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# Sister Cities Disaster Preparedness Program



*The Hai Phong chapter of the Business Network Association discusses private sector preparedness and public-private cooperation on DRR.*

## **GVN Counterparts**

Hai Phong Department of Foreign Affairs

## **Duration**

October 2013- September 2016

## **Planned Budget:**

\$1,687,795

## **Prime Implementer:**

Peace Winds America

### **For more information:**

#### **USAID**

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Hai Phong, like many of Vietnam's coastal cities, is exposed to rising sea levels and increased storm risks, leaving the private sector concerned about continued loss of business, damage to infrastructure and employee safety. The Sister Cities Disaster Preparedness program, funded by USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) focuses on increasing business resilience and improving public-private coordination on disaster planning within the City of Hai Phong.

Over three years, the project will work closely with Hai Phong government and business representatives, providing technical expertise to strengthen disaster planning, risk reduction and recovery. The program will harness the existing Seattle-Hai Phong Sister City relationship, relying heavily on disaster management and business continuity experts within the Seattle area.

In partnership with the Hai Phong Department of Foreign Affairs, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the business community, the project will conduct risk assessments, preparedness planning, hazard mapping, and business continuity trainings and consultations. More than 2,000 businesses will engage with civil authorities in substantive planning and training activities. Sustainable public-private partnerships, increased operational capacity, and enhanced planning tools will all result in a more resilient Hai Phong.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

As a result of this project, businesses in Hai Phong will have:

- Enhanced planning knowledge and tools for business
- Enhanced disaster risk reduction knowledge for rural cooperatives
- Sustainable public-private partnerships for disaster risk reduction, including increased situational awareness and information sharing capabilities for the public and private sectors
- Increased risk assessment and hazard mapping capabilities
- Valuable information exchanges between US and Vietnamese disaster risk reduction experts