



Vulnerable Populations



Children and older persons with disabilities receive rehabilitation services as part of USAID's programs in Vietnam.

(Photo: Richard Nyberg, USAID)

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USAID's programs to assist vulnerable groups focus on services for persons with disabilities, Vietnamese affected by disaster, and victims of human trafficking. Since 1989, USAID has provided \$66.5 million to help vulnerable populations.

SUPPORT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

USAID's activities range from national policies and legislation development to direct services to Vietnamese with disabilities. The program helps disabled people fully integrate into society by improving access to health, education and employment services. It supports local governments in ensuring equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and influences public policies that affect their lives. USAID has provided rehabilitation services for tens of thousands of people with disabilities, education and vocational training including in information technology, job placement, support to parent associations to expand their advocacy for disability issues, and enhanced barrier-free access codes.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

USAID counters transnational crime through increased public awareness, training of GVN law enforcement officers and working with private sector to promote good labor practices and raise awareness of labor trafficking issues. USAID strives to improve shelter services, specifically, health and psychological counseling for returnees who were illicitly recruited into the commercial sex trade or were victims of labor exploitation and provide vocational training. USAID works with Vietnamese NGOs to provide services for victims of trafficking as well as conducting research on TIP relevant issues. In the past projects, USAID provided safe migration skills for youth inside and outside school and support GVN in developing guidance for strengthening protection and services for victims of trafficking.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID assists families affected by natural disasters such as floods and typhoons, reduces vulnerability of urban communities through better disaster preparedness and mitigation, and improves the capacity of first responders and healthcare facilities to better manage emergencies and mass casualty events, with the aim of reducing mortality and increasing the survival rate of disaster victims. Since 2000, USAID has provided approximately \$12 million in disaster response, preparedness and risk reduction assistance in Vietnam. USAID has also responded to annual disasters in Vietnam each year. USAID-supported disaster relief efforts are closely coordinated with and directly support the Government of Vietnam's relief efforts.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

USAID's implementing partners include: Catholic Relief Services, International Federation of the Red Cross, American Red Cross, Save the Children, The Asia Foundation, Vietnam Assistance for the Handicapped, and the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion (UNIAP).