



NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOOD FOR THE ETHNIC MINORITIES IN BAC KAN (2013 - 2014)

OBJECTIVE

To improve the life quality of women and children under the age of 5 through improving their nutritional status during pregnancy and child care, changing their practice towards positive health care and improving environmental sanitation and clean water, as well as improving agricultural production in the project area.



BACKGROUND

Bac Kan is among the poorest provinces in Vietnam with 86.6% being of minority population, 60% of the populations are living under the poverty line; the malnutrition rate of children under 5 years old is at 25.4%. Project community is the poor community in Ba Be district which includes the habitat of Hmong, Dao and Tay people. The people there are mostly living in and working in forestry and subsistence agriculture.

In the highland villages people still practice slash and burn off to clear land for cultivation, raising pigs and chickens to ensure nutritious meals and self-sufficient economy. In the dry season the undernourishment is widespread, affecting the nutritional status of children as well as their physical and intellectual development. This project is implemented in Nam Mau commune of Ba Be district, Bac Kan Province.

MAIN INTERVENTION ACTIVITY

1. Establish of Educational Clubs in Nutrition and Child Healthcare.
2. Establish of Complementary Feeding Clubs to promote appropriate nutritional care for children.
3. Organize antenatal care for pregnant women and health check-up for the children in H'Mong and Dao people sites.
4. Support the development of home-based gardens and agricultural models (fish, potato, pig).
5. Improve condition of water supplies for kindergarten and primary schools.
6. Establish weekly village cleaning performance, compost model and non-organic waste processing model.
7. Organize training courses for staff, local agencies, club facilitators and beneficiaries.
8. Develop and conduct M&E activities.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

Healthcare and nutrition

- **4,514** children attended complementary feeding sessions.
- **972** women attended **115** Nutrition Education Club sessions.
- **303** children and **44** pregnant women received health check-ups quarterly.

Livelihood and food security

- **7** training courses were organized for agriculture facilitators and households.
- **29** households participated in potato modeling and **16** tons of potatoes were harvested.
- **32** H'mong households developed gardening models.
- **25** poor households joined and raised pigs to increase income.
- **15** households joined the fish farming model.

Environment and sanitation

- **463** children 2-11 years old participated in hand-washing, dental care and environment cleaning.
- Cleaning of the village on the 15th of each month throughout the community.
- **30%** of households in the project site practiced the compost model.
- **12** Public Waste Processing units were built.
- Community hygiene was improved with weekly cleaning session, cleaning contests and competitions.
- Over **300** children in **6** schools benefited from the water supply installment.

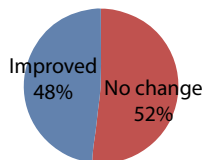
PUBLICATIONS

- A VCD with **12** lessons providing knowledge and practical guidance on healthcare for infants at 0 - 60 months of age and pregnant women. The VCD was narrated into **7** common dialects of the Northern mountainous area
- **3** manuals designed for Health and Nutrition Education Clubs, Feeding clubs and School Education.
- **1** manual designed for M&E and supportive supervision.
- **9** posters and **2** flipcharts on healthcare and hygiene promotion.

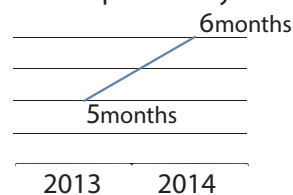


PROJECT OUTCOMES

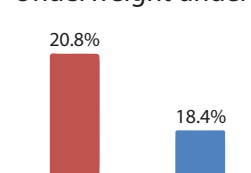
Household improved livestock sheds



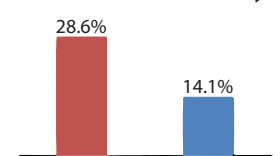
Mean of complementary feeding



Underweight under 5

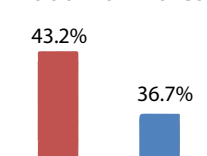


Children with diarrhea during 2 weeks before Endline Survey

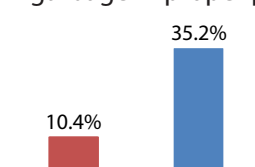


% Households...

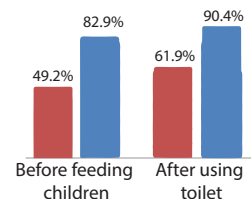
Household regularly seek food from forest



Throw garbage in proper places



Hand-Wash



2013
2014

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