



PRESS INFORMATION

INCEPTION WORKSHOP OF FORECAST BASED EARLY ACTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA PROJECT

Quang Tri, October 27, 2021 - Plan International Vietnam (Plan), in collaboration with the Red Cross Society of Quang Tri Province and CARE International in Vietnam (CARE), organizes an inception workshop to introduce the project 'Forecast Based Early Action in Southeast Asia - FBEA SEA' to delegates from provincial, district and commune authorities.

Until December 2022, the project is implemented in four communes in Huong Hoa district, Quang Tri province and Ham Thuan Bac district, Binh Thuan province and three wards in Ho Chi Minh City. Tentatively, the FBEA-SEA project is expected to support more than 6,500 people to improve their capacity to manage disaster response and prevention plans. Actions to reduce the damage of extreme weather events, including floods, droughts and heat, are designed following the framework of the early warning-based action mechanism. The project is being implemented by Plan, CARE and World Vision and their partners, with financial support from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Agency (ECHO).

At the workshop, project partners and stakeholders will spend time learning about the objectives, expected results and proposed innovative approaches to disaster response through early warning and early action.

In Vietnam, and especially in the central provinces, floods cause a lot of casualties and damages every year. International and domestic organizations have made great efforts to reduce the impact of floods in particular and natural disasters in general, increasing in level and scale.

In Quang Tri province, climate change has caused unpredictable impacts on the weather. Local people often face and suffer a lot of damage caused by natural disasters; while natural disasters are becoming more complicated, unpredictable, irregular as before, their frequency increases, their intensity increases every day, noticeably stronger.

Efforts for disaster relief and rehabilitation are often costly and require a lot of timely efforts. Instead of disbursing after a disaster, early action mechanisms and early disbursements to households and communities are based on warning timeframes set forth by scientists. The use of support resources humanitarian assistance will be much more effective and, at the same time, increase the resilience of communities to disasters.

Out of Vietnam, the project (FBEA SEA) will promote early action based on forecasts to help Southeast Asian countries prepare for effective disaster preparedness, with evidence are typical efforts undertaken in Vietnam.



At the workshop, a tripartite cooperation agreement between Huong Hoa District Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Plan and CARE, will be signed on the basis of reaching consensus on the Project implementation plan, the main roles and responsibilities of the partners and related parties.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Nguyen Duc Thanh, CARE's Portfolio Manager shares, *"FBEA SEA project aims at strengthening the capacity of local authorities and communities to respond to and adapt to disaster risks, especially with mechanisms in place. Early actions based on disaster forecasts are among CARE's strategic priorities for 2021-2025. CARE believes that the coordination between organizations and partners will bring positive and sustainable impacts to the community, improve disaster risk response and enable people to live safer lives."*

Also at the seminar, Mr. Luu Quang Dai, Program Development and Quality Manager, Plan affirmed: *"Supporting the community to implement forecast based early actions is a new approach to helping communities improve resilience and move from passive to active in response to natural disasters. We hope that the project will receive the attention and support of central and local management agencies so that the early forecast-based approach can be expanded to suit the context of Vietnam."*

The workshop will concrete the foundation for cooperation between Plan, CARE, the Red Cross Society and relevant technical partners in Huong Hoa district and Quang Tri province to work on initiatives which are based on forecast based early action approach.

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To editors:

About CARE International in Vietnam

CARE International in Vietnam is a creative and dynamic organization that has worked with Vietnamese and international partner organizations since 1989 in over 300 projects. We recognize that the key to achieving equitable development outcomes lies in addressing deeply rooted, underlying structural causes of poverty and injustices which contribute to the exclusion and vulnerability of particular groups in society. In Vietnam, our long-term program goals are that poor and marginalised ethnic minorities and urban people of all genders, particularly women, equitably benefit from development. To learn more, visit www.care.org.vn and www.facebook.com/CAREinVietnam.



Về tổ chức Plan International tại Việt Nam

Plan International is a humanitarian development organization that focuses on children, especially girls' equal rights. Plan International has more than 80 years of experience and currently operates in more than 75 countries worldwide. The organisation has been working in North and Central Vietnam since 1993. Our program targets priority groups, specifically adolescent girls, including children from ethnic minorities and young female migrants in both rural and urban areas in three areas: Parenting skills to ensure gender equality to support and develop children comprehensively; Preventing gender-based violence and promoting girls' leadership; Vocational training and building future for girls, ensuring that they are born and grow up healthy both physically and mentally, helping them to decide their future actively.

We believe that girls have the power to change the world. Therefore, Plan International's ambition is to accompany them to ensure that two million girls in Vietnam by 2022 can learn, lead, make decisions and develop.

According to June 2019 data, in Vietnam, there are 363,053 girls and 305,260 boys directly benefiting from Plan International's programs and more than 15,856,924 children (of which 7,647,982 are girls), receiving indirect support from communication activities and advocacy on girls' rights.

We accompany children, youth, partners, advocates to create change together.

About European Commission Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)

The European Union and its member states are the world's leading donors of humanitarian aid. Humanitarian aid is an expression of Europe's solidarity with those in need around the world. It aims to save lives, prevent and alleviate human suffering while protecting the integrity and human dignity of populations affected by natural disasters and man-made crises.

Through Humanitarian Aid Operations and Civil Protection, the European Union helps millions of victims of conflicts and disasters each year. With its headquarters in Brussels and a global network of field offices, the EU provides assistance to the most vulnerable on the basis of humanitarian needs.