

VIETNAM**Integrated Nutrition and Food Security Strategies for Children and Vulnerable Groups in Viet Nam (MDGF- 2007)***Children, Food Security and Nutrition*

Total Budget:	USD 3,500,000		
Budget by Agency:	UNICEF:	985,470	
	WHO:	1,421,803	
	FAO:	1,092,727	
Participating Gov. Entities:	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development		
Start Date:	1 March 2010		
Est. End Date:	1 March 2013		
Disbursements:	First Disbursement:	1 March 2010	USD 1,543,835
	Second Disbursement:	17 February 2011	USD 1,429,520
	Third Disbursement:		
In Brief:	<p>Members of Viet Nam's One UN Country Team will work together to deliver appropriate support to the Government of Vietnam to address the present high prevalence of malnutrition among under-five children in Viet Nam and to prevent future malnutrition through improved food security by increased production and consumption of safe quality food and targeted supplementation. This is both a short term strategy to address current issues of malnutrition through breast feeding, iron and vitamin A supplementation, and long term strategy to provide higher quality diet through improved food production systems for quality of nutrition, including animal (meat and milk) and aquaculture products. The whole is based on strengthened information and mapping systems, including nutritional sentinel surveillance, food security and early warning, and market information systems, and enhance capacity for data production, management and dissemination.</p>		

Outcomes:

- Improved monitoring systems on food, health and nutrition status of mothers and children used to guide food, health and nutrition-related policies, strategies and actions
- Improved infant and young child feeding practices including increased compliance with the UNICEF/WHO guidelines on exclusive breastfeeding from 0-6 months and safe complementary feeding for children 6-24 months
- Reduction of micronutrient deficiencies in targeted children and women
- Improved care and treatment for children with severe malnutrition and improved nutrition services for young children in emergency situations
- Improvements in availability, access and consumption of a more diverse food supply in selected highland and mountainous regions in Viet Nam



Regions of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cao Bằng, Điện Biên, Đắk Lắk, Kon Tum, Ninh Thuận, and An Giang provinces
MDGs	MDG1 T1.C; MDG4 T4.A

Beneficiaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. Institutions No. Women No. Men No. ethnic groups 	Direct	Indirect																																								
Project coordinator: Nguyen Thi Huong RCO Focal Point: Nguyen Thi Nhu Nguyet																																										
Status	Programme is advancing well towards expected outcomes and outputs.																																									
Estimated financial execution status as of the June 30, 2011 biannual report:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>TOTAL (VND)</th> <th>Transferred (VND)</th> <th>Transferred (%)</th> <th>Committed (VND)</th> <th>Committed (%)</th> <th>Disbursed (VND)</th> <th>Disbursed (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2009-2</td> <td>3,500,000,000</td> <td>0,00</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0,00</td> <td>0.00%</td> <td>0,00</td> <td>0.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-1</td> <td>3,500,000,000</td> <td>1,543,835,00</td> <td>44.11%</td> <td>320,155,00</td> <td>9.15%</td> <td>209,956,00</td> <td>6.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-2</td> <td>3,500,000,000</td> <td>1,543,835,00</td> <td>44.11%</td> <td>1,349,108,00</td> <td>38.55%</td> <td>1,349,108,00</td> <td>38.55%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011-1</td> <td>3,500,000,000</td> <td>2,993,355,00</td> <td>85.52%</td> <td>1,997,284,00</td> <td>57.07%</td> <td>1,997,284,00</td> <td>57.07%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Year	TOTAL (VND)	Transferred (VND)	Transferred (%)	Committed (VND)	Committed (%)	Disbursed (VND)	Disbursed (%)	2009-2	3,500,000,000	0,00	0.00%	0,00	0.00%	0,00	0.00%	2010-1	3,500,000,000	1,543,835,00	44.11%	320,155,00	9.15%	209,956,00	6.00%	2010-2	3,500,000,000	1,543,835,00	44.11%	1,349,108,00	38.55%	1,349,108,00	38.55%	2011-1	3,500,000,000	2,993,355,00	85.52%	1,997,284,00	57.07%	1,997,284,00	57.07%
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Main Achievements: By outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved monitoring systems have been achieved through completion and dissemination of data and baseline survey in all target provinces; support to IDD monitoring and reporting for all 63 provinces of Vietnam; the introduction of the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART) methodology to the target provinces; as well as the Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping System (FIVIM). Moreover, the programme has also completed the Draft National Nutrition Strategy 2010-2020 which will be submitted to the Government. Infant and young child feeding practices have been improved by supporting the National communication campaigns; the introduction of IYCF, including theoretical and practical skills on IYCF, skills on breastfeeding counseling in 2 targeted provinces; the introduction of BFHI to the hospital and health clinic system; and the support to the model of "Village Breastfeeding Mum Support Group" To contribute to micronutrient deficiencies reductions, the programme has advanced on a number of key preparatory activities, including the development of training materials and guidance on micronutrient integrated into stunting reduction package and Infant and Young Child Nutrition IEC; and the procurement of Nutrition supplies and distribution of Vitamin A. Advances towards an improved care and treatment services are being achieved through the introduction of global nutrition in emergencies training package for disaster risk management to 14 disaster prone provinces; the development of training materials, including revision of kangaroo-mother care guideline; and the provision of F75, F100 and ReSoMal for 1500 children, 30,000 Mid Upper-Arm-Circumference tapes, 442 height boards and 297 scales. The JP is contributing to improved availability, access and consumption of more diverse food by introducing Farmer Field Schools on RICH for 350 farmers and support for demonstration sites in 3 provinces; supporting homestead food model for the target provinces, including fruit garden and soy bean production in 2 mountainous provinces; and introducing rice seed production model to farmers in disadvantaged areas. 																																									
Does the JP incorporate gender considerations in the activities/outputs/outcomes ?																																										
Observations																																										
Paris Declaration	Leadership of national and local governmental institutions: The Government takes lead in management and operation of the Joint programme and translate it into their priorities from policy works to technical services at grass root levels. The Government participates and has been consulted and involved during the preparation of detailed work plan and implementation process.																																									

The Government hosts the joint management unit at Headquarters of the Ministry of Health in Vietnam. The PMU has been provided personnel to support National Programme Director in coordinating the activities between Ministries involved and with UN Agencies so that timely intervention can be made. Besides the National Programme Director appointed by the Government who leads all the process of implementation of the joint programme; a senior expert from Maternal Child Health Department, MOH has been assigned to advise and support the NPD. Further, a national coordinator was recruited to work on daily basis at PMU, and a coordinator from MARD has also been assigned to work closely with the PMU to make sure all information for planning, implementing and reporting of the joint programme consistent in the system.

Involvement of CSOs and citizens:

For more than a year of implementation, the JP has gradually set up the foundation for cooperation and partnership with Academic institutions, local citizen groups and media. Collaboration and relation have been shared with National Nutrition Institute, University, A&T, TV channel on the results of the JP. At grass root level, Farmer Union is playing an active role in promoting the activities and results, especially those related to crop productions, demonstrations of pilot models for income generation and nutrition supply for daily consumption of the people.

Community meetings are held by mass organisations (Women Union, Youth Union, Farmer Union) and Nutrition Rehabilitation Group.

Alignment and Harmonization:

The JP focuses on strengthening of national systems and national programmes where it is difficult to separate between attribution and contribution.

Innovative elements in mutual accountability:

Deputy Director General of the Maternal Child Health Department, Ministry of Health chairs the PMC. Regular meetings of PMU are organised normally one a month and can be more than one a month whenever there is requirement for decision making and agreement sought. For official PMC meeting, NPD chairs every month with the composition of representative from MOH, MARD, FAO, UNICEF and WHO.

Delivering as One

Innovative elements in harmonization of procedures and managerial practices:

For better planning and management of the joint programme in the second year of implementation, the PMU has decided to organise joint monitoring trip to programme sites in 6 provinces to learn the demands from grass root level and seek the possible collaboration between nutrition part and food security part.

Planning workshop which is organised in earlier this year is also a step to bridge the gap between plan described in the project document and the current change on site.

UN Agencies have implemented a number of practices including, Harmonised Approach for Cash Transfer (HACT), UN-EU Cost norms, Joint Programme meeting and monitoring plan of Programme Coordination Group (PCG).

Role of the RCO and synergies with other MDG-F JPs:

With support from the UNRC office, the JP has also worked with staff from the other 2 MDGF JPs for revising and harmonizing the TORs of the NSC. The MDGF Joint Programmes regularly share information on programme management procedures to facilitate smooth implementation.

Inter-agency coordination:

Vietnam is a pilot country applying the Delivering as One approach and is currently implementing the One Plan II (2006-2010 with the extension year of 2011). A new cycle for UN Reform process will start from 2012. Programme Coordination Groups (PCGs), chaired by the Government and UN, are established to coordinate joint delivery of activities under the One Plan II. The Joint Programme falls under the PCG on Sustainable Development.

Within the JP on Nutrition and Food Security, UN agencies are working together under the coordinating role of FAO as the Lead Coordinating Agency. A PMU has been set up at Department of Maternal and Child Health, Ministry of Health.

The joint programme in the initial phase has faced some constraints in term of establishment of PMU, PMC because of changes in personnel at the central and provincial levels; which has led to some delays. Further, the National Coordinator has not yet been recruited to coordinate inputs from different agencies for the programme. It is also a difficulty that there exist many different operational modalities among PUNOs and these needs to be sorted out.

<p>Sustainability (concrete actions and strategic partnerships)</p>	<p>Sustainability Plan in place?</p> <p>The sustainability of the joint programme is ensured due to a strong alignment with the priorities of the Government of Vietnam in nutrition and food security.</p> <p>Through a concrete capacity building approach, combined with strong national ownership the JP fosters sustainability and continuity of the JP initiative.</p>	
<p>Innovation and Scale-up</p>	<p>The Joint Programme provides technical support the Government in preparation of the National Nutrition Strategy to be issued soon. The Joint Programme also support to Government in setting up the National Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture which is adapted and applied from FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS). Although the concrete results are not be seen at all level, specific pilot activities have been conducted at targeted provinces under the Joint Programme to test before having it adopted at country level.</p> <p>Support for development of policies, advocacy, strategies, legal documents, plans and guidelines and further support for capacity development in these areas are expected to have an impact for all children under 5 in Viet Nam which is according to the 2009 Census 7,316,000 children. New approaches are modelled and best practices generated from our support to selected provinces. These efforts and experiences are used to further strengthen national programmes, health systems and policies.</p>	
<p>External Factors and mitigation</p>		
<p>Communication and Advocacy</p>	<p>C&A plan in place?</p> <p>The proposal for advocacy and communication is integrated in the national communication strategy for specific event. National communication campaigns conducted in line with the joint communication plan among MoH, UN and A&T. For example for the National week on breastfeeding is an event where the joint effort of the Government and the UN agencies are mobilised to disseminate the message through mass media and open air events and meetings. In the long run, PMU will take the initiative in coordination with PUNOs in formulating the Communication strategy for spreading messages from the JP to targeted audience.</p>	
<p>M&E</p>	<p>Strong M&E system. Support to Government's monitoring system (outcome 1)</p>	
<p>Missions from MDG-F Secretariat:</p>	<p>Date: October 2009</p>	<p>Members: Sophie de Caen, Paula Pelaez</p>
<p>Mid Term Evaluation:</p>	<p>Evaluator: Enrique de la Loma</p> <p>Period: on-going</p> <p><i>[Link to final report and improvement plan]</i></p>	