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DISABILITY RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT, COORDINATION AND THERAPIES

NOVEMBER 2015 – OCTOBER 2020 | IMPLEMENTER: VIETNAM ASSISTANCE FOR THE HANDICAPPED |
PLANNED BUDGET \$5,900,000

Vietnam has developed a strong legal framework that guarantees people with disabilities the right to participate in society. However, implementation of these policies remains inconsistent. Thus many people with disabilities face challenges in exercising their rights and accessing services at the local level. Effective national coordination and rehabilitative services are crucial to achieving these important goals. The project assists Vietnamese partners at the national level and in Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc provinces to address these issues.

STRONGER ENFORCEMENT OF DISABILITY POLICIES

The project provides technical support to Government of Vietnam partners to develop and execute the action plan for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities (CRPD) as well as review and revise sectoral policies to be compatible with the CRPD. The project also aims to improve enforcement of existing disability law, national disability action plan, and the action plan for rehabilitation sector, including expansion of health insurance coverage for rehabilitation services.

The project develops capacity for the newly-established National Committee on Disability and its members to strengthen coordination advocacy, planning and monitoring of disability rights and programs at national and provincial levels. In addition, the project supports the refinement and roll-out of the National Disability Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and will conduct annual performance reviews and reports to the Government of Vietnam and the UN on CRPD implementation. In conjunction, the program is assisting MOLISA and MOH to put in place a national disability database by expanding the existing Disability Information System to remaining provinces.

IMPROVED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES AND TRAINING

The project works with universities to develop and incorporate occupational therapy into existing short-term postgraduate certificate training. Through project support, general doctors, health professionals, and community health workers in Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc are trained to become rehabilitation practitioners meeting Government of Vietnam standards. Provincial, district, and communal rehabilitation units are set up, equipped and staffed with trained workers. Training and interventions to address gender inequality and discrimination on the basis of disabilities are applied at local level.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By 2020, the project aims to provide direct assistance to 4,000 persons with disabilities and training to 5,400 service providers and caregivers.

In the photo: A child receives physical therapy. (VNAH)