



VIETNAM LOCAL WORKS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2017 - 2022 | IMPLEMENTER: INSTITUTE OF POPULATION, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT (PHAD) | PLANNED BUDGET: \$1.9 million

The Vietnam Local Works for Environmental Health project will increase local capacity and reinforce local partnerships to practically and sustainably address environmental health challenges through a learning-by-doing model. The project will address water pollution issues in Thanh Hoa and Ha Nam provinces, with best practices to be replicated and scaled up in other locations.

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

The project is developing a Water Health network, made up of diverse local stakeholders, to address water pollution problems and share best practices. Based on PHAD's current environmental network, with a focus on water pollution, the Water Health network will be open, flexible, expandable, and adaptable to any arising developmental challenges.

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

The project is building a supporting ecosystem to strengthen the Water Health network and its members' capacity to seek out and adaptably respond to water pollution and other environmental health challenges. Key components of the ecosystem include an updated database of local stakeholders, their water pollution problems, and location mapped out; a small grant mechanism to support local responses; and a Participatory Learning & Action based set of tools for assessment, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and learning processes.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVOCACY

The project is building the Water Health network's sustainability by strengthening the capacity of its members to tackle water pollution issues through a combination of applying a learning-by-doing model for efficient and effective actions; boosting partnerships to increase resources; and through legislative, public policy, and legal advocacy campaigns.

RESULTS

The Vietnam Local Works for Environment Health project secured local ownership and engaged stakeholders to expeditiously launch activities. It has undertaken advocacy and outreach efforts to expand the partner base to launch the Water Health network in September 2018. Community-based needs assessments, strategic planning workshops, and stakeholder analyses conducted with local authorities and beneficiaries in Thanh Hoa and Ha Nam provinces identified priority water-related issues. Two sources of local alternative resources have been identified that could potentially support the project activities. The overall expected result is to initiate, develop, and expand a growing national network of diverse local actors with resource mobilization capacity, strong collaboration, and effective and efficient engagement to sustainably address Vietnam's water health challenges.

In the photo: Local Works workshop at the Vietnam International Water Week 2018. Photo: PHAD (March 2018).