



In celebration of International Women's Day 2008

Changing the lives of poor women farmers

AFAP's Vietnamese Women's Program

Background on Viet Nam

Viet Nam has certainly achieved remarkable economic success since the introduction of the doi moi (renovation) in 1986, however about one third of the population - 28million of the 83 million is still considered poor according to international measures.

Viet Nam's poorest engage in agriculture. This section of the population are usually poorly educated and live in remote areas, inaccessible infrastructure restricts service deliveries. Ethnic minorities are disproportionately at risk of further poverty; this group represents 14% of the population but accounts for 29% of poor people. Women in rural areas suffer disproportionately. Because these women are engage in agricultural activities, they earn less, work longer hours, suffer more health problems, have lower education levels and have less access to decision-making processes compared to their mail counterparts.

AFAP's Work in Viet Nam

AFAP was established in 1968, and while legally incorporated in Australia in 1983, it started work in Viet Nam in 1989. In 1996, AFAP became the first Australian NGO to be officially registered in Viet Nam. AFAP's work has grown from delivering medical equipment to health centres to developmental poverty alleviation programs, health improvements, water and sanitation, environment protection. AFAP has received many awards from the Government of Viet Nam for the positive impact in improving the livelihoods of the poor.

AFAP's program has a commitment to vulnerable people, especially women and children. Women are particularly involved in all aspects of their families' health and hygiene, cooking and caring for their children. Working with local mass organizations such as the Women's Union, activities proposed will have a high positive impact to bring about improved quality of lives for targeted women.

Snap shot of Women's Issues in Tan Son:

- 70% of women suffer from gynaecological disease related to polluted water
- 40% of children suffer from malnutrition
- 80% earn less than US\$1 per day
- Bird flu (Avian Influenza) first outbreaks since 2003 and repeats every year
- HIV/AIDS due to IDU (drug users)

Project Title: Vietnamese Women's Project

A project aimed to improve the lives of women farmers in remote areas of Viet Nam with appropriate agricultural skills and practices in viable and ecologically sustainable farming techniques.

How your support can change the lives of 200 women in the remote area of Viet Nam - Tan Son:

- 100 women cook with improved cook stoves using less firewood
- 160 women receive upgrade wells and water filters to enjoy their basic right to safe drinking water
- 100 women and children have safe latrine facilities
- 500 women receive female breeding pigs and chickens and vegetable seeds
- 2 Bird Flu campaigns targeting 1,000 people to learn how to prevent bird flu and save their families
- 2 HIV/AIDS campaigns targeting 600 people on awareness and change behaviour
- 500 women trained in women's disease
- 4,000 people receive veterinary services
- 100 women receive ploughs and sewing machines
- 60 women receive small business training

Your donation will

- Support to construct new cook stove to limit heart and eye diseases for women and children. Improved cook stoves use less firewood and helps to reduce unnecessary logging from the forests.

- Support to construct water filter, wells and latrines to reduce water borne diseases such as diarrhoea and eye diseases and women's diseases.
- Support for the construction of pigsties to help improve health. Each household will provide labour and local materials to construct pigsties.
- Support for the prevention of Avian Influenza (bird flu) through theatre at community level to spread awareness as a means to protect farmers and reduce loss of income due to outbreaks. This communication event would bring together 4,000 farmers who will return home after a night of drama, dance and song with awareness on the prevention of avian influenza. At present women farmers are not informed of the dangers of bird flu and do not report ill chicken to the Vet System and the Village Vet Worker needs to increase the knowledge of bird flu prevention.
- Support for income generation activity by providing women with sows (female breeding pigs) and disease free chicken to improve their income.
- Support for training in women's diseases will help women's knowledge in understanding the underlying causes of disease and how to prevent.
- Support training for business skills involves teaching women how to run successful business (produce agricultural products) and find markets.

Activity	Number of units	Contribution per Vietnamese Household	Target Donation
Better Health and Nutrition			
Cook Stoves	\$50 per stove	50%	\$1,200
Water Filter	\$50 per filter	50%	\$1,000
Upgrade Well	\$100 per well	%50	\$, 1000
Latrine (Sanitation)	\$50 per latrine	%50	\$1,000
Disease-free Chicken	\$2 per chicken	60%	\$1,000
Vegetable Seeds	\$35 per farm	60%	\$1,050
Pig sties	\$50 per pigsty	60%	\$1,200
Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) Communication Night and HIV/AIDS awareness)	\$500 per campaign	40% from community	\$2,000
Training in Women's Disease	\$50 per course	%50 from community	\$1,000
Training Village Vet Worker	\$200 per person per course	50% from Vet Worker	\$2,000
INCOME GENERATION			
Female Breeding Pig	\$50 per pig	50%	\$1,200
Sewing machine	\$200 per machine	50%	\$2,000
Plough	\$375 per plough	40%	\$3,750
Training in business skills	\$650 per course	40%	\$1,300

AFAP's Commitment

AFAP provides a platform for all supporters and donors to be involved in the development progress of the project they support.

Your intervention in delivering to the improvement of the Vietnamese Women's Project will be acknowledged and you will receive a tax-deductible receipt for donations over \$2. AFAP will cover administrative costs and all your funds will go directly towards the Viet Nam Women's Project.

If desired, AFAP will send you reports and photos of your choice of contribution and provide successful stories of how your support has changed the lives of women.

Donations of \$2.00 or more are tax deductible.

On Line Credit Card Donation Facility

www.afap.org

In the box labelled Nominated Program:

Please write **"Viet Nam Women's Program"**

Your credit card payment is be processed securely by DirectOne Payment Solutions.

Cheque Donation

Please download and complete a donation form located under the "Support Us" section of this website and mail to:

AFAP
Vietnamese Women's Program
PO Box 12
Crows Nest, NSW 1585
Australia

Telephone Donation

1800-007 308