

Annual report 2022

Message from the Board of Directors

The year 2022 has been extremely challenging for us with a reduction in funding aid, a social lockdown earlier in the year, and new management from the government to NGO's projects and research. However, through all the challenges, our sponsors, partners, and colleagues have always accompanied us every step of the way. Thanks to all of you, we have been able to overcome difficulties to keep pursuing our goals, including improving the quality of life for women and children, contributing to policy advocacy, and solving public health problems, especially for vulnerable people. We have also adjusted and expanded the way programs and services are delivered and introduced new initiatives to deliver effective activities, adapting to the emerging situation of COVID-19.

It is my honor to inform you that our director and founder of RTCCD, Dr. Tran Tuan, retired in October 2022. I will be in charge of the RTCCD development in the next five years 2023 – 2027 and looking forward to fruitful collaborations with you all.

Thank you for your continuous trust in our work.

Tran Thi Thu Ha

The Director



Our Reach in 2022

02

E-learning websites on:

- social work
- early childhood development

1,115

teachers, health workers,
para/social workers trained
(in-person and online)

16,037

caregivers trained
(in-person)

37

interviews and news on
national media

2,234

children and mother-visits
for health check and psycho-
social assessments

04

articles published in peer-
reviewed journals

Activities in 2022



Non-Communicable Diseases and Policy Advocacy

Mental Health



Social Work



Early Childhood Development

In 2022, RTCCD continues to take on the coordination role of the Vietnam Non-Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control Working Group (NCDs-VN). Together with 12 different member organizations, we have worked to advocate effectively for NCD control policies in Vietnam.

- Enhance the implementation of the Law on Alcohol harm prevention in Vietnam
- Promote the meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs in treatment, care, and support policies
- Increase the excise tax rate of tobacco, alcohol, and sugar-sweetened beverages in the Amendment of the Law on Excise tax.



Non-Communicable Diseases and Policy Advocacy



Our **KEY RESULTS**

Two policy reviews and recommendations were sent to the Draft law committee of the Amendment Law on Medical Treatment and Examination. Some of our recommendations were accepted into the latest draft law version (e.g. Acknowledge and have a specific chapter in the law about non-profit health examination and treatment)

An educational and communication campaign to increase the knowledge of people about NCDs and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) related issues with the following outputs:

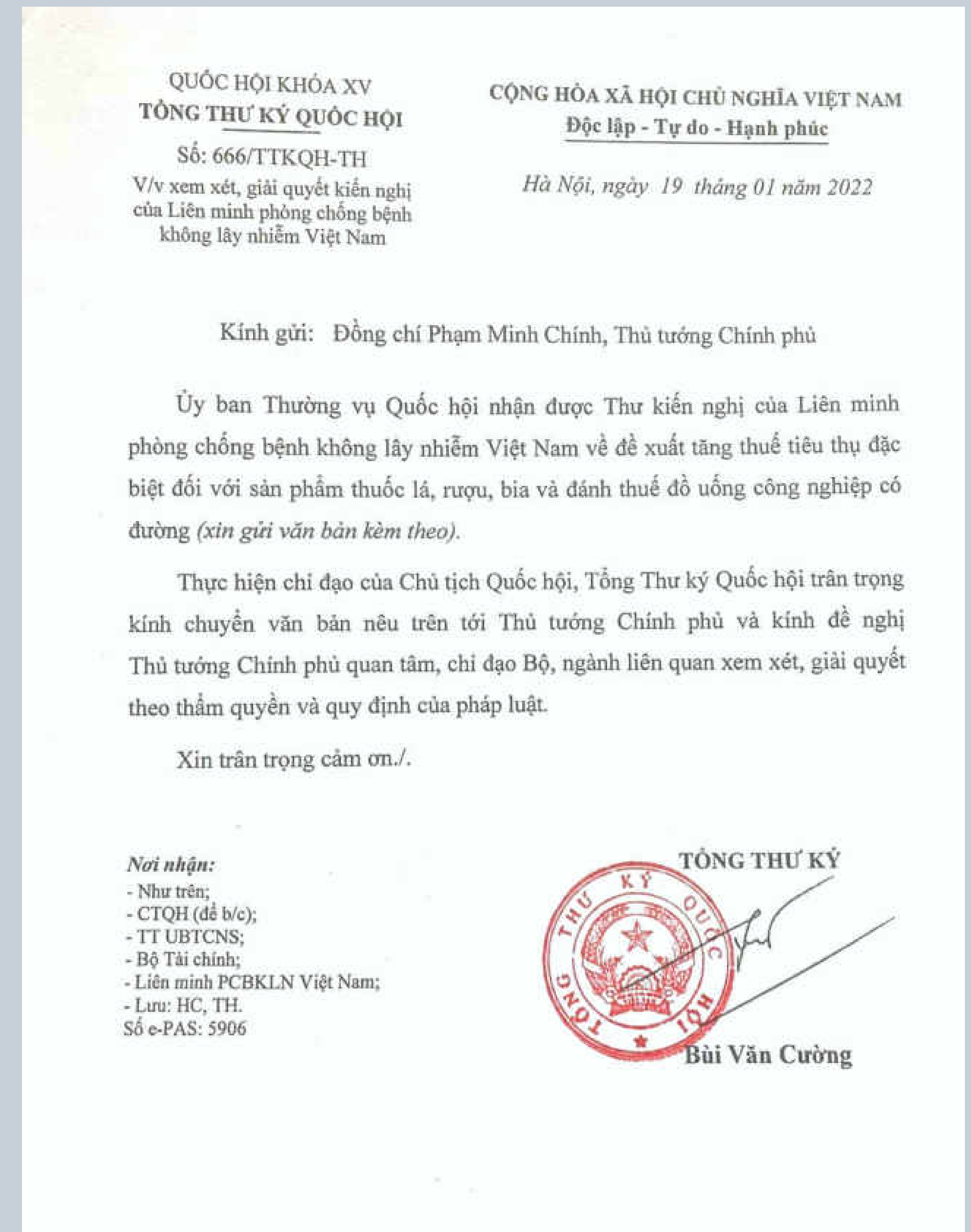
- 2 scientific seminars for about 150 students and researchers in Hanoi University of Public Health (HUPH), and a writing and photo contest for HUPH students to learn and create communication materials about NCDs risk factors and UHC
- 2 live-streamed webinars with Community Medicine Organization and 35 social media posts to increase the knowledge of people about NCDs risk factors and the importance of financing for NCDs and provide comments for the draft law on Medical Treatment and Examination
- A communication package including 7 infographics and 3 factsheets on NCDs and UHC was developed and widely shared



Our KEY RESULTS

A recommendation letter with a strong message on the importance and urgency of the increased excise tax rate for tobacco, alcohol, and sugary drinks as a financial resource for strengthening primary healthcare to the Vietnam National Assembly (NA) right before the NA's meeting to discuss the financial resource for COVID-19 prevention and economic recovery.

As a result, the NA submitted an official letter to the Prime Minister asking him to pay attention and direct relevant ministries to consider the proposal of the NCDs-VN. NCDs-VN's letter contributed to the issuance of Decision No 508/QD-TTg approving the Strategy for Tax System Reform to 2030 by the Prime Minister on April 23rd, 2022: to develop a road map to increase the excise tax on tobacco and alcohol to limit production and consumption and meet international commitments, as well as review and adjust excise tax rates on several commodity items to suit socioeconomic conditions.



Our KEY RESULTS

KHÓA 6

Cha mẹ uống rượu, bia làm chậm sự phát triển của trẻ



An E-module on Early Prevention of Alcohol-related Harms for Children was developed and launched on the website “Early Journey of Life” – a parental learning platform in the last week of December 2022



Two members of RTCCD's NCD team increased their knowledge about the successful intervention models for alcohol harm prevention & control and created a potential regional partner network in this field through the study tour in Thailand. A series of webinars to share this valued knowledge and lessons learned from international alcohol control partners were designed and disseminated in December 2022 and the first quarter of 2023.

Innovation Implications

In collaboration with the Monash University, the Ministry of Health Vietnam and the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, the RTCCD team has achieved a big movement in the parenting education program on early childhood development in the country.

The "Early Journey of Life", co-funded by the Grand Challenges Canada and the Porticus, has been implemented to 109 communes in Ha Nam province and piloted to 10 factories in Ha Noi city and Ha Nam provinces.

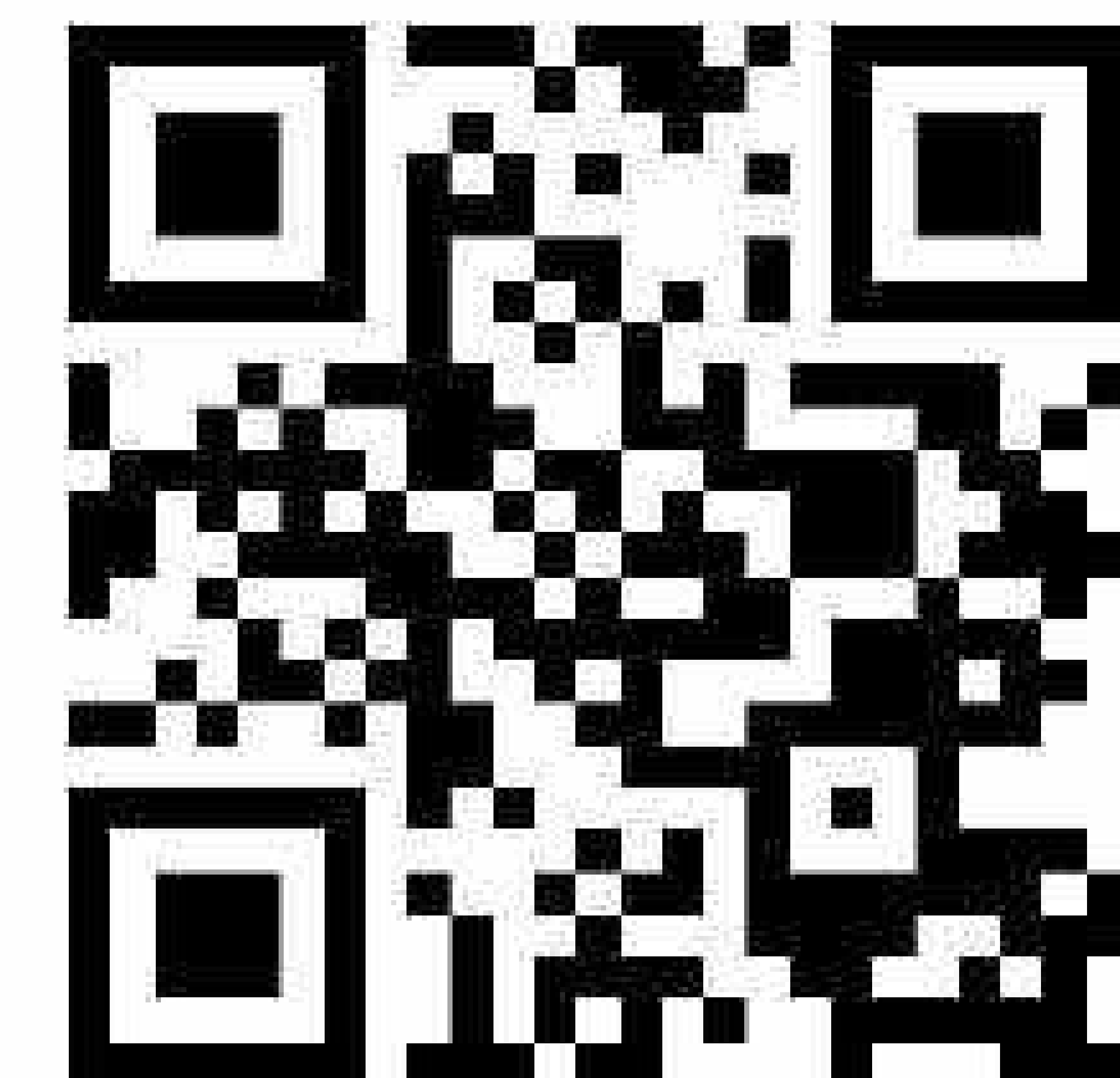
The in-person model (5 modules with 20 in-person sessions) has been transformed into a Hybrid model (20 online sessions and 3 in-person sessions of practice) and an online model (20 online sessions). 8 e-modules were developed and uploaded into the e-learning website (5 e-modules for parents; 1 e-module for health workers; 1 e-module for kindergarten teacher; and 1 e-module for Women's Union staff).

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The E-learning website

<https://ejol.vn/>

Scan QR code



Key figures

1,700,000 views of EJOL YouTube

2,000 subscribers to EJOL e-learning website

1,700 learners completed or on-going learning of e-modules

14,453 caregivers attended in-person practice sessions on early childhood development

- * **1,065** industrial zone workers
- * **13,370** parents in rural communities

02 books were published by Nha Nam publishing house and sold nation-wide

03 articles were submitted to international peer-review journals

07 articles on national newspapers

04 broadcasted news on national and provincial televisions



Feedback of a learner in EJOL e-learning website:

“ I have just finished the E-learning courses on the web of the program "Early journey of life". After studying, I have a deeper understanding and practical application, I am interested the most in topics about complementary feeding for kids, how to choose food groups, breastfeeding, reading stories to kids and playing with them with flash cards. I have applied the knowledge I have learned to raise and teach my son, who is now 11 months old. Both my spouse and I attended the courses. ”

With positive feedback from industrial zone workers after learning, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor supported to introduce the "Early journey of life" e-learning website to trade union leaders of 63 provinces. The Ministry of Health Vietnam allowed the EJOL to be introduced in the national Training of Trainers course about nutrition in the first 1000 days.

Good practice of EJOL were presented in international workshops in Mexico, Netherlands and several virtual seminars online.



Policy advocacy

RTCCD team completed the finalization of the Technical Guideline on Early Childhood Development for Health Workers, under the request of the Ministry of Health Vietnam and the UNICEF Vietnam. The final version was completed and submitted to the Minister of Health for approval.



Research



An online survey “Understanding workers’ perception of safety in childcare facilities for children of industrial zone workers” with nearly 700 industrial zone workers was conducted. It aimed to identify the current situation of childcare facilities for industrial zone workers’ children and challenges in service usage; and to examine child safety at childcare facilities through parent reports.

This was a cross-sectional study using a quantitative method. A structured online questionnaire will be virtually filled out by 600 participants who are workers at 10 factories (5 in Ha Noi and 5 in Ha Nam) and who have children from 6 to 60 months old.

Finding of the survey would be used to develop policy brief to the Vietnam General Confederation and media, advocating for child safety in childcare facilities, supporting Decision No. 105/2020/ND-TTg about welfare for industrial zone workers’ children for childcare facilities and Decision No.404/2014/ND-TTg about strategies for private childcare service development in industrial zones.

SOCIAL WORK

Strengthening capacity of social work profession



Establishment of E-learning Website: <https://kynangctxh.vn>

Capacity building for social workers and para-social workers in child protection is a training program that has been continuously implemented by RTCCD and HealthRight International from 2014 to 2021 with financial support from Boeing Foundation. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges to traditional offline training models, but it is also one of the driving forces that led to the ideation of creating a platform that combines offline and online training in social work.

In 2022, with technical support from HealthRight International and financial support from Boeing Foundation, the E-learning platform on social work skills on the website <http://kynangctxh.vn> was built and piloted. The website was launched with the hope that in the future, social workers and para-social workers working at the community level will have the opportunity to learn and improve their practical skills in social work in their own way, on their own pace, regardless of geographical distance and financial constraints.

In-person training courses

From June 20 to 23, 2022, a trainer course on “Psychosocial First Aid and PhotoVoice to support returned persons from human-trafficking and those at risks” was held in Hanoi with the participation of 30 participants from the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs; Departments of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs/Social Work Centers of 4 provinces Lang Son, Lai Chau, Son La and Quang Ninh; social work lecturers from Hanoi National University of Education, University of Social Sciences and Humanities; Practitioners from the National Child Helpline 111; social workers from Center for Women and Development, and social work practitioners of national and international NGOs.

SOCIAL WORK

Under request of the International Social Service Network (ISS), RTCCD completed 4 family assessment reports submitted to ISS partners. The assessments focused on assessing kinship or foster care for Vietnamese children living abroad at the request of child and family courts, providing legal information related to children, supporting reintegration for adults and children returning from abroad.



**Case Assessment
and Integration
Supports**



Green Pine Clinic

Due to strict social lockdown of COVID-19, the Green Pine Clinic, which focused on early childhood development and child mental health assessment, was closed until June 2022.

Since its re-opening after the lock-down, GPC served 2,234 client-visits in 6 months of 2022:

- Whole-child development assessment and mental health assessment: 255 client-visits
- Child mental health therapy: 1,979 client-visits.



Community education on mental health

GPC doctors and psychologists conducted 4 training courses on first aid for 250 preschool teachers, and 1 workshop for 50 preschool teachers and parents with children aged 2 - 5 years old with the topic: "Development milestones in 2- to 5-year-olds and signs of psychological development that need support".

Helping children with ADHD

It is estimated that 4% (range 3% - 8%), equivalent to 1 million children under 18 in Vietnam suffer from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) (NHP, 2021; GSO, 2019). Among the children who came to the National Pediatric hospital in 2021 for assessment and therapy, children with ADHD accounted for 20% of admission. Families in rural/mountainous areas, workers in industrial zones, who have limited access to clinics and specialists, are left to suffer from cycles of stress and poverty and children suffer from discrimination and difficulty in schooling.

With financial support from the Australian Volunteer International, an e-learning module of ADHD to instruct parents how to provide therapy to their children via caregiver-child interaction was developed in 2022. The e-module ADHD was integrated into the EJOL e-learning website. The e-module will be piloted to parents in both urban, rural, and industrial zones in Vietnam (Jan – June 2023).



KHÓA 5

ADHD
Tăng động Giảm chú ý
Hiểu đúng để giúp con



HÀNH TRÌNH ĐẦU ĐỜI
EARLY JOURNEY OF LIFE





Suicidal intervention for factory workers

Mental Health team RTCCD conducted training course “Suicidal intervention for factory workers to 2 factories in Ha Nam province”

The training course aimed to implement a suicide first-aid model for factory workers. It adapted the suicide first aid from Australian versions to Vietnamese. Our mental health team trained 50 suicide first aid gatekeepers in 2 factories, increasing their awareness-raising in terms of suicide prevention and suicide first-aid.

It is confirmed by research evidence that the COVID-19 pandemic increased suicide risks, suicide attempts and suicidal thoughts among factory workers because of reduction of working hours, job lost, economic impacts, and income reduced/lost. Hence, this activity contributed directly to support the workers who are affected by COVID-19.



THANK YOU

RTCCD would like to express the sincerest gratitude to sponsors as well as partner organizations and individuals named below who have contributed significant support and cooperation to the success of our work.



Donors

- Grand Challenges Canada
- Porticus
- IOGT-NTO Movement Sweden
- Boeing Foundation
- Non-Communicable Disease Alliance
- Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
- Australian Volunteer International

Partners

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Labour, Invalid and Social Affairs
- Ministry of Information and Communication
- Vietnam General Confederation of Labour
- World Health Organization in Vietnam
- University of Monash, Australia
- HaNoi University of Public Health
- Economic Commission of the Central
- Communists' Party
- HealthRight International
- Stop Drink Network Thailand
- Community Medicine Organization
- International Social Service Network
- Abroaders
- National Television VTV1, VTV3, VTC1
- National Radio VOV1, VOV2

Our Volunteers and Interns

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