

GRANT THORNTON BUILD 2018 FINAL REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF THE BIG BUILD EVENT

With generous donation from Grant Thornton, 14 low-income families have been supported to build new decent houses. Of these 14 households, 13 have hosted volunteers to build alongside with home-owners. Over four days, from July 16 to 19, 2018, Habitat for Humanity Vietnam and its local partners in Quang Nam province together with 149 volunteers from Grant Thornton Australia supported to build these 13 new houses for low-income families in two communes Duy Thanh and Duy Vinh in Duy Xuyen district. 14 houses are not just houses, they are new homes bringing new hopes and a brighter future for the disadvantaged families in the disaster prone areas. Quang Nam is a poor province located in a Central coastal region of Vietnam and is one of the most vulnerable areas which is regularly impacted by storms, severe floods, droughts, whirlwinds and landslides which are increasing in frequency and intensity. Whenever natural disasters hit the province, houses, water and sanitation facilities and agricultural production are seriously damaged. The majority of the people in Quang Nam rely on agriculture for their livelihood and living in the disaster affected region makes themselves even more economically and physically vulnerable. Many households in Quang Nam cannot afford to build or renovate their houses properly, and as a result when a typhoon hits, their houses are seriously damaged, or destroyed all together. Many families have repaired their houses at least once, using old and damaged materials, and have been applying the same inadequate construction methods thus continuing the vicious circle of poverty and housing that never seems to end. The Grant Thornton Build aims to increase community resilience to natural disasters by enabling low-income households to obtain affordable and safe housing. The build event marks the first time Habitat for Humanity Vietnam (Habitat Vietnam), Habitat for Humanity Australia and Grant Thornton have cooperated in partnership to bring decent homes to 14 vulnerable families in Vietnam.

On the evening of Sunday July 15, 2018, after a long journey from Australia to Quang Nam, Vietnam, 149 Grant Thornton volunteers were welcomed at the Palm Garden Resort, one of the most charming resorts in Hoi An. During the welcome event, the volunteers were joined by Mr Shaun Fitzgerald, Consul (Economic/Political), Australian Consulate-General, Ho Chi Minh City, Mr Ian Graham, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Australia, Ms. To Thi Bay, Program Director of Habitat Vietnam, Greg Keith-Grant Thornton Australia CEO, and Peter Bodin - Grant Thornton Global CEO. In this event, volunteers were briefed on construction site safety and logistics to get ready for building activities. Mr. Shaun Fitzgerald shared, “We are very proud of Australians who volunteer to work quietly and selflessly for Vietnam’s economic development through projects

like the Grant Thornton Australia. Your work, and contributing to the development of Quang Nam Province, is a tangible example of our partnership at the people to people level. I'm sure that some of the friendships you will make, and the laughs and the memories that you will have over the next four days will stay with you forever."



Welcome ceremony and dinner

On Monday, July 16, the first day of building started with a quick official welcome ceremony organized by local government at the base site in Ho Nghinh high school with the participation of all 13 home-owners. In the event, local leaders in Quang Nam province including leader of Duy Xuyen district People's Committee and Duy Thanh and Duy Vinh communes' Peoples Committees along with 13 household representatives came together and welcomed all the volunteers. Mr. Greg, Grant Thornton Australia CEO and build volunteer, gave a short speech to express the excitement of the volunteers and how everyone was ready to go to the build site to get their hands dirty. 149 volunteers were divided into 13 teams to build 13 houses. Homeowners came to the base site in the morning to welcome all the volunteers and accompany the teams to the houses. After a 30-minute ceremony, the 13 teams and 13 home-owner reps left the base site and headed to the build site.



At the build site, all volunteers were reminded of the safety regulations to observe while working. During the build week, the volunteers worked alongside 13 families and local masons to build new homes made of concrete, brick and corrugated iron sheets in Duy Vinh and Duy Thanh communes, Duy Xuyen district. Typically, the volunteer jobs were to transfer and arrange bricks, mix mortar and lay bricks. Sanitation facilities were also built for each of the 13 houses prior to the build event.

In July, the weather was hot and humid but all volunteers worked as hard and diligently as the professional masons. They worked with family members, told jokes, shared stories and even danced and sang together with the families. Apart from the joyful time, there were also touching moments sitting around tables for a short break and listening to the homeowner's stories. To these families (and many more) a simple and safe home is a lifelong dream. Thanks to the support of Grant Thornton and all the volunteers, the dream has come true for 13 families in Duy Thanh and Duy Vinh commune. For the 4-day build, all volunteers worked 8 hours/ day alongside the future homeowners to help reach the goal of building 13 houses in less than a week!





Grant Thornton volunteers at work

"The homeowner is my mother's age and I could not imagine that she has been living in such conditions for most of her life. I feel very happy to be here and help to build the house and bring a brighter future for the family. I love Vietnam and I hope to come back for other builds in the future." GT volunteer, Julie Smith.

Build activities came to an end on Thursday, July 19th after an emotional and intimate house dedication ceremony held by the individual teams at their respective homes and a closing ceremony at the Ho Nghinh high school base site. Coming to the closing event, were representatives of Quang Nam Department of Foreign Affairs, Union of Friendship organizations, Duy Xuyen district People's Committee, Duy Thanh and Duy Vinh communes' People's Committees, 149 volunteers, 13 home-owners and all Habitat staff. The ceremony opened with a song and dance performed by local people. The volunteers and distinguished guests were welcomed and congratulated on stage by Greg Keith, Grant Thornton Australia CEO, Kelly Koch, Habitat Vietnam's National Director; Van Ba Son, and Vice Director of Quang Nam Department of Foreign Affairs.

"Thanks to all enthusiastic Grant Thornton employees for your significant contributions to this beautiful community and to constructing the houses this week. I'm certain that all of us will be carrying special memories of this week back home with us, but also know that you have left many unforgettable memories and joy to all those you've supported. I've received updates throughout the week about the extremely hard work and excellent progress being made here.... Congratulations on a job well done. This is an important contribution to Habitat's journey towards the vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live." said Kelly Koch.

Le Thi Kim Tien, now a proud homeowner, took the stage to deliver a heartfelt and moving speech. She once again thanked Grant Thornton, the volunteers, Habitat Australia and Habitat Vietnam and local authorities. The new house, her family's lifelong dream, has come true thanks to the support of the project. She wishes the project will continue so other poor families could be supported to have better housing conditions.



A touching moment of a Grant Thornton volunteer with a homeowner

The Grant Thornton build event was carried out in partnership with Department of Foreign Affairs, Quang Nam Union of Friendship organizations, People's Committee of Duy Xuyen District, People's Committee of Duy Thanh and Duy Xuyen communes and thanks to the generous sponsorship of Grant Thornton Australia and the great support from Habitat for Humanity Australia.

2. CONSTRUCTION OF 14 NEW HOUSES

Habitat Vietnam has worked in close collaboration with local partners to choose 14 households that meet the selection criteria of the project:

- The families whose houses are inadequate as evaluated by Habitat Vietnam
- The families who have difficulties accessing housing finance due to insufficient income to afford market housing. However, the families must meet the minimum household income level such that they have the capacity to contribute to the cost of the construction.
- The families who have legal land ownership
- The families who are willing to participate in the project activities, including complying with the Habitat Vietnam's working methodology on housing construction.
- The families who are willing to have volunteers help build the house and to work alongside

the volunteers.

- The families with at least 3 members.

First, as requested by Habitat Vietnam, Duy Vinh & Duy Thanh Communes' People Committee (CPCs) conducted village meetings to provide project information to all villagers to open up for household registration. Based on registration, Duy Vinh & Duy Thanh CPCs provided a list of families who met the project selection criteria.





Secondly, Habitat Vietnam and Duy Vinh & Duy Thanh CPCs co-assessed the house quality, household collaboration, income and contribution capacity of these families in order to select the most suitable households. After the household selection was complete, Duy Vinh & Duy Thanh CPCs announced broadly the list of selected households (via local loudspeakers or notice board at the center of commune/village) to get comments from local people within one month. After one month, there was no comments/claims from local people so the construction was conducted and the loans were disbursed to the selected households.

The selected families were provided with an affordable resilient housing design including a toilet with a detailed costing for construction. All selected households and their masons were trained on resilient constructions skills and volunteer engagement. The families managed their own construction team with the guidance and monitoring from Habitat Vietnam's construction supervisor and local authorities.

The construction started in mid-June 2018 and after one month, the construction of the background and columns was completed and the 13 houses were ready to host 149 volunteers from Grant Thornton, Australia from July, 16 – 19 to carry on with the next step of bricklaying.

By October 30, construction of all 14 house has been completed and after being checked and accepted by Habitat Vietnam and local partners, 13/14 families have moved into their new houses while the household number 7 is on the last steps of making the floor and doors and will move in early November.

FAMILY PROFILES

BEFORE	AFTER
Household 1: Le Thi Kim Tien, has moved in the new house in September	
	
Household 2: Le Cong Doi. The house is completed at the end of October and they have moved in.	
	
Household 3: Vo Thi Hoa. They have completed and moved into the new house in October	



Household 4: Nguyen Van Dung. They have moved in to the new house at the end of October.



Household 5: Tran Thi Em. They have moved in to the new house at the end of October.



Household 6: Nguyen Van Men. The house has been completed and they have moved in September.



Household 7: Nguyen Van Tam. They are finishing the floor and doors and will move in November.



Household 8: Nguyen Thi Thu. The house has been finished and they have moved in October 28th.



Household 9: Le Thi Thuan. The house has been completed and they have moved in September



Household 10: Nguyen Xuan Quang. The house has been completed and they moved in September



Household 11: Nguyen Thi Huu. The house has been completed and they have moved in September



Household 12: Le Chi Hai. The house has been completed and they have moved in September



Household 13: Dang Thi Tam. The house has been completed and they have moved in September



House 14: Tran Thi Thich. The house has been completed and they have moved in in October 28




3. Event Photos





4. Event Media



No .	Date	Publication	Headline English	Headline Vietnamese	URL	Tone	Brief translation
1	April 4 2018	Linkedin	Grant Thornton leader building houses in Vietnam		https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/grant-thornton-leaders-building-houses-vietnam-hilary-haynes/	Positive	<p>I am proud to be part of an organisation that believes "To lead differently, it is important to do things differently". I am also fortunate enough to be part of the team organising and supporting our Partners' Habitat for Humanity build in July to make a tangible difference to a disadvantaged community in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam. Working with Habitat for Humanity, we'll spend six days building homes for families in need.</p> <p>Everyone who is part of the build will raise funds to go towards the cost of materials and supplies for the homes we will be building. If you are able to make a donation of any size this is my personalised link and I am asking for your support as part of my wider business community ; http://support.habitat.org.au/HilaryHaynes . In addition, and in my private capacity as a freelance artist I will be painting a series of Vietnam inspired paintings to raise funds - you can find the details for these on my Artist FB page https://www.facebook.com/thefridaygallery/</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organisation that works in partnership with low income families to build simple, decent, affordable houses in Australia and around the world. Through donations and the use of volunteer labour (like ours), Habitat for Humanity builds and renovates houses. To date, Habitat has built over 800,000 houses in disadvantaged communities.</p>

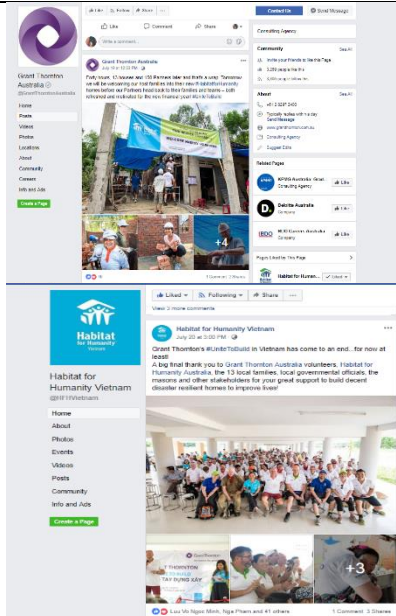
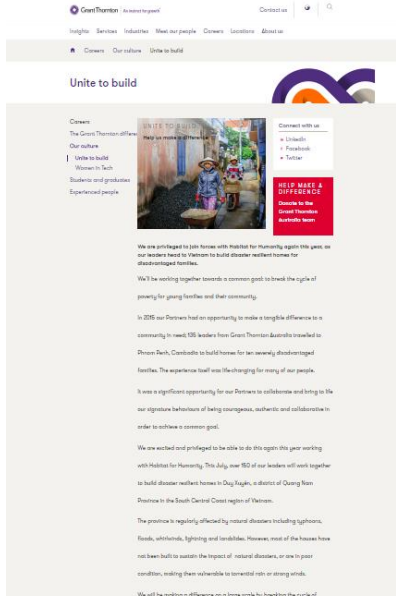
							<p>My personal goal is to raise \$2,000 before I leave for Vietnam. If you would like to make a donation, please visit my fundraising webpage.</p> <p>I look forward to keeping you updated on our journey!</p>
2	April 13 2018	Quang Nam Online	Improving housing conditions in the neighborhood in Duy Xuyen Province	Cải thiện nhà ở cho hộ nghèo ở Duy Xuyên	http://baoquangnam.vn/xa-hoi/201804/cai-thien-nha-o-cho-ho-ngheo-o-duy-xuyen-789656/	Positive	<p>People's Committee has recently certified "Improving housing conditions for disadvantaged homeowners in Duy Vinh and Duy Thanh Commune, Duy Xuyen Province".</p> <p>13 households will received housing supports to enhance disaster resilience.</p>
3	July 15 2018	Duy Xuyen TV Broadcast	Kick-off construction coordinated by Habitat for Humanity	Khởi công xây dựng nhà ở do tổ chức Habitat hỗ trợ	http://duyxuyenrt.vn/tin-tc/xa-hoi/khoi-cong-xay-dung-nha-o-do-to-chuc-habitat-ho-tro.html	Positive	<p>In the morning of July 16 2018, volunteers coordinated by Habitat officially held kick-off build for 13 households living in Duy Vinh and Duy Thanh Commune. Apart from supporting 50 millions dong per one house, these Australian volunteers also joined to build the house to support the families. This is the occasion to support disadvantaged families to provide them a decent homes equipped with good water and sanitation facilities to settle down and to protect the environment better.</p>
4	July 18 2018	Nhan Dan Online News	Happiness from houses in flooding area	Niềm vui từ những ngôi nhà vùng lũ	https://nhandantv.vn/nie-m-vui-tu-nhung-ngoi-nha-vung-lu-n82029.htm	Positive	
5	July 20 2018	Cong An News	Support to renovate houses for homeowner	Hỗ trợ sửa chữa nhà cho gia	http://cadn.com.vn/news/64_192593_ho-tro-sua-chua-nha-cho-gia-dinh-chinh-sach.aspx	Positive	<p>July 19, Habitat Vietnam partnered with Grant Thornton Australia to hand over 13 houses to 13 homeowners living under difficulties conditions at Duy Thanh Commune (Duy Xuyen District, Quang</p>



			s under social services program	định chính sách			<p>Nam Province). Some days ago, 152 Australian volunteers has come to Duy Thanh to support building homes. Habitat Vietnam works with low-income families in new house construction, home repairs, improving their access to clean water and safe sanitation and technical assistance as well as enabling them to obtain secure tenure.</p> <p>13 houses in this occasion were designed and built against flooding and equipped to meet technical standards and sanitations.</p>
6	July 20 2018	Quang Nam News	House of safety	Mái nhà an toàn	http://baoquangnam.vn/x-a-hoi/201807/mai-nha-an-toan-805192/	Positive	<p>From July 16 – 19, Habitat for Humanity Vietnam conducted to building new flooding-proofed houses at Duy Thanh and Duy Vinh Commune (Duy Xuyen District), with strong support from about 150 volunteers coming from Grant Thornton. The series of events is considered as part of the project funded by Grant Thornton to support 13 houses to low-income 13 families. The project guaranteed technical standards of safety and sanitation as well as protected the families from natural disaster.</p> <p>With this project, these volunteers had supportively built houses with the hope that homeowners will no longer be afraid of natural disaster.</p> <p>When being asked, Mr. Peter Bodin from Australia shared: “When coming here, we received lots of warm welcome from the supported families and local people. That is why everybody here all thrive to do many things for the families to receive the complete houses as soon as possible”.</p> <p>Furthermore, Mr. Fraser McNaughton from Australia also shared: “It is very pleased to experience this build. We are very willing to share difficulties with the</p>

						<p>disadvantaged people living here. We hope that in near future, we are able to visit these families”.</p> <p>Ms. To Thi Bay, Program Director from Habitat Vietnam mentioned that 50 million has been funded to support each low-income houses. “Each family has a story and different financial background but they are all needing the supports from the society. This time we just can visit, encourage these 13 families affected by the storm. We hope that other households will have the opportunity to improve their housing.</p>
7	July 22 2018	Linkedin	Making a difference, one brick at a time		https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/making-difference-one-brick-time-alex-gelman-gaicd/	<p>Positive</p> <p>July 2018 Duy Xuyen District, Quang Nam Province, Vietnam #GrantThorntonAus #UniteToBuild #HabitatForHumanity</p> <p>I really did not know what to expect when we set off in our mini bus with our pink panther mascot proudly on display in the windscreen, for all to see. There were 10 of us in the mini bus, plus a translator/habitat leader and all round good person, nicknamed “Bamboo”. She was half our height, but she was tough and definitely in charge.</p> <p>I was excited, a little eager and a little apprehensive, as we drove away from our 5-star hotel, passing rice fields, free range roaming cows and streams of mopeds, all beeping, as they passed. The houses quickly disappeared, replaced by sheds of multiple proportions. There was water and wetlands all around us, with rice fields in every direction.</p> <p>The mini bus abruptly stopped and commenced to turn into what looked like a private driveway. In fact, it was a perfectly respectable semi-main road, partially concreted. Actually it was a major thoroughfare for the</p>

						<p>locals, as we later learned. I still have no idea how the driver navigated the narrow street, dodging mopeds, bikes, dogs and an occasional chicken.</p> <p>We stopped in front of an archway, at the cross roads between road "A" which continued north, separating the houses (maybe dwellings is better way of describing them) and the rice fields, and road "B" which extended perpendicularly east, deep into the rice fields.</p>
8	July 23	Vietnam Heritage Magazine	150 Grant Thornton volunteers share emotions with Vietnamese homeowners receiving new houses		https://www.facebook.com/vnheritage/posts/1892811464090250	<p>Positive</p> <p>Quang Nam Province, July 19 th 2018, 150 foreign volunteers from Grant Thornton ended the four-day build with high spirits when it came to the final ceremony. The build was facilitated by Habitat for Humanity Vietnam (Habitat Vietnam) and Habitat for Humanity Australia (Habitat Australia) to bring together the volunteers and 13 low-income homeowners to build new disaster resilient houses.</p> <p>Despite the barriers in language and culture, volunteers and homeowners enjoyed their time working (and sweating) together to build new houses to ensure the families have a decent, safe place to live. Most of the houses were built faster than projected with walls over 2,4 meters tall and internal walls constructed up to the bedroom. “It would be impossible for us without the warm welcome and support from Ms. Tam, the homeowner. The team and I had a wonderful time here with the people and the build”, shared John Picot, the team leader of house number 13 during the house dedication ceremony. “On behalf of the team, thank you Ms. Tam, and we hope that you have good memories with us and that the good memories will continue into the future in this house.”</p>

							The rest of the construction will be completed by local masons and the houses are expected to be complete by the end of August. At that time, all the houses will be sturdy enough to protect the families from natural hazards such as erratic weather conditions and typhoons during the annual disaster season. 13 low-income families will no longer be plagued by worries and insecurity from severe damages such as a leaky roof, rotten wooden-framed walls, and unsanitary toilets and overcrowding.
9		Vietnam Television (reshare from Nhan Dan Online News)	Happiness from houses in flooding area	Niềm vui từ những ngôi nhà vùng lũ	https://nhandantv.vn/nie-m-vui-tu-nhung-ngoi-nha-vung-lu-n82029.htm	Positive	
10		Daily Motion (reshare from Nhan Dan Online News)	Happiness from houses in flooding area	Niềm vui từ những ngôi nhà vùng lũ	https://nhandantv.vn/nie-m-vui-tu-nhung-ngoi-nha-vung-lu-n82029.htm	Positive	

11		Facebook			<p><u>Habitat for Humanity Vietnam:</u> https://www.facebook.com/HFHVietnam/posts/1723556727713323 https://www.facebook.com/HFHVietnam/posts/1721008337968162</p> <p><u>Grant Thornton Australia:</u> https://www.facebook.com/GrantThorntonAustralia/posts/2025218777522469</p>	Positive	
12		Website			<p><u>Habitat for Humanity Australia:</u> https://habitat.org.au/building-decent-homes-for-vietnamese-homeowners-grant-thornton/</p> <p><u>Grant Thornton:</u> https://www.grantthornton.com.au/the-grant-thornton-difference/our-culture/unite-to-build/</p>	Positive	

							
13	Aug 3 2018	Duy Xuyen TV Broadcast	News in August 2018 (from 10:06 – 13:27)	Chương trình truyền hình Duy Xuyền tháng 8 2018	http://duyxuyenrt.vn/truyen-hinh/video/4991.html	Positive	
14	Aug 8 2018	Nhan Dan Online	Improving housing conditions for poor people	Cải thiện nhà ở cho hộ nghèo	http://www.nhandan.com.vn/baothoinay/baothoinay-xahoi/item/37254502-cai-thien-nha-o-ho-ngheo.html	Positive	<p>Ms. Huu (Duy Thanh Province) shared with deep emotions that how she has expected the house to be built, especially when her family has been living in the area where disasters can smash her humble house. “This year, I think I feel safe because our floor base has been lifted up. My family has a small kitchen, facilitated toilet so till then, we will no longer worry about the storms”.</p> <p>All the households interviewed by the newspaper shared that they were very thankful when the volunteers come and give them a hand of support. “Volunteers are like special guests. They worked as similar to what the masons did. And this touches our hearts a lot”.</p>

5. Event sponsors

About Grant Thornton Australia

Grant Thornton is one of the world's leading organisations of independent assurance, tax and advisory firms. These firms help dynamic organisations unlock their potential for growth by providing meaningful, forward looking advice. Proactive teams, led by approachable partners in these firms, use insights, experience and instinct to understand complex issues for privately owned, publicly listed and public sector clients and help them to find solutions.

Grant Thornton Australia has more than 1,160 people working in offices in Adelaide, Brisbane, Cairns, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. We combine service breadth, depth of expertise and industry insight with an approachable “client first” mindset and a broad commercial perspective.

More than 50,000 Grant Thornton people, across over 135 countries, are focused on making a difference to clients, colleagues and the communities in which we live and work. Through this membership, we access global resources and methodologies that enable us to deliver consistently high quality outcomes for owners and key executives in our clients.

www.grantthornton.com.au

About Habitat for Humanity Vietnam

Habitat for Humanity Vietnam, a branch office of Habitat for Humanity International, began operations in 2001 in Da Nang in the central coastal region of the country. Habitat Vietnam works with low-income families in new house construction, home repairs, improving their access to clean water and safe sanitation and technical assistance as well as enabling them to obtain secure tenure. Currently, Habitat Vietnam is present in Hoa Binh, Thai Nguyen, Phu Tho, Thai Binh, in the north; Quang Nam and Ha Tinh provinces in the central region; and Dong Thap, Long An, Tien Giang provinces in the south. Habitat Vietnam has also launched disaster response projects in Phu Tho, Dong Thap and Quang Nam provinces.

As of June 2018, Habitat Vietnam has supported more than 14,600 low-income families to access housing support services. In addition, Habitat has trained more than 120,000 individuals in financial education, disaster preparedness and hygiene practices.

Visit habitatvietnam.org or connect with us via <https://www.facebook.com/HFHVietnam/>