

# 2005 Annual Report



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE  
VIETNAM**



**Ngo Quoc Dung**  
*Program Manager*



**Joanne Fairley**  
*Representative*



**Mai Thi Quynh Giao**  
*Finance & Administration Manager*



**Chu Tuyet Mai**  
*Executive Assistant/Translator*



**Nguyen Thi Lan Anh**  
*Administration Officer*



**Bui Hoang Ha**  
*Muong Te Project Assistant*



**Nguyen Thi Thanh Loc**  
*Finance Officer*



**Phung Thi Thu Phuong**  
*Program Assistant*



**Nguyen Hoang Sinh**  
*Driver*



**Nguyen Van Ty**  
*Watsan Officer*



**Nguyen Thi Hai Yen**  
*Program Assistant*



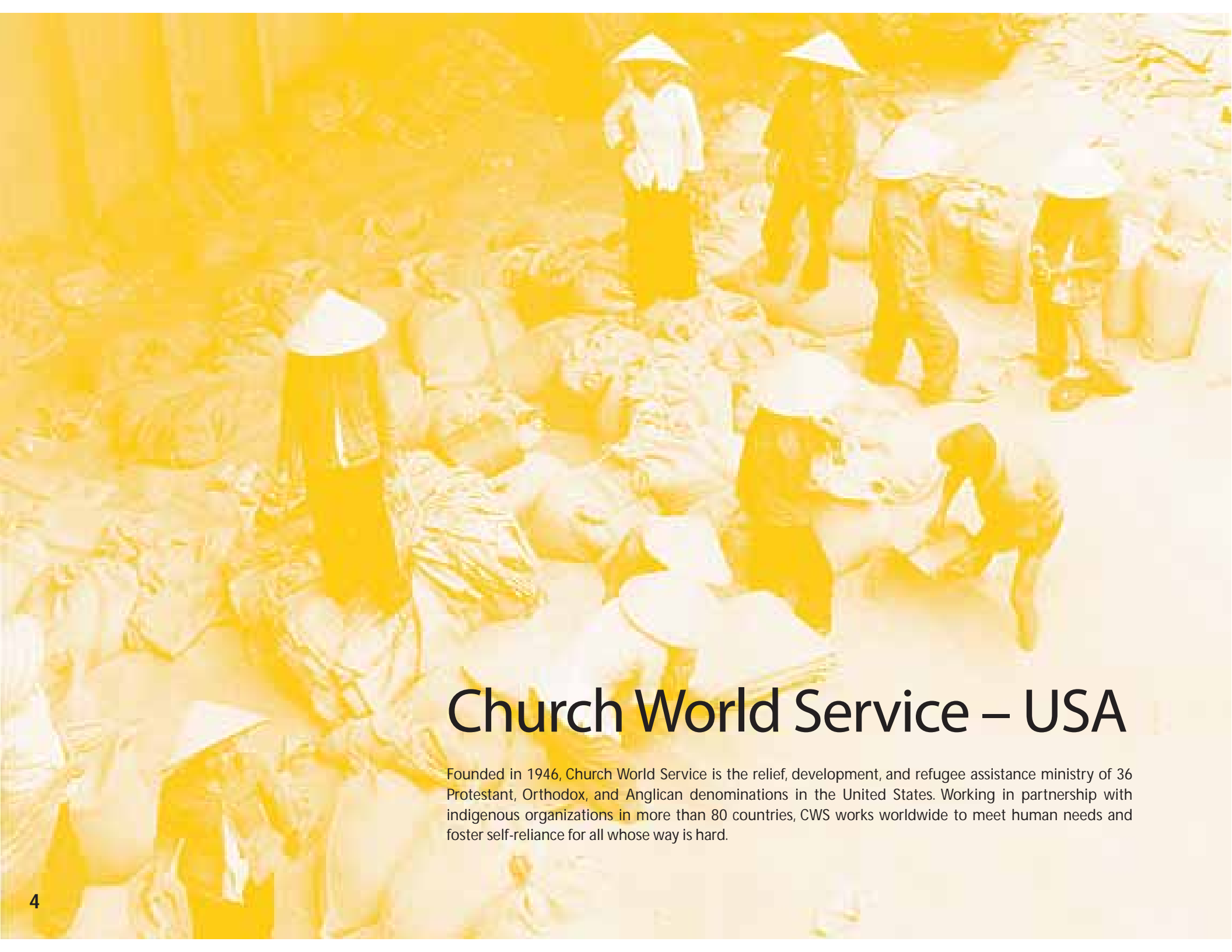
**Gareth Ohara**  
*Volunteer*

# Church World Service Vietnam Staff

# Church World Service Vietnam

## Current partners:

1. Ba Vi district Department of Education and Training (Ha Tay)
2. Ha Tay provincial Ethnic Minority Boarding School (Ha Tay)
3. Pho Yen district Department of Education and Training (Thai Nguyen)
4. Song Cong town Department of Education and Training (Thai Nguyen)
5. Dai Tu district Department of Education and Training (Thai Nguyen)
6. Thai Nguyen Teacher Training College
7. Thai Nguyen Business Support Center
8. Long An provincial Department of Health
9. Bac Lieu provincial Department of Education and Training
10. Bac Lieu town Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
11. Vinh Loi district Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
12. Gia Rai district Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
13. Dong Hai district Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
14. Phuoc Long district Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
15. Hong Dan district Department of Education and Training (Bac Lieu)
16. Hanoi Women's Union Training College
17. Department of Sociology, HCM city Open University
18. Muong Te district People's Committee (Lai Chau)
19. Van Chan district Health Center (Yen Bai)



# Church World Service – USA

Founded in 1946, Church World Service is the relief, development, and refugee assistance ministry of 36 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations in the United States. Working in partnership with indigenous organizations in more than 80 countries, CWS works worldwide to meet human needs and foster self-reliance for all whose way is hard.



*Ethnic social workers at training course*



*Happy children with new classrooms*



*New drinking water system*



*New water filter system in Long An*



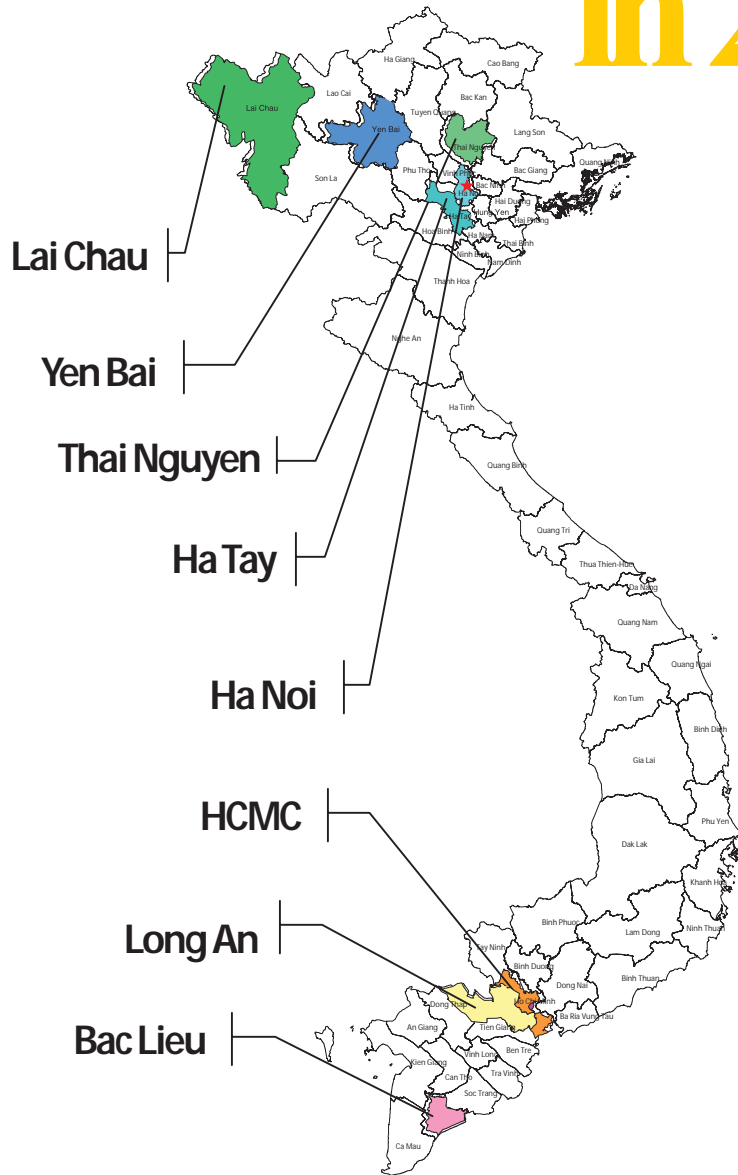
*La Hu ethnic women participate in needs assessment*

## Church World Service - Vietnam

Church World Service Vietnam (CWS Vietnam) began its work in Vietnam in 1954 in response to a refugee emergency. Since then, CWS Vietnam has supported Vietnam continuously with projects primarily focused on improving health services, access to water, nutrition for children, education for ethnic minorities and disaster relief.

Today, CWS Vietnam provides support in 5 main sectors: Water and Sanitation, Integrated Development, Training and Support, Public Health and Ethnic Education. CWS is currently working with 120 kindergartens, primary schools and boarding schools, and 40 clinics, health centers and hospitals in support with provincial and district partners. Projects are focused on Ha Tay, Thai Nguyen and Lai Chau provinces in the north, and Long An province in the south benefiting the lives of over 726,000 people.

# Map of where we worked in 2005





*New beds for students at Teacher Training College*

# 2005

## TURNING A NEW PAGE - COMPLETED PROJECTS

### Thai Nguyen Province Teacher Training College

2005 saw the completion of CWS' partnership with the Teacher Training College in Thai Nguyen. The project was aimed at improving the quality of training for teachers in the district, and concentrated on supporting the college with badly needed material facilities, equipment and teaching aids.

The project, which began in 2003, benefited over 2,100 students and teachers and improved the College's facilities, including conditions in the students dormitory and study areas. Training courses on English, informatics, methodology and management were organized, and a variety of teaching aids for industrial arts, fine arts, music and physical exercise were purchased.



*Music training for teachers*



*Teacher training in Dong Hai district*



Capacity training  
at the Business Support Center in Thai Nguyen

*“Thai Nguyen BSC would like to express our sincere thanks to CWS for their support in enhancing the capacity of services provided to Thai Nguyen enterprises. Equipment supported by CWS is essential for facilitating the organization of more professional activities, and the center’s lecturers and collaborators have improved their capacity and skills. Owing to CWS support, the BSC has promoted our services and gained the trust of Thai Nguyen enterprises”*  
(Business Support Center)

*“ .... Before the course “Starting Business and Making Strategy” I had no opportunity to participate in any training courses. I did my business based on limited experience; therefore my business met many difficulties. At the course, I learnt the steps that need to be done when starting business. I now understand the concepts of Marketing, Development Strategy, Borrowing Proposal and Making Plan for Business. ...We made our own business plans with the guidance of the lecturer, which helped me to learn the steps to perform well in my business... I can perform my work better and more easily”*  
(Chu Thi Hue – Xom Cho – Binh Thuan commune – Dai Tu – Thai Nguyen Province)

## Thai Nguyen Business Support Center

CWS provided support to the Business Support Center in Thai Nguyen in another successful project that ended in 2005. The project was initiated in 2003 to improve employment opportunities by providing training services and information to provincial small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

The project provided the center’s library with books, computer equipment and a photocopier. Training courses to enhance the capacity of the center’s staff and lecturers were conducted, and through the center, 54 training courses and 2 market study tours were organized for local enterprises. More than 2,700 local business people benefited from the project, and the center’s facilities have been vastly improved, guaranteeing a successful future for the local business community.



Group work at BSC training course in Thai Nguyen



*New green house for vocational practice*

## Ha Tay Ethnic Minority Boarding School

CWS' 10-years involvement with the Ha Tay Ethnic Minority Boarding School came to a successful end in September 2005. Over the last 2 years, CWS's project aimed to increase the education quality of the school through improving the quality of school infrastructure and classroom facilities, improving teaching equipment, enhancing teacher's capacity and improving water and sanitation facilities at the school. Highlights include building a new glasshouse for the sapling nursery, building and furnishing a foreign language laboratory and computer room, purchasing much needed sports equipment and building clean water filter systems. Over 700 ethnic minority students and their teachers benefited from these activities. The local community are delighted with the results, "The support of CWS for our school has been enormous and has significantly contributed not only to the higher quality of education and more access for ethnic minority students, but also to our increasingly cleaner and more spacious school" said Mr. Long, Vice Director of the school.

## Bac Lieu

The 3-year education support project funded by USDA in Bac Lieu province has officially come to an end. In total, 87 schools received support in building repairs, teacher training, teaching supplies, library improvements, and school water supply and sanitation. Highlights include 72 classrooms repaired, 22 latrine systems built, 42 drinking water systems installed, and 834 new desks purchased. Over 54,654 students and 2,644 teachers benefited from the activities. At the end of the project, the CWS local partners expressed positive feedback and attributed the project's success to the close coordination and support from the CWS project team.



*Children having lunch at kindergarten school with new chairs and tables*

*New computers provided for the school by CWS*



*“There are several villages in Muong Te district without a village health worker. We have been trying to provide training but have run into lots of difficulties. With the support from CWS, we hope that the training course will be conducted successfully so that all the villages will have health workers.”*

*(Mr. Ly Lu Ha, Deputy Director of Muong Te Health Clinic Center, Vice Head of PMU)*





# Returning to Muong Te - Reaching out to minorities

Muong Te is a poor and remote district of Lai Chau, a newly set-up province in the far north-west of Vietnam. Amongst the poorest provinces in the country, Lai Chau also boasts the largest diversity of ethnic minority peoples, with 20 different ethnic minorities living together in the province.

The average income per person is just \$168 a year, far less than the national average of \$480. Local people depend on agriculture and forestry as their main livelihood; however an increasing population and land use regulations are reducing the amount of arable land. Poor infrastructure, health care, and education quality also hamper the continued development of the area.

CWS's Integrated Development Project has set the goal of improving the quality of life for ethnic people, through improving the quality of education and health services and providing community access to water supply. Specific activities include teacher training, classroom repairs, construction of student boarding facilities, and the provision of teaching aids. In addition, CWS is providing communal health centers with primary care medicines and equipment, and supporting additional training for medical staff. Institutions and households are receiving access to clean water and hygienic latrines, and participating in community health and hygiene education campaigns. Water user associations are set up with training provided on operation and maintenance of water facilities. The Muong Te district People's Committee is also being supported in project and financial management, ensuring project continuity and ownership. The project's first phase will target 2 communes, and expand to other communes in later phases.



*Children hoping for a new classroom*

# Scaling up in Thai Nguyen

## furthering opportunities for minority students

While education opportunities for ethnic minority students have improved in recent years, many challenges remain. Ethnic students have significantly lower primary school completion rates than the national average, and less than 1% of ethnic minority students continue their education to attend the national universities.

CWS has been working to address this situation in many parts of the country for more than 20 years. Since 2003, CWS has worked in partnership with Thai Nguyen province to strengthen the quality of education for ethnic minority and other disadvantaged students. Close to 25% of the province is made up of ethnic minority people, including Tay, Nung, San, Diu, Dao, H'Mong, Cao Lan and Chinese.

The Ethnic Education Project has targeted the poorest kindergartens and primary schools in Pho Yen and Song Cong districts, and due to the ongoing success of the project, it was recently expanded to include Dai Tu district. Support is provided in the areas of teacher training, classroom repairs, provision of teaching equipment, library enrichment and constructions of school water supply and sanitation systems.





Music lessons with a new keyboard supplied by CWS



New school provided by CWS

## In 2003-2005 period the program targeted 68 of the poorest kindergartens and primary schools in the province. Activities included:

- Building 11 classrooms and repairing 39, and building 35 school latrine and clean water systems.
- Supplying 700 sets of tables and chairs for primary school pupils, and 300 chairs and 42 tables to local kindergartens.
- Libraries were also targeted, providing 20 bookshelves and 2,700 books along with audiovisual equipment and keyboards to schools in the district.
- Teacher training was provided for 51 teachers.

*“The (CWS) project has helped to enhance the quality of teaching and learning in our schools...In addition via IEC campaigns, the project has not only attracted more and more school age children to come to school, especially the kindergarten pupils, but has also made the teachers and pupils love their schools more, teach and learn better, the parents pay more attention to the study of their children”*

*(Song Cong – Report on project phase I: 2003-2005)*

*“Our school teachers and pupils are very happy with the new toilet and water supply system sponsored by CWS. With this valuable support, our pupils’ health has gradually improved.”*

*(Mr. Luong Xuan Duong - Head master of Phuc Thuan #2 Primary School, Pho Yen district - 16 Jan 2006)*

*“... We used to learn in the old class, which is low-roofed and dirty. When it was raining, the books and notebooks got wet. When it was sunny, we had to use the old newspapers to cover the windows. Now thanks to the CWS project, we have a new classroom and also a new and modern latrine... We are very happy and we learn better.....”*

*(Phan Thi Hang Ngan – class 5 A – Tan Quang Primary school – Song Cong town – Thai Nguyen Province )*

*“ .... My friends and I really like the new classrooms. These classrooms are spacious and airy. There is also a marble floor, which is very beautiful.... The new latrine is very modern. It has a septic tank and there is clean water coming from the tap... Thank you CWS very much for providing us the chance to learn in a new spacious and airy classroom....”*

*(Nguyen Thi Nga – class 5 C – Ba Xuyen Primary school – Song Cong town – Thai Nguyen Province)*



# Supplying clean water and sanitation: access for schools, clinics and communities

## Water and Sanitation

A recent UNICEF report highlighted that 83% of schools in Vietnam lack adequate water supply and hygienic latrines, seriously infringing student health and academic performance. CWS Water and Sanitation Program aims to alleviate this problem by increasing the overall standards of school sanitation and hygiene in Ba Vi district.

Ba Vi district is a mountainous area located in the far northwest of Ha Tay province in northern Vietnam. The school system in the district is extensive, however, as students move through the school system, the numbers continuing to higher grade levels decreases rapidly. Less than 6% of students from Ba Vi district study at university level. About ten percent of the population are ethnic minority families living in remote mountain villages with limited infrastructure and economic opportunities.

Working in partnership with the Ba Vi district Education and Training Department, the Water and Sanitation in Schools program aims to increase the education quality of Ha Tay Ethnic Minority Boarding School, and in 34 pre-schools and primary schools in the mountain communes and poor communes of Ba Vi district. Activities include installing water tanks, drinking water filters, drilled and dug wells, and hygienic latrines. Emphasis is also placed on student health promotion through Information-Education-Communication (IEC) campaigns and direct training.



*Budding artists decorate their school's modern latrines*



## In 2005, project activities included:

- 23 water and sanitation systems built
- 24 classrooms repaired
- 165 sets of tables and chairs, blackboards, bookshelves and keyboards purchased for classrooms
- 760 books, 50 tables, and 100 chairs purchased for school libraries
- 30 toy sets purchased for kindergartens
- Teacher training provided for 18 kindergartens
- Drinking water system and 4 water tanks built in the Ethnic Minority Boarding School (EMBS)
- 24 computers purchased for the foreign language laboratory (EMBS)
- Green-house constructed for seedling cultivation (EMBS)

*"The learning conditions in the school have improved and so has the students attitude to study. Thanks to their new desks and boards, and improved lighting in the classrooms, they are now studying harder and learning more. They are very happy with their new school."*

*Mr. Nguyen Danh Ngo, Headmaster, Minh Chau primary school*

*"CWS contribution has been very useful. The children enjoy playing with the new toys and singing songs along with the keyboard. The toilets are now very clean and the children love them."*

*Ms. Nguyen Thi Hieu, Head teacher Minh Chau kindergarten*

*Prize-winning students from the IEC drawing contest organized by CWS*



*Clean water in Duc Hue district*

*"The system has been in service since Tet and the water keeps running smoothly. I find the system very easy to operate and I no longer have to use all my muscles to run it like I used to," said Mr. Man the water system operation officer at Duc Hue district Health Care Center.*

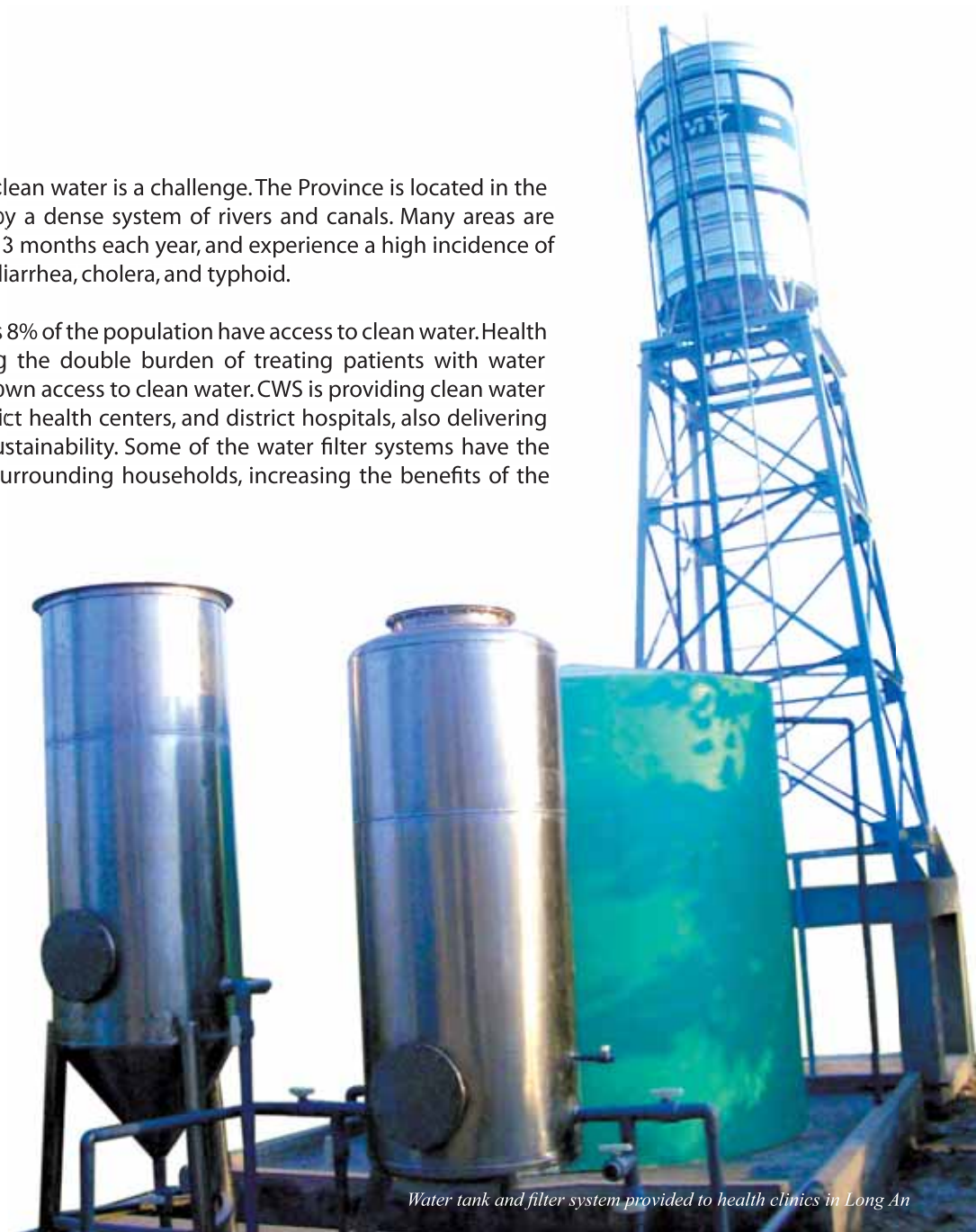
*"The water is now purified and cleaner, and our machines aren't being ruined like before" said Ms. Oanh, Vice Head of Ben Luc district Health Care Center.*

## Public Health

In Long An province, access to clean water is a challenge. The Province is located in the Mekong Delta and is crossed by a dense system of rivers and canals. Many areas are submerged by floods for about 3 months each year, and experience a high incidence of water related diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid.

Despite so much water, as few as 8% of the population have access to clean water. Health clinics and hospitals are facing the double burden of treating patients with water related diseases, without their own access to clean water. CWS is providing clean water filter systems to 36 clinics, district health centers, and district hospitals, also delivering training in maintenance and sustainability. Some of the water filter systems have the capacity to provide water for surrounding households, increasing the benefits of the project.

In 2005, working in partnership with the Long An Department of Health, CWS completed the construction of 23 water tanks, filter systems and clean water wells. Construction began on a further 13 systems which are expected to become operational in early 2006.



*Water tank and filter system provided to health clinics in Long An*



*Social Workers Class of 2005*



*Female social workers doing group work*

# Training And Networking Ensures Sustainability and Cooperation

## Social Worker Training project in Hanoi Women's Union College

Mountainous communities in northern Vietnam lack community information relating to vital issues such as environmental conservation, reproductive health, child rights, and drug abuse. In addition, there is a shortage in both number and skills, of key women social workers at grass roots level. CWS, in conjunction with the Hanoi Women's Union College, is providing social work knowledge and methodology to hundreds of ethnic women working in mountainous areas, helping them to improve the quality of work and services provided to their communities.

The Social Worker Training project aims to create a core team of social workers with the knowledge and professional skills to assist people in their own communities in northern mountainous areas. The training helps social workers to enhance their awareness of community issues thereby promoting community development.

In 2005, the project held training courses for 120 woman social workers working in 18 northern mountainous disadvantaged provinces.

*"CWS and the Women Union College have the same concern; helping people in the highlands to improve their lives, with a focus on minority women and children. The project has been very effective and the learners have gained primary skills and knowledge about working methods in minority communities. They have gained practice through real situations in their communities, through group-work and role-play. They went to the field, gained vital experience and learned new methods of helping women do business, keep fit, take care of the environment, and protect children's and women's rights...."*

*Pham Thi Xuan – Women Union College in Hanoi*

*"Before the training course my working skills were very poor. Sometimes, I did not know how to explain something very simple to make people understand. Although I was enthusiastic and worked hard, I did not see many results, and did not bring many benefits to women. ... The training course is easy to understand. It has given me confidence to use my initiative and allow people to participate more freely..."*

*A woman from B50 training course - Women Union College in Hanoi*

## In 2005, CWS capacity support included:

- Financial management training
- External auditing
- Needs assessment survey participation
- Proposal development
- Project reporting
- Monitoring and evaluation support
- Equipment
- Cross learning visits
- Study support training



*CWS water and sanitation officer training beneficiary*



*CWS staff working with partners*

## Capacity Support For Partners

CWS implements all projects in Vietnam through local partners. Many of our partners are working with a foreign organization for the first time, and need to be trained on project implementation. CWS spends a large amount of time and resources ensuring our partners have the necessary skills to implement projects and ensure financial transparency. For CWS, this is an added measure of project sustainability as our partners learn how to fully manage and be responsible for the activities.

*“The finance training provided by CWS has given me the confidence to become acquainted with the project’s finance policy. This will help so much to ensure efficiency in implementing of the project.”*  
*(Mrs. Dang Thi Phong, Accountant of Muong Te People’s Council – People’s Committee, Member of PMU member, Project accountant)*

## Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Working Group

The **Water Supply & Sanitation Working Group** was established in 2003, with the objective of promoting improved water and sanitation services in Vietnam. Participants are primarily from international NGOs, but also include bilateral donors, the United Nations network, and the Vietnamese government.

All participants share common programmatic goals of contributing to an effective and efficient water and sanitation sector in Vietnam.

The Working Group meets every two months around a topic-focused agenda. Topics include environmental assessment, appropriate latrine models, hand pump construction, filter systems, IEC programs, tendering for construction, water user associations, recent reports, government planning, and relevant statistics.

Church World Service is the current focal point for the Water Supply and Sanitation Working Group.

# Moving towards Disaster Mitigation



Damage caused to housing by flash flooding

## Damrey Emergency Response

On September 27, 2005, Hurricane Damrey came ashore in northern Vietnam causing flash floods, landslides and the worst flooding seen in coastal Yen Bai province in 40 years. Damrey left 63 people dead in Vietnam and displaced 337,000. It also dealt a major blow to the regions infrastructure, destroying 10,000 houses and 54 kilometers of sea-dikes, and inundating 60,000 hectares of crops. About 200 schools and 45 medical clinics also suffered damage. CWS was able to provide initial emergency financial aid, as well as supplying the worst affected district, Cat Thinh, with essential medical equipment.

## Vietnam Natural Disaster Overview

Vietnam is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Vietnam's near-uniformly high rainfall should provide sufficient water for most of its needs. However, water-related disasters are the most serious in Vietnam and cause regular and substantial suffering, loss of life and economic damage.

The most heavily populated parts of Vietnam are the coastal lowlands as they are the most fertile agricultural land. Thus, when extreme weather events such as typhoons, storms, floods or drought occur, the impact on people, their livelihood, their agricultural lands, their livestock, and their infrastructure is extreme. Most importantly, their development efforts are set back, and thus they remain trapped in a cycle of poverty that is repeated year after year.

The worst damage is caused by floods, particularly when accompanied by typhoons. Typhoons raise sea levels many meters and cause storm surges up estuaries, inundating valuable cropland. Typhoons destroy buildings and damage sea dykes protecting coastal land holdings. The torrential rains which accompany typhoons can cause flash floods, which come upon settlements unawares, and regularly submerge low-lying areas. The runoff from these typhonic rains, when added to rivers already swollen by monsoon rains, creates floods which endanger river dykes and threaten to devastate millions of households. On average, 4 to 6 typhoons reach Vietnam each year, and hundreds of people are killed. It is anticipated that the number of heavy storms and typhoons to hit Vietnam will increase both in number and intensity with global warming.

In addition to this, particularly in the Central Region, there are long periods of the year when there is hardly any rainfall, which can produce water deficiency and sometimes severe and prolonged drought.

Non water-related disasters in Vietnam, while less common than water disasters, are having an ever-greater impact on the country. Vietnam's remarkable socio-economic and industrial development over the last ten years has increased the risk of technological accidents; industrialization and population growth have put severe pressure on Vietnam's forests; climate change has led for the first time to drought in certain areas, thereby increasing risk of forest fires.

Source: United Nation Development Program in Vietnam  
<http://www.undp.org.vn/DMU/background/en/intro.htm>  
<http://www.undp.org.vn/ndm-partnership/Background.htm>



CWS provides supplies to Phu Nham commune health center in the wake of Hurricane Damrey

# Highlights

## Visitors

In 2005 CWS Vietnam received two important visitors, which helped strengthen the relationship with existing donors and opened up new funding opportunities.

- Jun Atienza, Associate Director of SED, 24-27 March 2005
- Brian McLeran, Representative of Rose Stone Foundation, 6-11 November 2005



*CWS Vietnam staff with Kenyan kids*

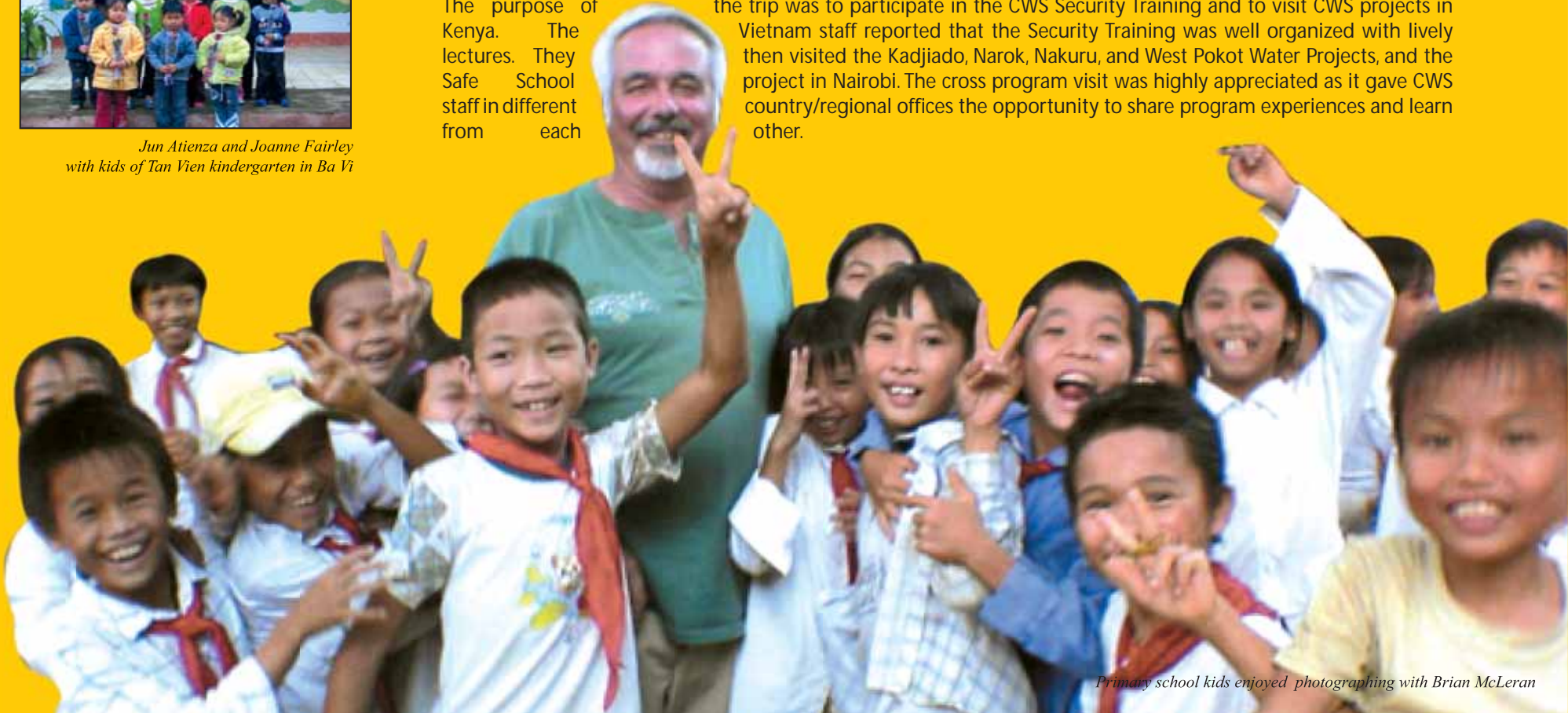


*Jun Atienza and Joanne Fairley with kids of Tan Vien kindergarten in Ba Vi*

## Cross-Visit, Training, and Workshop

### Action Planning Work in Hanoi, 4-8 January 2005

**Kenya trip:** Five CWS Vietnam staff had the opportunity to visit the CWS East Africa office from 13 to 28 August 2005. The purpose of the trip was to participate in the CWS Security Training and to visit CWS projects in Kenya. The lectures. They Safe School staff in different from each the trip was to participate in the CWS Security Training and to visit CWS projects in Vietnam staff reported that the Security Training was well organized with lively then visited the Kadjiado, Narok, Nakuru, and West Pokot Water Projects, and the project in Nairobi. The cross program visit was highly appreciated as it gave CWS country/regional offices the opportunity to share program experiences and learn other.



*Primary school kids enjoyed photographing with Brian McLeran*



## International Events

### USDA Food Aid Conference

On May 3-5, 2005, the CWS Vietnam Representative, Joanne Fairley, participated in the USDA Food Aid Conference in Kansas, USA. USDA has supported CWS in Vietnam since 2002, with programs that promote improved education for ethnic minority students, and increase access to clean water and sanitation for rural communities

### CWS Global Planning Meeting

From May 15-22, 2005, CWS held a Global Planning Meeting in Stony Point, New York. CWS Vietnam Representative, Joanne Fairley, attended, along with headquarters staff and field representatives from other regions. The CWS Vietnam office prepared a large display of traditional arts and crafts from Vietnam, which was presented to participants at the end of the meeting.

### CWS Vietnam Representative participates in Rutland Crop Walk

Joanne Fairley, CWS Vietnam Representative, participated in the Rutland, MA, CROP WALK on October 16, 2005. This year, the event was dedicated to the 40th anniversary of Devereux School in Rutland in honor of the schools continued support to the walk. Devereux students designed this year's theme and logo, which read "Together we can take the steps to change the world".

### CWS Vietnam Office Expansion

During September, CWS Vietnam expanded our office to double the size after the neighboring office moved out. All the staff participated in the new design, which combined expertise in traditional "feng shui" and modern civil engineering. The result is a practical new space with renewed energy for the CWS Vietnam Team.



*CWS Vietnam Representative in Rutland Crop Walk.*



*CWS HQ Global Planning Meeting*



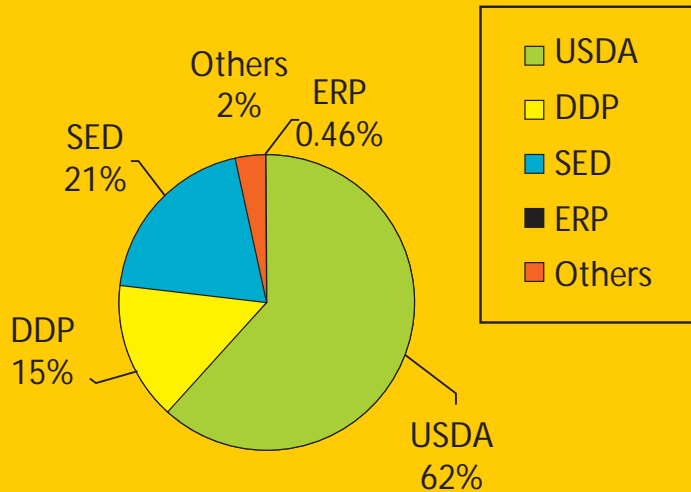
*CWS Vietnam's new office*



*Moving to a new office*

# 2005 Financial Highlights

## Budget



USDA - US Department of Agriculture

DDP - Administration Fund from CWS Head Quarter

SED - Fund from Social Economic Development Prog. of CWS Head Quarter

ERP - Fund from Emergency Relief Prog. of CWS Head Quarter

Others

USDA \$668,634

DDP \$162,200

SED \$226,600

ERP \$5,000

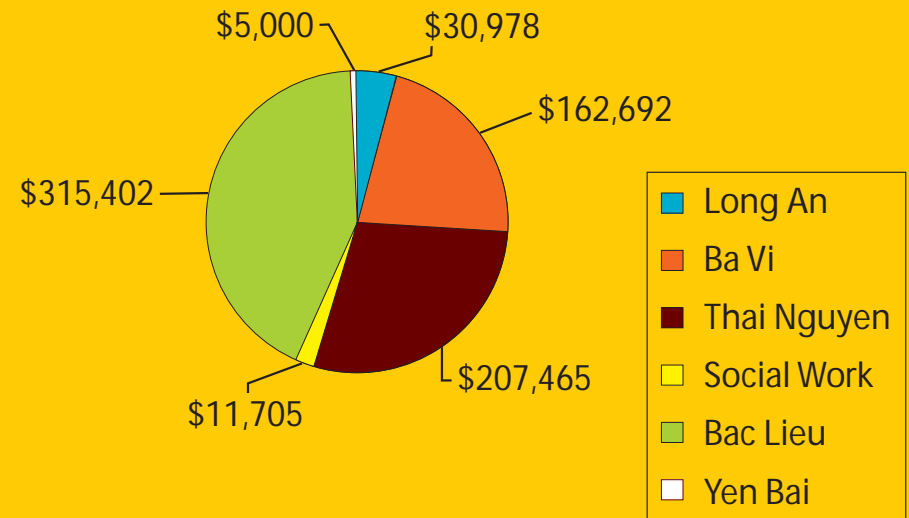
Others \$26,700

Total \$1,089,134

Long An - Public Health  
 Ba Vi-Education and Water & Sanitation  
 Thai Nguyen-Ethnic Education and Livelihood Support  
 Social Work Development  
 Bac Lieu - Ethnic Education Support  
 Van Chan - Yen Bai Damrey Typhoon Relief

Long An	\$30,978
Ba Vi	\$162,692
Thai Nguyen	\$207,465
Social Work	\$11,705
Bac Lieu	\$315,402
Yen Bai	\$5,000
Total	\$733,242

## Expenditure



Office Location : Block L, La Thanh Hotel  
218 Doi Can, Ba Dinh, Hanoi, Vietnam

Mailing address : I.P.O.BOX 176, Hanoi, Vietnam

Telephone : 844 - 8328569

Fax : 844 - 8328629

Email : [cws@cws.org.vn](mailto:cws@cws.org.vn)

Website : [www.cws.org.vn](http://www.cws.org.vn)

## CONTACTS

## CONTENTS

	Page
Church World Service Vietnam Staff	2
Church World Service Vietnam - Current partners	3
Church World Service - USA	4
Church World Service - Vietnam	5
Map of where we worked	6
2005 Turning a new page - Completed projects	7
Returning to Muong Te - Reaching out to minorities	11
Scaling up in Thai Nguyen - Furthering opportunities for minority students	12
Supplying clean water and sanitation: Access for school, clinics and communities	14
Traning and Networking ensures Sustainability and Cooperation	17
Moving towards Disaster Mitidation	19
Hightlights	20
2005 Financial Hightlights	22

### THIS PUBLICATION WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

#### Contributors

Joanne Fairley, Ngo Quoc Dung, Gareth O'Hara, Mai Thi Quynh Giao, Nguyen Thi Lan Anh, Chu Tuyet Mai, Phung Thi Thu Phuong

#### Editors

Joanne Fairley, Ngo Quoc Dung, Mai Thi Quynh Giao, Gareth O'Hara, Chu Tuyet Mai

#### Concept and Design

Luck House Graphics Ltd.



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**



This publication was made possible through support from the Church World Service and USDA under the terms of agreement FCC-440-2002/1025-00.  
The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the US Department of Agriculture.



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