



Danish Vietnamese Association Friendship & Development

6 Nattergalevej - DK-2400 Copenhagen NV - Denmark

Phone (+45) 38 86 07 01 - Office hours Tu. And Th. 1-5 pm

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E-mail address: info@davifo.dk - Homepage: www.davifo.dk

Information about Danish Vietnamese Association

Danish Vietnamese Association (DVA) promotes friendship, understanding, co-operation and activities between Vietnam and Denmark. We inform about the country and organize public meetings about Vietnam and were established in January 1976. We also organise support to Vietnam through national charities (see below) and government funded development aid projects. Our charities has helped with nearly 1.4 US\$, and 7 finished development projects was financed by Danida with 4, 8 mio. US\$, in total 6.2 mio. US\$,

Our magazine "VietNam Ajour" is published four times a year in Danish with on 24 pages. The journal brings news and articles about development, economy, human rights, culture and travelling. Each issue contains news about our charities and development projects.

Our website www.davifo.dk has news and information about Vietnam in Danish. We also have links to news in English, and on Agent Orange in Vietnam we have links to news and documentation. We have made a documentary film about our health projects, published in both Vietnamese and English, and have been shown on both Danish and Vietnamese national television.

DVA has close to 450 members, and a board of 14 members, meeting at six times a year. Unpaid volunteers do all the DVA work in Denmark and we have no resident representative in Vietnam, but visiting volunteers working on projects in Vietnam are subsidised. Membership (including the magazine) costs 195 Dkr. annually, reduced to 140 Dkr. for young people in the process of training/education, pensioners and people of limited means. Members of the same household costs 55 Dkr. Companies and organizations can be collective members for 600 Dkr.

Every year we arrange a Vietnamese Cultural day in February or March, with 45-minute lectures, workshops and exhibitions. The number of visitors was between 80-130. In 2010 we had a performance by zither player Thanh Thuy and her husband photographer Dang Hao.

Earlier we have arranged Tet Trung Thu Mid-Autumn festivals for over a decade, and in 2006 we arranged a concert with Thanh Lam, Nguyen Quoc Trung, Tung Doung and Niels Lan Doky in Copenhagen, with the Cultural Fund at the Danish Embassy in Hanoi sponsoring travel expenses. We have also arranged exhibitions for Vietnamese painters Ta Thi Than Tam and Le Thi Thu, supported by the Danish Centre for Culture and Development.

Charity "Hospital Equipment for Vietnam" from 1978

In 1978 we started the charity "Hospital Equipment for Vietnam", to collect money for medical equipment. From 1977 and until 2004 we also collected and send usable second-hand equipment, in total worth nearly 600.000 US\$. From 1979-2008 we send new equipment to Paediatric Hospital No.1 in Ho Chi Minh City. Living standards in Ho Chi Minh City has risen, so from 2009 we changed our support the province hospital in Bao Loc (Lang Dong II). The total amount donated until 2009 is 4.576.331 Dkr. So in total we have helped with Equipment for nearly 1, 4 US\$.

Health Projects 1991-2007 in Southern Vietnam

In the late 1980ties some experienced Danish Paediatrics and other Medical Doctors saw the possibilities for creating health projects in Vietnam together with Paediatric Hospital No.1 in Ho Chi Minh City, who are responsible for Paediatrics and Child Health in all of Southern Vietnam. In 1991 DVA was the first Danish NGO to start development work in Vietnam with a grant from Danida, Denmark's government funded development organization.

In 1991 we were granted 1.6 mio. Dkr. for the ARI Project (Acute Respiratory Infection) for a 3

5,85 DKKK = 1 US\$ = 19.227 Dong

year project, implemented through Paediatric Hospital No.1 in Ho Chi Minh City and 3 other provinces, followed by a phase 2 in 1994-1997 for 5 mio. Dkr. A Dengue fever-project 1997-2000 was financed by Danida with 2.7 mio. Dkr. also in four provinces.

IMCI (Integrated Management of Childhood Illness) was developed in 1992 by UNICEF and WHO, and concentrate on the five most deadly diseases respiratory infections, diarrhoea, malnutrition, and dengue fever. IMCI aims to reduce death, illness and disability, and to promote improved growth and development among children under five years. For 1998-2002 Danida granted 6 mio. Dkr. and in phase 2 for 2003-2006 are financed by Danida with 8.5 mio. Dkr.

These five projects have helped improve children's health in Southern Vietnam, and IMCI now is now implemented in more than 1 in 3-4 districts in Vietnam. The total amount for these health projects is over DKK 23, 8 mio. Dkr. (4 mio. US\$).

Project "Child Survival in Southern Vietnam 2009-2011"

Approved in Hanoi just before Christmas 2008 and with a Denmark government grant 6.1 mio. Dkr. (1.1 mill US\$) and running 3½ year. Project areas: Ho Chi Minh City and the three other southern provinces Lam Dong, Vinh Long and Dong Tap. The project will pilot under Vietnamese conditions a new WHO recommended approach to improve child survival that integrates neonatal survival packages and HIV/AIDS intervention with IMCI (Health for Children under 5). The activities will be home based, community based and health facility based health education and health intervention, leadership and community advocacy, training and technical expert consultancies.

Supporting Little Rose Warm Shelter in Ho Chi Minh City

In 2005 we started a new project in Ho Chi Minh City, supporting the girl shelter, Little Rose Warm Shelter (LRWS) under the administration of Ho Chi Minh Child Welfare Foundation (HCWF). Danida granted 1 mill. Dkr. (193.000 US\$) for a three-year project. The main goals of the project are to strengthen the rehabilitation capacity of the shelter by focusing on teacher's skills and the pedagogical methods, knowledge sharing, fundraising and English speaking skills. The shelter housed between 20 and 25 girls at the age of 8 to 16. They go to school and are given vocational training. In March 2006 the shelter had the honour of being visited by the Danish prince Joachim. In January 2009 we succeeded in getting additional 3 mio. Dkr. (578.000 US\$) from Danida for a second phase of the project. The second phase will, besides rehabilitation, focus on building capacity within the fields of prevention, advocacy and fundraising in both LRWS and HCWF.

Charity "Shelter collection" for children in difficult circumstances?

In 2007 we launched a new charity for the benefit of children in **difficult circumstances**. So far we have received donation around 200.000 Dkr. (nearly 40.000 US\$). The money donated to two shelters in HCMC under Ho Chi Minh Child Welfare Foundation (HCWF), but is open for applications from other shelters or Vietnamese organisations that support children with **special needs???**

PACODE project – helping Khmer minorities in An Giang and Soc Trang

Together with CARE Denmark and OVE (Danish Organisation for Renewable Energy) we participated in a five-year program for which Danida granted close to DKK 19 mill. (3.25 mill US\$). The project run from May 2005, and ended in May 2010, in eight communes in the An Giang and Soc Trang provinces in the Mekong Delta. The project was called the PACODE project (PARTicipatory COMMunity DEVELOPMENT) and aimed better the living conditions of especially the Khmer people. The project contained income-creating activities for the women, including a micro-credit scheme, and aimed to better the health, water/sanitation and energy situation in the communes, as well as the integration of the Khmer people in the Vietnamese society by encouraging the women to participate in the organisations such as the Women's Union. DVA and our partner Children Hospital No. 1 were responsible for the health part and 260 "village health volunteers" were chosen and received a yellow bike when they finished education. Our part was app. 3.5 mio. Dkr. (600,000 US\$).