



Habitat
for Humanity®
Vietnam

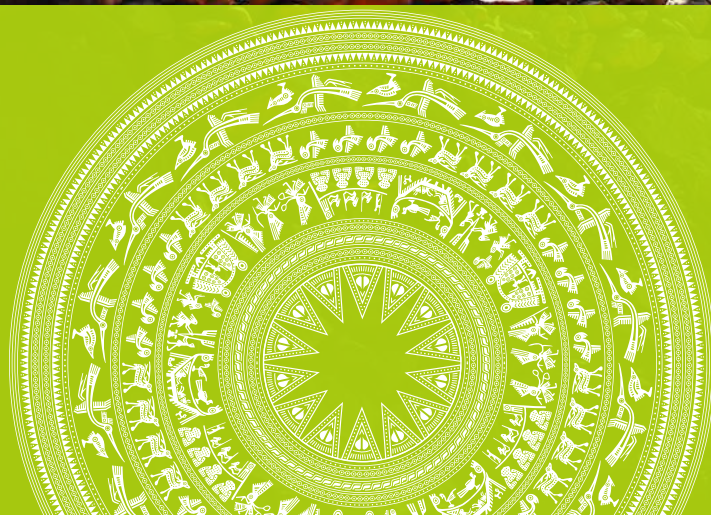
Vietnam Big Build 2020



Project Brief

November 2 - 6, 2020

**Van Lang Commune, Dong Hy District,
Thai Nguyen Province, Vietnam**





Chim Lac bird is a symbol of ancient Vietnamese art and culture, found in the Dong Son Bronze drums depicting daily realities of Vietnamese everyday life such as **farming, music, and construction**.

Thai Nguyen is a mountainous province in the Northeast region of Vietnam

Land area: 3534.45 km²

Population: 1,364,000

8 ethnic minority groups, including H'mong people

Main industry: Tea (16,000 ha) - 100,000 tons per year

Although Vietnam has had rapid economic development and the rate of homeless household has been reduced in the last two decades (1999-2019) from 6.7 to 4.7 households per 10,000 households*, many do not have access to adequate, safe and quality housing. Besides the homeless, there remains 6.9% households living in sub-standard and temporary houses equivalent to 1.4 million households and 5 million people that need housing improvement. The population census report also stated that nearly 8 percent of Vietnam's 97-million population is still living on less than 700,000 Vietnamese Dong (US\$30) per month or US\$1 per person per day in rural areas. Low-income families living in poorly built housing are constantly being forced to rebuild their homes due to natural disasters. In every ten people, seven living in inadequate shelter have to face the risk of typhoons, torrential storms and flooding which hit Vietnam annually. Among the rural population of over 61 million, about one third do not have access to adequate sanitation while 3 percent do not have access to clean water.

The 53 officially recognized ethnic minority groups within Vietnam's diverse society have not, however, shared equally from the benefits of the country's growth. Poverty, life expectancy, nutritional status, and other living standard measures remain stubbornly low among Vietnam's ethnic minorities despite numerous policies introduced to assist these groups.

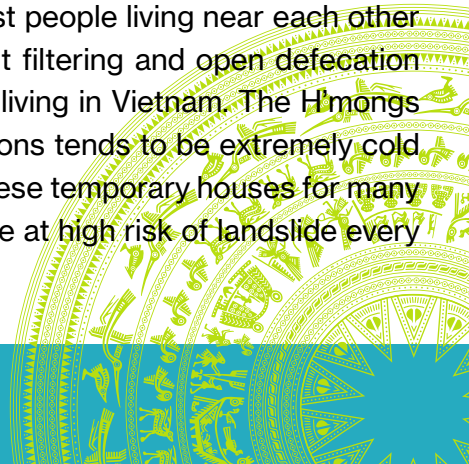


Thai Nguyen province has natural resources and potential opportunities for economic development, but through a site visit done in June 25th 2019 in Van Lang Commune, Dong Hy District in Thai Nguyen Province, Habitat Vietnam has confirmed a significant need on housing improvement with adequate WatSan facilities for ethnic minority people living in remote highlands area. Van Lang Commune is one of the poorest communes of Dong Hy District. Many ethnic minority people (especially The H'mong) live under the poverty line. They dwell in damaged houses without proper sanitation. Having improved well-being is not within reach for the H'mong people. There are about 40 temporary and unsafe houses of H'Mong's poorest people living near each other in Van Lang Commune. All of them are using water from the streams without filtering and open defecation remains to be a common practice. There is about one million H'mong people living in Vietnam. The H'mongs live in houses with its roof and walls made of leaf. Winter in the Northern regions tends to be extremely cold for them with their current housing condition. They have to suffer the cold in these temporary houses for many years. The H'mong people also living along the hills or near the cliff so they are at high risk of landslide every time there is heavy rainfall.

*Population census report, April 2019



Project Brief





Habitat for Humanity International began its work in Vietnam in 2001. For 17 years, Habitat Vietnam has been delivering holistic approach to housing by supporting and empowering communities to take ownership in improving their living conditions, has enabled more than 16,000 families and 138,000 individuals to build strength, stability, and self-reliance. In partnership with different actors from the government, the community and different donor parties, small scale loans are extended to low income families with low interest rates and tailored repayments making housing affordable to those who are unreached by available market-based financing services. As part of its integrated approach to housing finance and transformational community development, Habitat Vietnam supports families through water, sanitation and hygiene, disaster risk reduction and response, capacity building through financial literacy, and promotion of safe housing (e.g. mainstreaming of non-asbestos containing materials). In the next three years, Habitat Vietnam aims to increase access to affordable, safe shelter through these thematic areas: inclusive housing; safe, smart, and resilient communities; housing affordability, and government-people engagement.



Vietnam Big Build (VBB) 2020 will be the 4th big build organized by Habitat Vietnam. The previous VBB events were conducted at Dong Thap Province (2018), Mekong Delta Tien Giang Province (2013) and in Northern Vietnam – Phu Tho Province (2016). These events altogether have transformed the lives of over 350 people living in sub-standard and temporary houses in rural areas. These families have found hope in their homes.



Project Brief



Vietnam Big Build 2020



Habitat Vietnam believes that through financial support, volunteering and adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help H'Mong families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves.

This time VBB 2020 will be held in Thai Nguyen Province, Northern Vietnam. Habitat Vietnam will engage with international volunteers in the construction of new houses which include access to safe water and sanitation facilities for vulnerable H'Mong families living in inadequate housing. In partnership with the local government, Habitat Vietnam will provide technical (construction, water and sanitation) advice and training, awareness-raising and skills transfer to at least 25 households (including a pilot construction house). The combination of support, capacity building and integration as well as the establishment of partnerships will ensure the households' construction and training activities are meaningful and sustainable.

Together with the local government partner, the 4th VBB 2020 will target to support a group of the poorest H'mong families living in the area that are at high risk of disasters such as landslide. Most of them are living near each other. Together with the local government partners, these families will be screened in order to select the most home-owner that meet the selection criteria that will be established by Habitat Vietnam. House design consultations will be conducted to take into account the H'Mong's housing needs and priorities including their traditions. Technical assistance will be provided to the selected home-owners and the skilled workers whom the families select to work alongside the volunteers.

Habitat Vietnam construction supervisors (CS) will provide assistance to the home-owners to make the necessary preparations and complete pre-construction tasks in time for the volunteers' arrival. At least one pilot house will be constructed to test the build plan, and guarantee safety. After the volunteers' departure, Habitat Vietnam will continue to provide technical support and monitoring to successfully complete all 25 houses. Additional support will be provided through partner organizations working in the area.



Vietnam Big Build 2020

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Improved living conditions of vulnerable H'mong ethnic minority families in Thai Nguyen province, Northern Vietnam

PROJECT OUTCOMES

Enhanced quality of life and health condition of 26 vulnerable ethnic minority families through housing improvement with appropriated sanitation facilities.

Raised awareness of the need for adequate, affordable housing through volunteer engagement with the participation of at least 250 volunteers working together with home-partners for 1,250 volunteer days (10,000 volunteer hours) on the construction of 25 new houses



Vietnam Big Build 2020

SAMPLE ITINERARY

Location: Thai Nguyen
From: October 31, 2020
To: November 7, 2020
Duration: 8 days

Saturday - October 31, 2020

Arrive Vietnam (Noi Bai International Airport)
Hotel check-in in Hanoi
No formal activities scheduled / free time
Dinner on your own

Sunday - November 1, 2020

Morning:
11:30 am: Hotel check-out and lunch on own
11:45 pm: Be ready at the hotel lobby

Afternoon: Team travels to Thai Nguyen by bus
(12:00 pm & 12:15pm - bus assignments will be in place)
2:30pm & 2:45pm: Hotel check-in; receive VBB Welcome Package
4:15 - 5:45 pm: House leader orientation
6:15 - 8:30 pm: Opening ceremony and welcome dinner

Monday - November 2, 2020 - Day One

6:30 - 7:30 am: Breakfast at hotels
8:00 am - Bus pick-up from hotels
8:30 am - Arrive at build sites & safety briefing
8:45 - 11:45 am - Build (morning break at 10:00am)

12:00 - 1:00 pm - Lunch at base site
1:15 pm - Travel back to build clusters
1:30 - 4:00pm - Build (afternoon break at 2:30pm)
4:15pm - Depart from build site

6:30 - 8:00 pm - Group dinner at local restaurant (by bus)

Tuesday - November 3, 2020 - Day Two

Schedule is the same as Day One
Family interview - after work (4:00-4:30pm)
(Dinner on your own)

Wednesday - November 4, 2020, Day Three

Schedule is the same as Day One
6:30 - 8:00 pm: Group dinner at local Restaurant (by bus)

Thursday - November 5, 2020 - Day Four

Morning schedule is the same as Day One
2:00 - 4:30pm Community visit, ethnic minority museum, mud house & tea plantation
(Dinner on your own)

Friday - November 6, 2020 - Day Five

6:30 - 7:30 am: Breakfast at hotels
8:00 am - Bus pick-up from hotels
8:30 am - Arrive at build sites & safety brief
8:45 - 12:00 am - Build
12:00 - 1:00 pm - Farewell lunch at base site
1:00 - 2:00 am - House dedication at build 2:30 - 4:00 pm - Closing ceremony at base site

6:45 pm - Farewell dinner
End of formal events for the build

Saturday - November 7, 2020

6:30 - 8:00 am - Breakfast at hotels
8:00 am - Check-out
8:30 am - Departure to Hanoi
(dropping at Noi Bai airport or City Center)
Build event concludes with arrival in Hanoi



Vietnam Big Build 2020

PROJECT PHOTOS



A customized house design will be further developed in consultation with The H'Mong ethnic group to consider specific needs and traditions



Site photo



Site photo



Completed house



Completed house



Project Brief

Vietnam Big Build 2020



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Project Brief