

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ensuring the convenience and safety for local people, children and students through making a reinforced concrete bridge over the stream in Sau village, Kien Thanh commune, Tran Yen district, Yen Bai province

1. Context and Rationale

In order to help local people including students travel conveniently and avoid floods in rainy season at village 6, Kien Thanh commune, Tran Yen district, Yen Bai province where the stream flows through, a volunteer group of Tran Yen district's has provided financial support, local people have contributed labor to build a concrete bridge, namely Ong Thuy since 1993. However, after nearly 30 years, under the constant impact of traveling, time, storms and floods, the bridge has been seriously degraded and damaged, bridge surface, handrail and chicken wings on its both sides, bridge abutments collapsed. According to local authorities and people, the bridge may be washed at any time if heavy flood occurred, but people still travel across this bridge as it is the only way to go to the central regions such as market, schools and working places. Therefore, during flooding season, Kien Thanh Commune Flood and Storm Prevention Committee always has to send military and police forces to the location to control traffic, guide and lead students to avoid being swept away by floods. As the living condition of local citizens is quite difficult and disadvantaged, while local government's budget is quite limited, they do not have enough financial ability to build a new bridge.

2. Objective

Ensuring the convenience and safety when travelling for local people, children and students through making a reinforced concrete bridge over the stream

3. Results and indicators

Results	Indicators
One bridge over stream is built successfully, with ensured technical quality	A reinforced concrete is built with the length: 10 m, width: 3 m, girder: 0.38 m, cover the bridge's surface: 0.07m
Local people confirm that their convenience and safety when travelling are guaranteed.	At least 90% of local people confirm

4. The beneficiaries of the project:

- **Direct beneficiaries:** 155 households, 576 people, of which, 270 are female, 98% are ethnic minority group, 89 poor and near poor households, 200 children and students
- **Indirect beneficiaries:** 365 nearby households, with 1,625 people, of which 723 are women, 90.8% are ethnic minority group, 300 children and students, 120 teachers

5. Budget plan (USD)

No	Activities	Total
1	Materials (sand, stone, cemen, iron, hiring machine...)	6,100
2	Labour	3,900
3	Construction machines	900
4	Management fees	1,100
	Total all	12,000



TRUNG TÂM NGHIÊN CỨU SÁNG KIẾN PHÁT TRIỂN CỘNG ĐỒNG

The center for Research on Initiatives of Communities development (RIC)

Tel./Fax: 024 3212 1882

Email: ricvietnam2009@gmail.com

Website: ric.org.vn

Địa chỉ: P. 407, Chung cư Packexim
Số 49, ngõ 15 Đường An Dương Vương,
Phường Phú Thượng, Quận Tây Hồ, Hà Nội

Address: Room 407, Packexim building
No 49, alley 15 An Duong Vuong street,
Phu Thuong ward, Tay Ho district, Hanoi

ORGANISATION INFORMATION

1. Some general information

- **Organization Name:** The Center for Research on Initiatives of Community development (RIC)
- **Director:** Mr. Le Van Hai
- **Address:** Room 407, Packexim apartment, number 49 alley 15, An Duong Vuong street, Phu Thuong ward, Tay Ho district, Hanoi.
- **Tel:** +84 24 32121882 **Mobile:** +84 917 61 8484
- **Email:** ricvietnam2009@gmail.com
- **Website:** ric.org.vn

2. Forming basis:

RIC established in 2009 under Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA) under the Decision No.1160/QĐ-LHH on August 28th, 2009 by Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Association (VUSTA), with license No.857 on September 11th, 2009 and re-issued on March 3rd 2016 by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Vision: RIC wants to become a professional and innovative organization in promoting community management, contributing to the sustainable development of ethnic minority communities

Mission: RIC connects and promotes initiatives to improve the self-management capacity of minority communities in order to implement National Target Programs; Land and natural resources governance in Vietnam

In the period of 2016 – 2020, RIC focus on promoting self-management capacity of ethnic minorities' communities in: (i) Implementation of National target programs and (ii) Land and natural resources governance. Up to 2020, RIC want to become a professional and innovative organization in community management contributing to sustainable development for minority communities.

3. Key approaches

3.1 People led development - PLD: RIC promotes initiatives of the local indigenous community based on its geo-specific conditions to self-manage their own development process. The process starts with farmers and villagers who are interest to make change in their family and their community. Via learning exchange and reflection afterward within the community, people can make change with their own capacity and resources. The project focuses on engaging of community with collective wisdom and collective ownership towards development process, contributing of expert human resources towards indigenous pattern of life and skills.

3.2 Community management (CM) approach

This is a method of management that local people are owners in their own development process. They have legal rights and have enough ability to participate in needs assessment, priority ranking, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation their development initiatives to ensure its transparency and accountability. CM emphasizes that local authorities need to listen to the voice of local citizens and they have the rights and can directly involve in making decisions locally. In this approach, the right holders (local residents, including poor and disadvantaged people, women) become more confident and competent to be able to claim their rights legally, to organize group discussions or village meetings regarding their own common concerns and priorities, and to plan, implement and manage by themselves. The duty bears (local governments) in addition should be more accountable and transparent in implementing their obligations and responsively promoting CSR implementation of SMEs, supporting its citizens to attain extra-resources from SMEs/donors, even the State. This method of working has been recognized and highly appreciated by central and local authorities and communities as an effective way to enhance self-management ability of communities, including ethnic minority villages in mountainous and remote areas

3.3 Capacity-building and mobilization the participation of key groups in community:

This methodology contributes to enhancing solidarity and enabling campaigns among key farmers in the communities. In order to promote sustainability of the project's impact, it is essential that the capacity of the key farmers is built. Developing farmers' capacity to contribute their time and ideas to their PLD processes is directly linked to improving their awareness and understanding on their rights.

3.4 Build and develop a strong networks

RIC acknowledges that to contribute to sustainable community development, RIC cannot be a sole actor. Thus, for each development project, RIC always networks and partners with multi-stakeholders to mobilise their participation and contribution both in terms of expertise and resources. They include authorities from central to local levels, socio-political organisations, INGO, local NGOs and local communities. RIC remarkably contributes to implement project effectively and efficiently.

4. Core values

RIC believes that the value that creates its difference is the combination of 3 factors: Knowledge, Skills and experiences.

Knowledge: (method, process and tools) on promoting self-management, empowerment for community and connecting to expert teams.

Skills: directly work with community including ethnic minority groups, including both language and communication skills.

Experiences: directly work with ethnic minority groups, authorities from central to local levels and promote the interaction among them.

Until now, RIC is only organisation in Vietnam that connects all 3 factors in promoting self-management capacity of community in some following fields:

- Maintenance and operation of rural infrastructure
- Land and natural resources management (forest, water)
- Dialogue between local community and authority in building and implementing of socio-economic development plans and national programs

5. Previous and current project

No	Year	Project title	Source
1	2019-2021	Effective cooperation for rights of legal assistance and consultation of ethnic minority communities	JIFF-\$90,000
2	2019-2021	Viet Nam Workstream for Customary Tenure Recognition through Support to the Implementation of the 2017 Viet Nam Forestry Law (Vietnam Forestry Workstream)	SDC-\$38,799
3	2017 - 2021	Ethnic minorities Empowerment through Piloting and Scaling up Communities Based O&M and Construction of Commune infrastructure in Programme 135 in Hoa Binh and Tra Vinh provinces, Vietnam.	Irish Aid – \$538,032
4	2017 - 2018	Strengthening long-term access of ethnic minorities, women, poor people and their community to forest land and forest through a transparent and participatory reallocation land procedure.	SDC ¹ – \$74,984
5	2013 - 2017	Pilot of Community-based Operation and Maintenance of communal infrastructures in Program 135.	Irish Aid – \$400,138
6	2012-2013	Improving the Role of NGOs to Promote Substantial Gender Equality and Bridging the Gap Between Relevant Policies of Gender Equality and Their Implementation in Vietnam	UN Women in Vietnam
7-8	2013 – 2014; 2011 - 2012	Promoting community group's participation in protecting ethnic people's rights in land issues in Ky Son district, Hoa Binh province.	JIFF ² - \$60,868
9	2009 - 2016	Promoting community self-management in Vietnam.	SDC - \$907,931

¹ Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

² Justice Initiatives Facilitation Fund - a joint program between the Government of Vietnam, Government of Denmark, Government of Sweden and the European Union to support justice sector reform in Vietnam.