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Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships for Disaster Risk Management and Community Resilience in Vietnam



VCCI Danang and DRM experts conduct a disaster risk assessment in Vietronimex Co. in Danang city to develop DRM plan.

Photo: Asia Foundation

Key Counterparts:

Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Small and Medium Enterprises Development Support Center 2

Duration:

April 2011 to December 2015

Planned Budget:

\$1,591,794

Prime Implementer:

The Asia Foundation

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While there has been a substantial increase in initiatives to help communities respond to disasters, most efforts have not effectively engaged local businesses in disaster preparedness and response. Given that community resilience depends greatly on the ability of the private sector to bounce back, re-establish production and continue to provide employment to local workers in the aftermath of disasters, business disaster preparedness and response is critical. With support from the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA), the Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships for Disaster Risk Management and Community Resilience in Vietnam project is increasing resilience against natural disasters by collaborating with a broader spectrum of stakeholders including businesses and business associations, to increase the DRM capacity of Vietnamese businesses, and support local innovations in areas vulnerable to natural disasters.

Since April 2011, The Asia Foundation has been implementing the project to build the DRM capacity of Vietnamese businesses in areas vulnerable to natural disasters. Focusing primarily on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), the project teaches businesses how to prepare for natural disasters and strengthens public-private partnerships (PPPs) for DRM and disaster relief activities. Strategic partnerships with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), other business associations, relevant government agencies such as the Disaster Management Center, and local non-governmental organizations help to improve capacity in disaster preparedness and response for businesses and also strengthen business engagement in disaster risk reduction.

The project works closely with VCCI to pursue policy advocacy and encourage innovative PPP and CSR initiatives on DRM among the Vietnamese business community. Activities include national and regional public-private dialogues, business recommendations on the content of Vietnam's Law on Disaster Control and Prevention, and local initiatives to support CSR on DRM. The project has made significant strides toward establishing PPP dialogue mechanisms, encouraging local PPP initiatives, and supporting businesses to have a much-needed voice in policy development.

RESULTS

As the project nears the end of its third of four phases, it has to date established a DRM training curriculum for SMEs, developed a group of 120 master trainers from over 60 organizations, trained more than 1,500 individuals (including 30 percent women and staff from over 1,000 SMEs in 15 provinces and cities in Central and South Vietnam), and conducted a series of research and pilot activities to enhance disaster-related PPP and corporate social responsibility (CSR). The project has established a website (www.ungphothientai.com) as a hub for Vietnamese businesses to access information on DRM, including publications and training manuals.



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