions set forth the need to restructure the organisation to build a team of connected, agile and creative members, capable for implementing their missions in the next period.

Process

- Develop new organisational structure in accordance with AAI Federation's direction and CSP6's programme methodology
- Reposition and recruit staff to match new job requirements
- Enhance the capacity of managers and staff to adapt, embrace and master changes, to be creative and agile in the new conditions, to create and realise opportunities.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY 1

“Improve people’s capacity to build safe communities, and adapt to climate change and disasters with alternative sustainable livelihoods”

Efforts to build safe communities for women and girls

Inheriting the results of the previous period, in 2018, ActionAid Vietnam supported the establishment of **13 Safe Community Groups** with **150 members** and **8 Local Activist Groups** Against Sexual Harassment (LAGASH) with **40 members** as agents that promote activities and campaigns to end gender-based violence (including sexual harassment). Innovative communications events on safe city/safe community attracted over **4,000 people** who learnt about gender-based violence prevention and self-defence techniques, joined the voices demanding social action to end violence, and advocated to improve public services for the safety of women and girls.



Music event Rhythm of Joy: “Proactively preventing and combating violence and abuse against women and children



#8for8 campaign on tax justice for women



1,386 buses and 86 waiting points are equipped with cameras to monitor sexual harassment – the result of two years of research and policy advocacy



Painting competition “Safe city for women and girls”



Communication on safe city, safe community for elementary students



Youth mobilisation “I care, I act, and you?” advocating to end gender-based violence



Ms. Pham Thi Hong Diem, Long Vinh,
Duyen Hai, Tra Vinh

“Since the project gave me the smartphone and instructions for using PFG application, my friends and I have been able to update information about our products on the Internet, making them known to many more consumers who then come to my house to buy them. I no longer have to bring them to the market or sell to traders, so my income is better and more stable.”

Building capacity and empowering communities to participate in natural resources management and sustainable livelihoods development

After nearly four years of implementation in five LRPs, the project ***“People Participation in improvement of forest governance and poverty alleviation in Vietnam” (PFG)*** funded by the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced successful completion with profound impacts. The project has improved the lives of about ***230,000 direct*** and indirect beneficiaries. More than ***2,500 people*** have improved their knowledge about forest management, and participatory planning. ***170 people*** have been supported with capacity and tools to apply information technology in production and forest protection and development.



*Seedling Nursery for forest plantation
in Thong Nong District, Cao Bang Province*



Mr. Vo Tan Hoang

“The model of community-based timber processing factory brought about added value to our timber products. From now on we gain more profit from forests, become more connected with their plantation and protection”.



Mr. Vo Tan Hoang - Chairman of Hoang Lam Forest Management Cooperative in Krong Bong District, Dak Lak Province

Forests in the project areas are effectively managed and protected by local groups' and cooperatives' active members. These members have been trained and encouraged to participate in planning and implementing forest protection and development, thereby not only improving the environment but also bringing about practical economic benefits to local people.

One cycle of the afforestation models, for instance the acacia plantation, is averagely 5 years. It is expected that each hectare of acacia planted in 2018 with the initial investment of VND 6,000,000 (nearly USD 260) will yield about 35m³ in 2023, valuing approximately VND 42,000,000 (about USD 1,800). In 10 years, the revenue will reach VND 126,000,000 (about USD 5,400) per hectare.



*Community Development Group
in Da Thong Commune, Thong Nong District Cao Bang Province*



Ms. Tran Thi Be Tu (An My, Ke Sach, Soc Trang) shared about the damage caused by heavy rain and landslides

“Before joining the DRR Group, I did not know much about disaster prevention, my house was as much damaged as other houses in the village. Now I better understand and can well protect my family and property. Seeing the good results, my neighbors get attentive when I announce the imminent disaster and follow my advice and guidance”.

Adaptation to natural disasters and climate change at community level - small actions, big impacts

Joining the nation's efforts to respond to climate change and extreme weather conditions, the project **“Building communities to adapt to natural disasters and climate change in the Mekong Delta region, Vietnam”** has built a solid foundation for far-reaching and sustainable changes on a large scale. More than **400 community members** (especially ethnic minority women and youth) have established **51 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** Groups and participated in training on disaster risk prevention and mitigation skills. Local governments and people were connected and coordinated in an effective mechanism to respond to natural disasters and climate change. The project was implemented by Aid for social protection program Foundation Vietnam (AFV) with support from Bread for the World (BfdW) and ActionAid Vietnam.



A broken floor due to landslide in Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province



Ms. Thach Thi Huong, Hamlet 1, Ward 9, Tra Vinh City

“Applying this model, I learnt that using chemicals on vegetables was very harmful to the health of farmers and affected the community. Therefore, my family decided to grow organic vegetables to protect ourselves and the consumers, and not to pollute the environment”.

60 households in two targeted provinces (Soc Trang and Tra Vinh) participated in the sustainable livelihood model of organic vegetables farming in net houses. Vegetables are protected from strong winds and heavy rains, thus they can be planted all year round; farmers gain stable incomes every 2 months while in the past, they had no farming during the entire storm season. The net houses prevent pests; the vegetables are given organic fertilisers, hence causing no harm to farmers and consumers’ health as well as the environment, while improving soil quality. It is estimated that around **19,000 persons** will benefit from consuming safe vegetables; the lives of about **79,000 people** in the targeted communities and neighbouring areas will be improved thanks to reduced chemicals that are hazardous to people and the environment.



Net house organic vegetable production in Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province



Mr. Ly Tranh (41) in his organic vegetable farming in Thoi An Hoi Commune, Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province



Mr. Tranh’s wife and son enjoying the organic vegetable farming

In Ninh Binh province, people with disabilities (PWDs) are heavily affected by natural disasters and climate change, creating obstacles to their participation in community economic, social activities. Comprehending this situation, ActionAid Vietnam cooperated with CBM to provide financial and technical assistance for the project **"Promotion of disability inclusive and disaster prepared communities in Nho Quan district"**. AFV, with their expertise and experience in the above areas, continues to be AAV's strategic partner to implement this project.

"At the beginning, I wasn't sure whether I was able to build and run the vegetable model. However, participating in the training courses and the Disabled People's Organisation (DPOs) activities, I became more confident and motivated. From a small garden, I have scaled up and built the organic vegetable net house, plus I raise cows to improve the family livelihood. With the income from agriculture, my wife and I open and maintain a sewing workshop to support the unemployed women in the hamlet; people are very interested and supportive to the workshop. Many fellow farmers who used to see me as a disabled and poor person and rarely socialised with me, now often come and ask me for farming advice. I always help them enthusiastically so that they can too escape poverty."



Mr. Tran Quoc Huy in his vegetable garden in Ve Chua hamlet, Thach Binh Commune, Nho Quan District

In 2018, the disabled people in Nho Quan successfully established a district-level Disabled People's Organisation (DPOs), creating the space for more than 100 members to be connect and help each other in livelihoods, cultural and social activities. 28 households participated in a revolving fund model with the total budget of VND 199,600,000 to develop sustainable livelihood models to cope with natural disasters and climate change. Local people with disabilities also participated in training on the inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (iDRR) and shared their experiences to advocate for recognition and replication of the Framework to support communities of people with disabilities in other localities.



Ms. Bui Thi Nu in her wooden curtain production as alternative livelihoods in Ve Chua hamlet, Thach Binh Commune, Nho Quan District

"I received the support from the revolving fund at the very time of difficulties. I invested the money in cow rearing; now the cow has grown well and reproduced. This loan has helped my family greatly, I no longer have to borrow from relatives to afford my children's food and education. Seeing how I make a good living for the household, my husband now discusses the family issues with me instead making the decisions all by himself as he used to."

COMMUNITY UNITES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – THE RESULT OF PEOPLE’S EMPOWERMENT

The households in Nam Dam village (Quan Ba district, Ha Giang province) where Dao ethnic group constitute the majority come together to build a community-based tourism model- a comprehensive initiative that the households with different economic activities can participate in and benefit from. With the support of AAV, the community has established a cooperative, namely Quan Ba Taigoo (meaning Warmest greetings from Quan Ba), to coordinate the tourism activities in the village; formed 09 production groups (black-bone chicken raising, Dao ethnic embroidery, vegetable/fruit farming, medicinal herbs planting); and conducted specific skill training for the households in each group to develop their production and service delivery.



Training on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats analysis and production planning for households participating in Quan Ba Taigoo Tourism Cooperative



“Now I know how to introduce my village to tourists and guide tours, thanks to AAV!”



Formulating Code of Conduct in Tourism



Surveying possible options for trekking routes



PROGRAMME PRIORITY 2

“Promote grassroots democracy to advance people’s rights to gender responsive public services”

Empowering the community to lead the improvement of gender-responsive public services for people, especially ethnic minority women and youth.

Participating in the project "Civil society-led promotion of quality sexual and reproductive healthcare services", more than **600 community members** in Lam Ha district (Lam Dong Province) and Krong Bong district (Dak Lak Province) have established **30 Community Development Groups (CDGs)**; **2,159 people** have acquired the necessary knowledge, skills, and political space to lead the activities to improve sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH) services for the vulnerable marginalized ethnic minority women and youth.



Women and children are two of the priority groups at the Health Station of Ward 9, Tra Vinh City



Women, young people communicate to the community with drama, music, poetry and storytelling performances



Skills training for health workers on reproductive health care and gender in Krong Bong District, Dak Lak Province

Specifically, these CDGs have actively communicated to their communities about sexual and reproductive health (SRH) through creative methods, participated in surveys and provided information on the situation of SRH in the areas where they live, and dialogued with the authorities at various levels to advocate for the provision and advancement of public healthcare services.

Similarly, people in Ward 9 (Tra Vinh city) faced a shortage of quality healthcare facilities and services, especially for the poor, ethnic minorities, women and children. ActionAid Vietnam has cooperated with Child Fund Korea to substantially upgrade a health station in this community. The process of site selection, design, and construction has engaged the community and stakeholders, ensuring to meet the needs of the target groups. The station was launched into operation in November 2018.

The project will establish and transfer 2 clinics to direct managements of local people and hospital to ensure high quality SRH and gender responsive services can be easily accessed, meeting the needs of women groups and youth in these areas.



The voice of women workers, especially migrant workers, demanding the right to physical and mental protection at work.

This was a focus in ActionAid Vietnam's work in 2018 to realize one of the expected outcomes in CSP6, which is the full recognition and implementation of the right to decent work for workers, especially people with disability (PWDs), women and youth. Under the framework of project **"Initiative to End Sexual Harassment in the Garment Industry"** with the support of the Global Fund for Women, AAV has conducted a research on the awareness and situation of sexual harassment at 4 garment factories with the sample of 429 respondents. Based on the findings, the project has developed and implemented appropriate activities to ensure women workers' right to safe working environment that is free of sexual harassment and other forms of gender-based violence.



Establishing and training CDGs to prevent sexual harassment

Among the surveyed women workers, 53.5% had experienced or witnessed sexual harassment behaviours. In specific, 51.1% women workers in Hai Phong city and 31.7% in Ho Chi Minh city were catcalled; 22% and 23.8% in the respective areas were victims of vulgar comments about looks, costumes, or body parts. Yet, 42.4% of the victims chose to remain silent due to shame/guilt (87.4%) and fear that their honour/reputation will be negatively affected (75.2%).

The research findings were shared with nearly 1,000 people, officials of relevant agencies, and CSOs through communication events in Hanoi and Hai Phong. This created a large impact to raise awareness about the reality of gender violence against women and girls and call for action to fight sexual harassment at work and in public.

Workers and managers of partner factories have cooperated with ActionAid Vietnam to develop effective mechanisms against gender-based violence. Typically, ActionAid Vietnam has supported to establish the Legal Advice groups that provide free 24/7 legal support for workers in the garment factories in case of sexual harassment.

In addition, AAV organized training on sexual harassment prevention for factory managers and helped them to develop and implement regulations to end gender-based violence.

The long-term impact of these activities is to ensure safe and decent working conditions for women workers, especially those immigrated from other areas.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY 3

“Support partners, communities and organizations with practical capacity (skills, knowledge, space and networking) to advance social justice”.

With CSP6, ActionAid Vietnam identifies one of the three Programme Priorities aiming to ensure that partners, communities, and organisations have strong and practical capacity to well implement the results set for period 2018 – 2023 and the long-term goals in the successive strategies.

In November 2018, leaders of 11 LRPs’ Management participated AAV-AFV Annual Partnership Meeting – the space for:

- partners to better understand CSP6 and agree on the strategic directions for the period 2018 – 2013;
- AAV and partners to share the results and challenges in programme implementation; and
- AAV and partners to discuss and agree on the coordination mechanism in the following year.



Annual Partnership Meeting (APM) 2018 in Cao Bang province

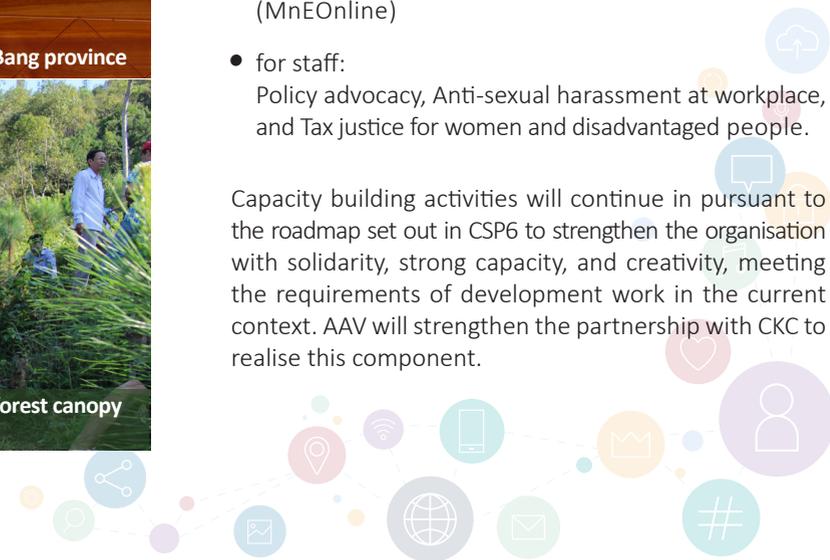


APM participants visiting the organic ginger under the forest canopy in Thong Nong District, Cao Bang Province

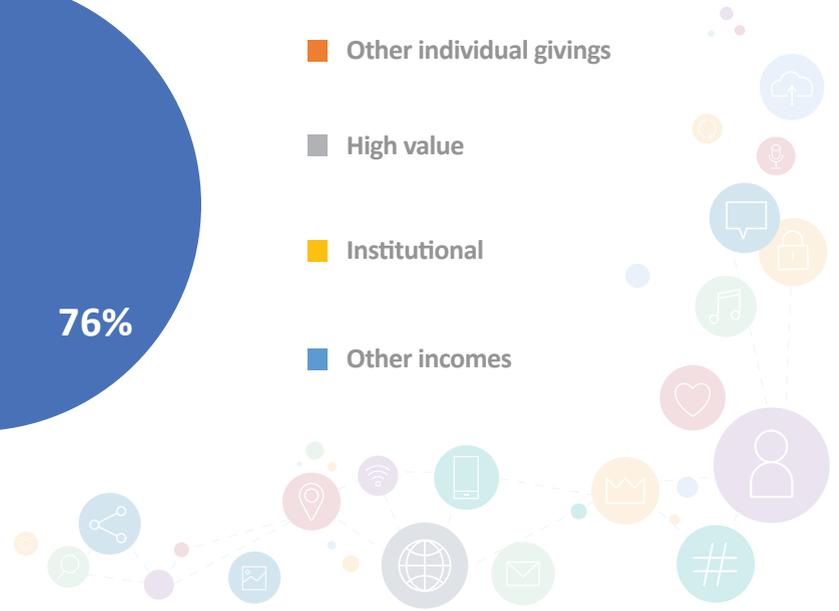
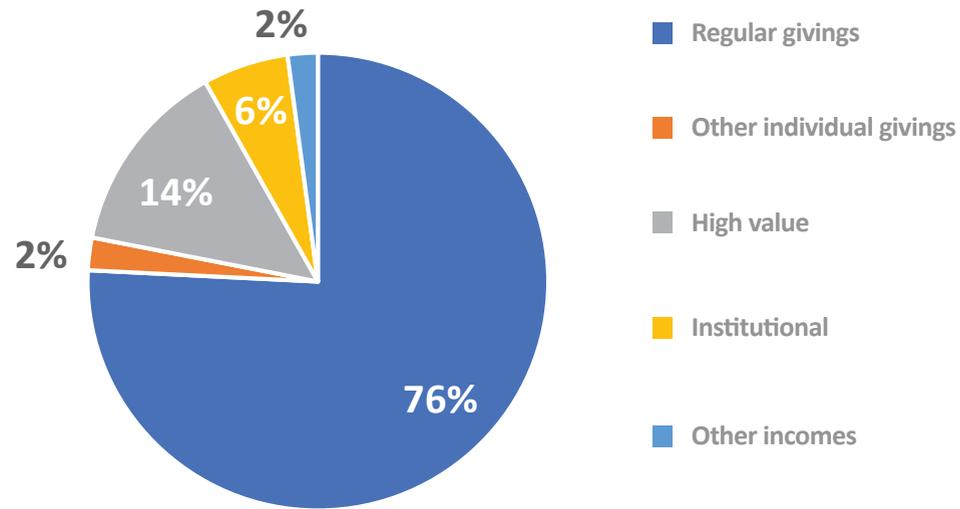
An essential requirement for AAV’s operation is that its staff and partners comprehend and comply with the policies, approach and working principles of the organisation. In 2018, in addition to the capacity building at local levels, AAV conducted the training courses:

- for partners:
Finance Management Policy, Child Sponsorship Policy, and online Monitoring and Evaluation System (MnEOnline)
- for staff:
Policy advocacy, Anti-sexual harassment at workplace, and Tax justice for women and disadvantaged people.

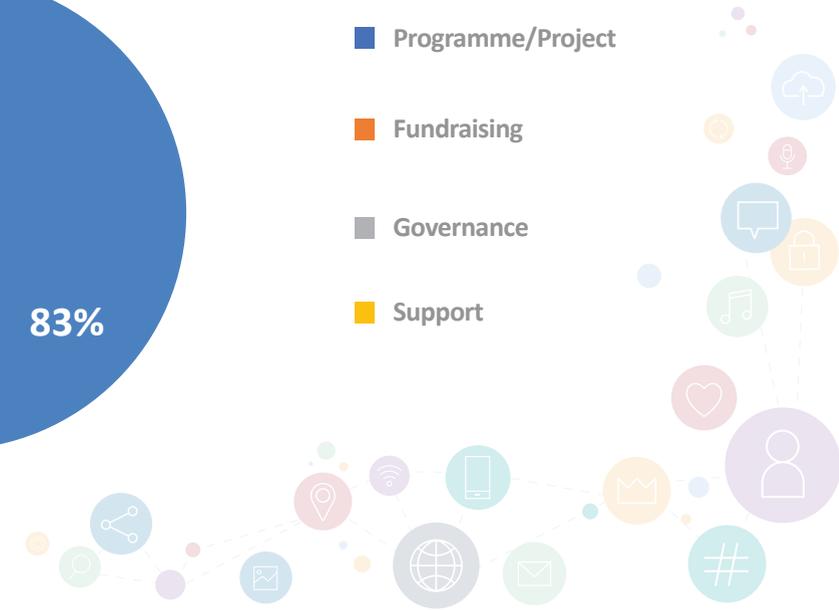
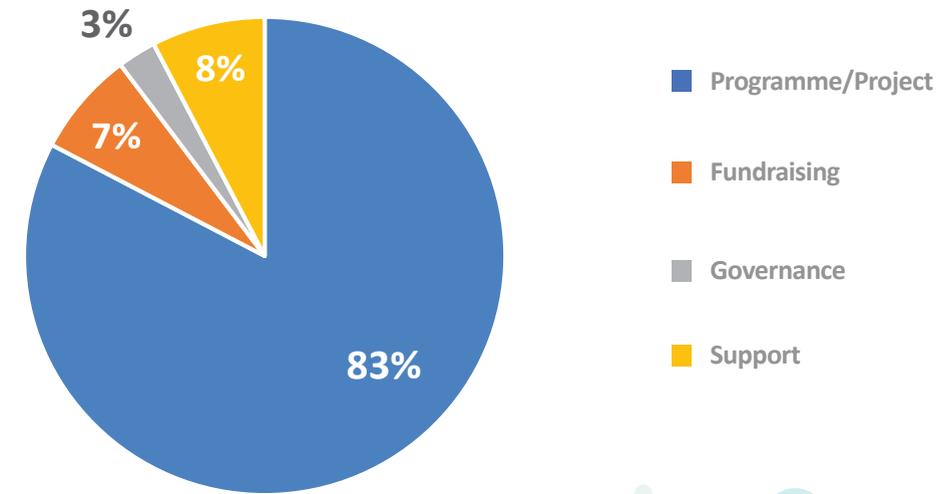
Capacity building activities will continue in pursuant to the roadmap set out in CSP6 to strengthen the organisation with solidarity, strong capacity, and creativity, meeting the requirements of development work in the current context. AAV will strengthen the partnership with CKC to realise this component.



INCOMES IN 2018



EXPENDITURES IN 2018



As stated in CSP6, ActionAid Vietnam continues to promote its strengths in implementing innovative and effective community-based solutions with the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA). In 2018, with the project "Building a community to adapt to climate change in Tra Vinh city", Forum Syd and ActionAid Sweden has committed US\$ 300,000 for the women-led groups to undertake sustainable and resilient initiatives in urban areas. Applying information technology in monitoring and improving public services on clean water supply and sewage water treatment, the project will increase the resilience to drought and salinity of **460 households (1,400 women and 600 men)**. The results of the project will be used in policy discussion with stakeholders and to mobilise local authorities to replicate participatory tools in enhancing accountability.

In diversifying funding sources, AAV also mobilises resources from the business sector. Through Child Fund Korea, AAV has successfully mobilised funds from Kyowon Co. Ltd. and KT&G (Korea) with a total budget of over US\$ 250,000. This support will be used to build kindergartens and clinics in Binh Tan (Ho Chi Minh City) and Hai Phong City. These projects foster AAV's cooperation with businesses, mobilizing their contributions to addressing sustainable development issues.

We are grateful for organisations and businesses for joining hands to support the vulnerable and marginalised communities to address issues of livelihoods, environment, and improve public service quality. Our communities are building a truly better and more just life thanks to your noble support.



Net house organic vegetable production in Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province



Tree planting - sustainable livelihood for women in Tra Vinh City



Beekeeping livelihood option in Thong Nong District. Cao Bang Province

Sustainable development goals (SDGs):

In December 2018 and January 2019, the project Leave No One Behind carried out research on Sustainable Development Goals 10.2 to empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic or other status. The research was conducted in Ha Giang and Thua Thien Hue provinces with the aim to assess the status of participation of the disadvantaged groups, contribute to the database for monitoring and evaluating the SDG progress in Vietnam, and at the same time provide a method to bring the voices of people into this process. The research findings will be discussed with CSOs and other stakeholders as a premise for a potential scale-up, shared with countries and organisations in international platforms, and linked up with the HLPF 2019 to review the global SDG process. The role of grassroots communities and CSOs in implementing and monitoring SDG implementation will also be affirmed with governments.



Mother and child of Dao ethnic minority in Ha Giang Province



Landslide and erosion due to sea level rising in Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province

Communities build capacity to adapt to climate change

With the success of community-based climate change and disaster response mechanisms, the Disaster Risks Reduction (DRR) groups and women-led CDGs at grassroots level will be widely replicated. People, especially women, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities, will participate in training on skills to prevent and cope with natural disasters, emergency relief and communication for their communities. In particular, they will learn and practice planning skills, Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA), Economic Literacy & Budget Accountability for Governance (ELBAG) tools, to enhance their voice and participation in planning and budgeting and monitoring the implementation of local DRR activities. People will widely apply information technologies, software in staple food production making it more resilient to climate change. The softwares include weather monitoring and disaster warning (PDG) or water purification using solar energy.

People develop sustainable livelihoods

In 2019, the community groups currently implementing livelihood models will coordinate with ActionAid Vietnam to develop these models into value chains. Specifically, the households will jointly establish cooperatives and, with the support from AAV: register for operation and form their organisation, enhance production skills and product quality, promote connection with companies and markets for consumption, and register for branding and certification under appropriate standards. Through these cooperatives, collective negotiation power of the poor farmers will be improved. Successful livelihood models will be shared at domestic and foreign forums to replicate further.



Net house organic vegetable production in Ke Sach District, Soc Trang Province



Coconut can be another option for women to have a livelihood under climate change impacts

Decent work for women, especially those in informal sector

ActionAid Vietnam will continue working with its partners and communities to promote grassroots democracy to ensure the rights and interests of women, especially women migrant workers and those who work in the informal sector. Key activities for 2019 include: (i) conducting research on the impact of free trade on women migrant workers; (ii) organising/participating in campaigns on tax justice, anti-sexual harassment, social rights and public services for women; (iii) broad communication and advocacy for revising the Code of Labour and policies on social rights; and (iv) develop guiding documents and mechanisms for prevention of sexual harassment at work and among young people; (v) building/upgrading grassroots health and education facilities to provide high quality services to people, especially the targeted groups; and (vi) replicating the community's use of information technology to monitor and manage public services.

Promotion of strategic partnership

In 2019, AAV continues working with AFV to develop and implement the programmes and projects at national and local levels. AFV is a social organisation in Vietnam working in the most remote areas to support the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to eliminate poverty and discrimination. AFV has been cooperating with AAV to accompany the community in building and maintaining sustainable economic solutions that are resilient to natural disasters and climate change, as well as advocating for the rights of women and female migrant workers. With this partnership, AFV can apply AAV's expertise and experience to successfully accomplish the priorities in CSP6; while AFV builds up their strengths and extends the influence on both the national and international platforms.

AAV identifies CKC as the strategic partner for research and capacity building components. As a creative education organisation that enhances the capacity of individuals and institutions working for the benefits of the disadvantage groups, CKC has succeeded in many studies, workshops, and training courses in development assistance fields as per AAV's requests. In 2019, CKC will create and carry out a comprehensive capacity development plan for AAV's staff and partners following the direction of CSP6.

Regarding fundraising, besides fostering the connections with individual sponsors, AAV will promote resource mobilisation from institutions and businesses. Particularly, partnership with the private sector will be the focus of 2019, through which AAV brings people's needs closer to corporates', while companies fulfil their social responsibilities, contributing to the global sustainable development.



Children in Thong Nong District, Cao Bang Province

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