



MSD NEWSLETTER

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**YOUNG VOICES IN VIETNAM
WHEN CHILDREN
RAISE THEIR VOICES**

- ★ Campaign
"You are safe now, my child"
- ★ Campaign
"Digital citizens - Online safety during the COVID-19"
- ★ Corporate Social Responsibility/ Creating Shared Value towards sustainable development
- ★ Mobilization of resources and new advances for "A new life page" project



**MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (MSD)**

Open letter

Dear valued readers,

We have entered the first months of 2021 - A new year with many new beginnings. Right in the first months of the year, we have faced the next wave of COVID-19; many activities of studying, working, producing... were interrupted. This comeback requires us to change and adapt to the "new normal".

For MSD, we are still working hard to implement and maintain the devised plans and activities, and at the same time, launch new activities and campaigns to accompany the community in the process of adaptation to the new normal. In this quarter one

newsletter, we share the imprints of MSD in the journey of efforts to create social impact in the context of the pandemic, marking the transformation of MSD and other civil society organizations (CSOs).

The highlight of the newsletter for the first four months of 2021 is our journey to report, share and listen to the Voice of Vietnamese Children in 7 provinces and cities in Vietnam. We had the opportunity to meet more than 1000 children during this journey. We were impressed by their questions, wishes, suggestions and comments, even their eyes and smiles reminding us that we still have a lot of work to do for future generations.

In this newsletter, readers can also see our efforts in capacity-building activities for CSOs and young people through training activities, campaigns that educate children about Internet safety skills, protect children from the risk of sexual abuse, and provide legal support to victims' families, etc. The "A New Life Page" project has also made significant progress when we developed new crowdfunding channels and achieved initial success. Businesses - CSOs connecting activities are still promoted through surveys, researches and group discussions to create shared values, etc.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic is still expected to last, we believe that together we will defeat the pandemic and stabilize life. Through the newsletter, we hope that readers will find joy and optimism in our plans and steps in the coming time.

Thank you very much and we wish you all good health and peace!

Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD)






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Highlight

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- ★ Communication campaign
“Digital citizens - Online safety during the COVID-19”
 - ★ Young Voices in Vietnam
When children raise their voices
 - ★ Campaign
“You are safe now, my child”



Campaign

Digital citizens – Online safety during the COVID-19

From February 23 to March 15, 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) launched the campaign “Digital citizens – Online safety during the COVID-19”, with the financial support from Save the Children International. The campaign aims to promote children’s participation in building a healthy online environment, and at the same time, to guide parents and teachers who are closed to children as well as to communicate about policies and programs that contribute to create a safe online environment for children.

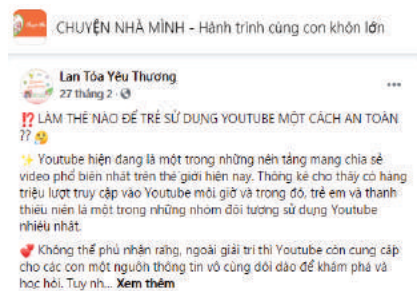
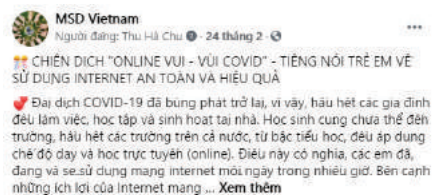
With the aim of spreading the message “For Vietnamese children to become standard digital citizens”, the campaign has provided parents and children with necessary and useful information about using the Internet in a comfortable and safe way with vivid images and video clips. Featured articles can be mentioned such as: Stay safe on Facebook with 7 basic steps; 5 principles - 10 actions to accompany children on the Internet; Protect children from videos with bad contents; Tips for using Youtube safely; 5 things you should tell your kids about the Internet,... Protect children from videos with bad contents; Tips



for using Youtube safely; 5 things you should tell your kids about the Internet,...

Concurrently, within the framework of the campaign, MSD held an online talkshow “Vietnamese Children - Standard Youth in the Digital Age” with the participation of representatives of the Department of Child Affairs, Information Technology Specialists and meritorious artist Xuan Bac. At the show, the speakers shared their views on the current issues of children’s use of the Internet from different perspectives and gave useful advices to parents, teachers and babysitters.





Talking about the campaign, Ms. Tran Van Anh - MSD Program Director said: *"For children, they should always believe that they are never alone. There will always be someone who listens, trusts and acts to protect them. For parents, let's always listen to our children with a heart of love and trust, and when we work together, we will surely have solutions to all problems."*



After three weeks of launching, the campaign "Digital citizens - Online safety during the COVID-19" has approached more than 17,000 people on Facebook, along with the total of 12 news articles and in-depth interviews. This outcome shows the interest of families and the community on the journey with children to become standard digital citizens of the country.

YOUNG VOICE IN VIETNAM JOURNEY WHEN CHILDREN RAISE THEIR VOICES



During the period of March to April 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), in collaboration with the Department of Child Affairs - Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs, organized a series of seminars to share the results of Young Voices in Vietnam report in 7 provinces/cities across the country.



In 2020, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) and Save the Children have released the Young Voices in Vietnam report. The Young Voices in Vietnam survey was coordinated and deployed by MSD from September 2019 to February 2020 with the participation of 1,692 children aged from 11 to 16 years old in 7 provinces/cities across all three regions of the North, Central and South of Vietnam. Following the success of the report, MSD collaborated with the Department of Child Affairs - Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social

Affairs to conduct a series of seminars on sharing the results of the Young Voices in Vietnam report in 7 provinces and cities where children were surveyed in March and April. The series of seminars aims to share and publish the results of the Young Voices in Vietnam report, and at the same time, listen to and receive feedbacks from children and stakeholders to promote children's participation in issues that relate to them.





During the kick-off seminar in Hanoi on March 22, 2021, Ms Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD shared: *"We still say that children are the future seeds of the country. Indeed, not only in the future, at present, especially in the digital age, children play a very important role in the country's development process. Children are digital citizens who contribute to a safe and healthy online environment. They are environmental ambassadors responsible for protecting themselves and their friends from violence, abuse, bullying, etc. They also inspire and create changes. Children's right to participate has been affirmed."*

We are very happy that the Young Voices in Vietnam report has had the enthusiastic participation of children; the survey report has reflected their situations, concerns, desires and demands for their rights. The report was then cared for, listened to, and reflected by the National Assembly and state management agencies to develop national programs for children and policies related to children. The series of seminars of the Young Voices demonstrate that adults and relevant departments are reporting back to children, and conversing on children's issues so that policies related to children continue to be improved, children's right to participate is exercised".



The series of seminars involved more than 1000 children. They featured a wide range of children's opinions on child rights, cyber safety for children and young people, mental and physical punishment on children, academic pressure, gender stereotypes, etc.



Some remarkable statements from the children:



- I am impressed by the findings related to witnessing physical and mental punishments of children. I have also witnessed forms of physical and mental punishments of children, and I feel sorry for them. I hope parents should listen to their children more; stakeholders need to build rights to protect children. (T.D., grade 6)
- Children are studying too much, so what about the time to eat, to sleep and to play? It is necessary to balance studying time and time children spend on extracurricular activities such as camping, going to orphanages and poor areas to learn about life and get more practical knowledge (G.H, grade 7)
- We are studying up to 13 subjects, will we use all the knowledge of these subjects in the future? In my opinion, we should only focus on studying a few oriented subjects. (G.N., grade 7)
- Many children are not confident, still quite passive, not yet confident to talk about their opinions, is there any way to support them to speak in public? (K.)



To respond to the comments and questions of the students, Mr. Dang Hoa Nam - Director of the Department of Child Affairs shared: *"Children's participation is always the priority in the operation plans of the Department of Child Affairs. We highly appreciate the results of Young Voices in Vietnam report and the opinions, aspirations and suggestions that children have shared in the program today. Dialogue activities, receiving children's opinions processes need to be carried out regularly in various forms and methods. These comments will be recorded and submitted to the top management agencies every month. In addition, we always work with other state management agencies, schools, and commune organizations to continue listening, absorbing and acting to promote the implementation of the right to participate of Vietnamese children".*



CHIẾN DỊCH

CON AN TOÀN - CHA MẸ Ở NGAY ĐÂY

Thời gian: 25.03.2021 - 25.04.2021



#Con_an_toàn_Ch_a_mẹ_ở_ngay_đây

#Tư_pháp_thần_thiện

#Cả_thể_tôi_là_của_tôi

#Phòng_tránh_xâm_hại_trẻ_em

CAMPAIGN

“YOU ARE SAFE NOW, MY CHILD!”



Child sexual abuse is still one of the problems of society. The number of victims is increasing day by day, and at the same time, acts of physical, psychological child abuse are also gradually changing and being unpredictable. In Vietnam, this situation has been resulted in painful consequences not only for victims but also for families and the society, not only in remote areas but also in socio-economic areas.



During the period from March 25 to April 25, 2021, within the framework of the project “Supporting access to justice for sexually abused children in Hanoi” financially supported by the Justice Initiatives Facilitation Fund (JIFF) – a component of the ODA Project “Justice and Legal Empowerment in Vietnam – EU JULE” funded by the European Union, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), in collaboration with Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children’s Rights (VACR), implemented the campaign “You are safe now, my child” 2021 to provide information and raise awareness of families, schools, babysitters and community about prevention against child sexual abuse; legal and medical support when a child is sexually abused; provide parents with better understanding about the process of accessing primary medical services.





Sharing about the campaign, Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD said: "The journey to build a safe shield for all children is long and challenging. It requires efforts, especially from parents. But always remember that parents are never alone since state agencies and CSOs are always ready to accompany and support families on this journey. Although the campaign only lasts one month, we will not stop unless there is still a child being not safe."

During one month, MSD and VACR organized two online seminars "You are safe now, my child" and "Child Sexual Abuse: Confront or Compromise", along with online communication via social networks and online live events to share the reality of child abuse in recent years as well as to introduce child protection policies and timely support for children who are unfortunately a victim of sexual abuse. The campaign has achieved impressive results with nearly 300 live attendees and more than 40,000 online approaches on two Facebook pages: MSD Vietnam and Spreading Love. Such results show the deep concerns of the community and society in joining hands to protect children from child sexual abuse.



The journey to protect children from sexual abuse and to find justice for child victims can be arduous and difficult, but it is a mission, a right journey to pursue. We do not compromise but confront to protect children from sexual abuse, help them to have a safe environment for healthy development. If there is only one child victim of violence and abuse left, we still have work to do.





INSPIRING CSOs

For best practice on transparency and accountability

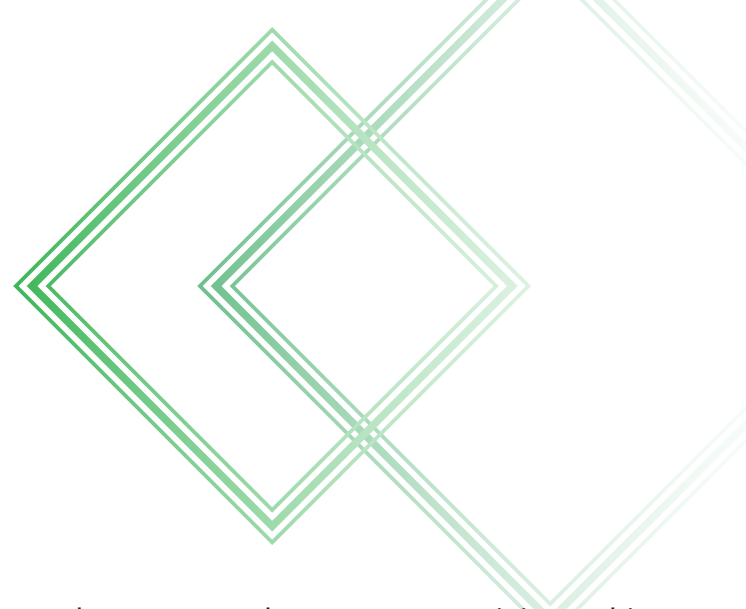


Advocacy Training

on Child Rights Governance 2021

Following the cooperation activities in 2020, from 21st January to 22nd January 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) organized training seminars on “Advocacy Training on Child Rights Governance 2021”. This is an activity to develop the advocacy activity plan for the Child Rights Governance network (CRG) in 2021, to strengthen coordinations among network members, and at the same time, to promote the implementation of the National Action Program for children in the period from 2021 to 2030. This is one of the activities within the framework of the project “Strengthening the capacity of CSOs on Child Rights governance” funded by Save the Children (SCI).





More than 30 representatives from CRG network members across the country participated in the training seminar. At the seminar, the network's representatives summed up the network's activities in 2020 and discussed the main contents of the training session, including:

- Analyzing the context of Advocacy on Child Right Governance in 2021
- Identifying advocacy issues/objectives and learning advocacy skills
- Addressing policy issues related to children and the implementation plan of the National Action Program for children in the 2021-2030 period
- Advocating on Child Rights Governance and advocating efforts of CRG members in 2020
- Planning CRG network's advocacy and cooperation plan.



Also, in the seminar, the members developed a preliminary plan for advocacy in 2021, which focused on activities such as:

- Monitoring the implementation of Child rights
- Ensuring children's participation
- Ensuring clean water and sanitation systems for children in schools
- Preventing physical, mental punishments and child abuse
- Promoting the right to have birth certificates for children
- Inclusively educating children with disabilities - Mental health care for children in school.





Business Partnership





SURVEY

ON TRENDS OF PARTNER DEVELOPMENT SHARED VALUE CREATION



Contributing to the process of implementing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Vietnam, especially promoting partnerships between parties (Government - Private sectors - CSOs) – SDG 17, from December 2020 to April 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), in collaboration with RED Communication and the German NGO ProNGO! conducted 02 surveys for the private sector and CSOs in Vietnam to study the awareness, strategic perspectives and partner development trends in the activities of Creating Shared Value (CSV) towards 17 SDGs in 2020-2024.



After three months of implementing the online survey, the research collected 108 valid respondents from businesses in many industrial sectors and 65 valid respondents from CSOs operating in many areas to develop the community and improve the environment towards SDGs. Concurrently, the authors held nearly 30 in-depth interviews with business, CSOs leaders, and Chambers of Commerce and 01 stakeholders consultation seminar including private sectors, CSOs and other multi-stakeholders. The report will be completed and published in the second quarter of 2021.

Development of digital fundraising channels



Following the success of the campaign “Give a child a new life page” at the end of 2020, MSD has carried out two fundraising campaigns for the project “A new life page – Birth certificate making support for children with special and difficult circumstances” in early January and late April 2021. The campaigns all achieved their goals quickly, within 4-5 days with VND 100,000,000 and VND 95,000,000, respectively. The contribution will be used for making documentation, identity verification, DNA testing (if necessary), and implementation costs for social workers, lawyers, and families in difficult circumstances, small gifts for children, etc.

In the first months of 2021, MSD has developed and promoted forms of online crowdfunding, especially in collaboration with Momo e-wallet application to raise funds for programs and projects.

Specifically, by the end of April 2021, thanks to the support of Momo Wallet, MSD has successfully raised five fundraising campaigns with a total amount of VND 575,000,000



Also, in early 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) in collaboration with Cerebral Palsy Family Association Vietnam (CPFAV) raised VND 150,000,000 via e-wallets MoMo to present 110 gifts to 110 families with children with cerebral palsy in 4 provinces in the Central Highlands.



Each package of gifts for families includes food (rice, eggs, milk, cooking oil,...), soap, toothpaste, brush, facemask, diaper,... The gifts will be given to children with cerebral palsy as new year wishes. The gifts may give them strength and partly share the burden with families, as well as send the message "Never leave a child behind!"

"Water Ambassador - Clean water for community," is a key fundraising program of MSD and partners this year. In March and April, MSD and The Center for Research on Initiative for Community development (RIC) have continuously raised funds for two campaigns, "Water Ambassador - Clean water to Ta Lao village" with the amount of VND 80,000,000 and "Water Ambassador - Join hands to bring water to Thanh Tri B hamlet" with the amount of VND 150,000,000. The contributed money will be used to build a clean water supply system and to renovate, upgrade or build a new system of water tanks for households in Ta Lao village and Thanh Tri B hamlet. Besides, people will be guided to use and save clean, also to maintain and protect the water system.



In the coming time, MSD will attempt to develop an online fundraising channel to create values and benefits for the community, towards the goal of "Leave No one behind".



A new life page

Giving toys to vulnerable children in Ho Chi Minh City



In order to create a safe and healthy playing environment, contributing to ensure and promote children's right to play, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) organized the program A New Life Page – Giving toys to vulnerable children in Ho Chi Minh City at Anh Linh Love School with the gifts support from Spin Master Company - one of the leading companies in manufacturing toys and digital games in the world.

Through the event, Spin Master Company has presented 348 toy sets with familiar cartoon characters to children at six shelters, sponsoring facilities, love schools and about 800 children with special and difficult circumstances in Ho Chi Minh. All toys are committed to being child safe and suitable for boys and girls aged from 3 to 10.

As soon as they received gifts and instructions for use, the children couldn't help feeling excited. N.Y – a 6 year-old student at Anh Linh school expressed: *"It's so cool! My favorite toy is the police dog in the Rescue Dog Squad, she is very brave. In the future, I want to be a police officer to help people"*.

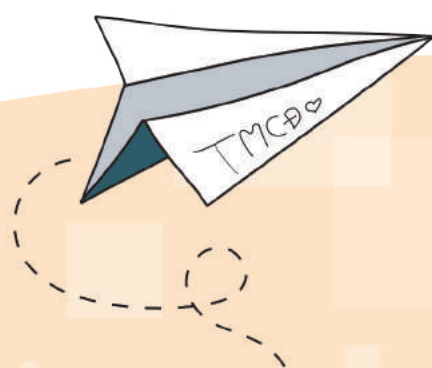




Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD shared at the program: *"When thinking about children, we often talk about EATING - LEARNING - PLAYING. These sound very popular, but to vulnerable children whom we are supporting, it's very different. Having enough food to eat, going to school and playing with toys are hard to approach. We are very happy to cooperate with businesses, donors, especially Spin Master. Thanks to this, we could bring to children these smart and safe toys. The children's smiles today expressed positive thoughts and dreams of the future, so we hope to become motivated people to help them overcome the difficulties and develop their potential to grow and succeed."*

On behalf of the units that received the gifts, Ms. Mai Thi Kim Dung - Principal of Anh Linh Charity School said: *"We would like to thank Spin Master for sending these meaningful gifts to our children in the school in particular and the children in shelters and sponsorships in general. We also sincerely thank MSD - those who give their hearts and minds to be a connector among donors and us, so that our children get chances to have fun. Hopefully, there will be more donors and sponsors join hands with us to support and take care these vulnerable children."*

With these gifts, we hope that vulnerable children will have more opportunities to have fun and we can accompany them on the journey to make their dreams come true in the future.





Policy Advocacy





MSD contributes to the development of the National Action Program for children in the 2021-2025 period

On January 7, 2021, the Deputy Prime Minister signed Decision 23/QĐ-TTg, approving the National Action Program for children in the 2021-2030 period with the aim of ensuring the implementation of child rights, comprehensive development of children; creating a safe, healthy and friendly living environment for children.



This decision also specifies real tasks and solutions such as: Strengthen the direction, guidance and coordination of ministries, branches and localities, thereby developing specific programs, schemes and plans for the implementation of goals on children; Ensure the integration of goals and targets about children in the annual and “five-year period” socio-economic development plans of ministries, branches and localities; Complete the laws and policies to ensure the implementation of child rights

and solve the problems related to children; Develop a service system to meet the implementation of child rights having the integration and coordination of health, education, justice and social security services; Prioritize child protection service systems; Strengthen communication and education on children’s knowledge and skills to exercise their rights and duties.

During the drafting process, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), the Child Rights Governance network and other organizations, with practical experience, have accompanied the management agencies through activities such as conducting surveys, consulting with children, and contributing suggestions on promoting children’s participation and child protection.

SEMINAR

on consultation, ideas contribution to the amended Decree 64



The seminar was held on January 28, 2021, by Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) in collaboration with Center for Community Development (LIN), consulting on ideas contribution for the amended Decree 64 on raising, receiving, distributing and using voluntary contributions to support overcoming difficulties caused by natural disasters, epidemics and incidents; Supporting patients suffering from serious diseases. There were nearly 50 delegates participating in the seminar, including representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Vietnam Red Cross Society, the Ministry of Public Security, CSOs, lawyers, researchers and press agencies.

in, phân phối và sử dụng các nguồn đóng góp từ nguyên
: phục hồi khẩn do thiên tai, dịch bệnh, sự cố;
trợ bệnh nhân mắc bệnh hiểm nghèo

Hà Nội, ngày 28 tháng 01 năm 2021



Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Lam - Chairman of MSD said at the opening speech: *"The discussion today has the participation of many stakeholders, giving comments on the amended Decree 64 in particular and the legal framework for philanthropy activities in general. We hope that today's comments will contribute to creating a favorable ecosystem for the development of the country's philanthropy, ensuring the implementation of the policy of leaving no one behind in the development progress".*

The seminar created an open space for envoys to exchange and make suggestions. Some typical comments were discussed in details for the amended Decree 64 related to creating conditions for both individuals and community organizations to participate in charity works, diversify community resources, mobilize both domestic and abroad resources, facilitate distribution, simplify implementation, etc...



Journalist Hoang Thien Nga shared: *"I agree that charity also needs a process and guidance to avoid the situation of individuals or the community using funds in unreasonable ways, but I think in the 4.0 era, if there are guidelines which specifically and precisely guide the whole country to be transparent when doing charity, it is the social community that will be an effective supervising force, with the responsibility of supporting the supervision of relevant organizations and agencies."*

From the reality and demands of voluntary works, Mr. Nguyen Sy Dung - Former Deputy Chairman of the Office of the National Assembly shared: *"We should remove the procedure of giving or not giving, but stipulate guidelines on how to coordinate charity work effectively and transparently"*.



Mr. Pham Quang Tu - Deputy Director of Oxfam in Vietnam emphasized: *"The new decree needs to ensure two things: The first one is to create a legal corridor to encourage and create favorable conditions for the donation process, resource allocation. The second is to ensure efficiency from damage assessment, resource mobilization, aid providing, post-disaster reconstruction, and monitoring evaluation."*



In conclusion, lawyer Nguyen Tien Lap stated: *"In the next five years, we need a law that covers regular volunteering for disadvantaged groups, including other non-profit activities in all fields, ensuring the affirmation of legitimate civil rights of organizations and individuals in the pursuit of happiness, life assurance, community development and solving social problems."*





Spreading Love



Vietnamese Children Standard Youth in the Digital Age



On March 6, 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) conducted an online talkshow with the topic “Vietnamese Children - Standard Youth in the Digital Age.” The event is a section of the campaign “Digital citizens: Online safety during the COVID-19 - Young Voices on safe and effective Internet use” sponsored by Save the Children.



The talkshow was attended by Ms. Pham Thi Thuy – Curator of the Division of child participation and development, Department of Child Affairs, Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs; MSc.. Nguyen Van Nam – Information Technology Specialist; Meritorious Artist Xuan Bac; and MSc. Tran Van Anh – Program Director of MSD.



MSc Nguyen Van Nam shared: “Risks always exist alongside the benefits and anyone may encounter, let alone children. However, there is positivity that children today also have the skills to recognize risks, things that they do not feel comfortable with. It is never too early to start equipping and educating children with these skills.”

Ms. Pham Thi Thuy - Representative of the Department of Child Affairs - a unit that works for the best interests of children emphasized: *"We always focus on ensuring the safety of children. In the current digital age, protecting children online is the priority since the Internet is virtual, but the consequences are always real. Therefore, we have coordinated with the Ministry of Information and Communications as well as CSOs to develop the project "Protecting and supporting children to interact in a creative and healthy on the online environment" to minimize risks when children use the Internet."*



Meritorious Artist Xuan Bac - an artist but also the father of 3 kids, shared: *"In order to raise a child to become a standard digital citizen, it is the parents who must "standardize" themselves first, because children learn from adults a lot and very quickly. Instead of imposing and prohibiting, parents should set an example for their children with actions and behaviors on the Internet, often chatting and analyzing the advantages and disadvantages of the Internet with their children. In addition, there should be strict sanctions for acts of harassment, fraud, invasion, information theft, etc., on the Internet as a deterrent."*



Summarizing the program, Ms. Tran Van Anh - Program Director of MSD sent the message: *"For children, please always believe that you are never alone. There will always be someone to listen, trust and act to protect you. For parents, let's always listen to our children with a heart of love and trust, and when we work together, we will surely always have a solution to all problems."*



Gender stereotypes

Norms or pressures?



On the afternoon of March 13, 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD) in collaboration with the Gender-based violence prevention network (GBVnet) conducted an online talkshow "Gender stereotypes - Norms or pressures?" with the support of Plan International Vietnam. The event is part of the project "Safer cities for girls in Hanoi."

Gender stereotypes

Gender stereotypes are understood as simple generalizations of characteristics, personalities, roles of individuals or groups of people based on their gender. In recent years, there have been many discussions about feminism and gender stereotypes - which have been imprinted in the awareness of many generations. Therefore, the talkshow "Gender stereotypes: Norms or pressures?" was conducted to provide an in-depth discussion about the influences and impacts of gender stereotypes on the perception and behavior of blaming women and girls when they are harassed and abused, thereby offering radical solutions to the problem.

The talkshow was attended by Ms. Khuat Thu Hong - Director of the Institute for Social Development Studies (ISDS), Chairman of GBVnet; Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD, member of GBVnet's executive board; MC Son Lam; Nguyen Tung Duong and Ngo Linh Chi - Members of the Champion of Change Club.



Ms. Khuat Thu Hong emphasized: *"There are many stereotypes that make people, especially women, encounter pressure and this even become a big barrier, depriving women of opportunities in terms of ability. Women are probably not inferior to men. So if we consider a stereotype as a box, let's boldly step out of our own box and move towards a better life."*

Being asked about gender stereotypes in media and advertising, MC Son Lam also shared: *"To change the stereotypes of the media in advertising, it requires a change in the perception of each individual, brands and targeted customers. Besides, having prior policies from radio stations, advertising channels and publications with elements promoting gender equality is also a solution."*

From the perspective of young people, Nguyen Tung Duong and Ngo Linh Chi also shared the problem of blaming the victim when being harassed in reality and expressed their desire to contribute more to the journey of change and elimination of gender stereotypes.

At the end of the talk show, Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD sent the message: *"Whether gender stereotype is a norm or pressure, that boundary is very fragile. I support positive standards in society so that everyone has goals and motivations to work towards, but those standards are not boxes that limit possibilities and diversities, the freedom to choose and decide regardless of gender".*



Talkshow

You are safe now, my child!

Within the framework of the campaign “You are safe now, my child!,” MSD collaborated with Vietnam Association for Protection of Child’s Rights (VACR) to conduct a talkshow “You are safe now, my child!” on the afternoon of March 25, 2021. The talk was broadcasted live on the MSD Vietnam Fanpage, Spreading Love and Vietnam Association for Protection of Child’s Rights (VACR).



The talkshow was attended by Mr. Dang Hoa Nam – Head of the Department of Child Affairs, Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs; Ms. Ninh Thi Hong – Vice President of VACR; Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh – Director of MSD; Writer and journalist Hoang Anh Tu; Psychologist Doan Thi Huong

At the talkshow, the speakers discussed and shared the current situation of child abuse in recent years, policies and programs to protect children, and ways to timely support children who are unfortunate victims of sexual abuse.



Ms. Ninh Thi Hong - Vice President of VACR said: *"In recent years, although we have recognized the efforts of agencies and departments in preventing child abuse, there are still many complicated cases of child abuse causing anger and controversies in public. Through the campaign "You are safe now, my child!", let's work together, make every effort to let all children grow up safely and make sure no children are left behind."*

Mr. Dang Hoa Nam - Director of the Department of Child Affairs shared: *"Every child can be abused whether that is a boy or a girl. When children are unfortunately abused, they need to be trusted and listened by whom closest to them. In addition, the National Child helpline 111 is functioned as a 24/7 hotline to receive reports for cases of child abuse. We hope that the families of victims do not remain silent but speak out strongly to denounce wrongdoings, not to let criminals escape and also not allow this criminal act to have a chance to continue."*

As a person with many years of experience in counseling and psychological support for children who are victims of abuse, psychologist Doan Thi Huong shared: *"As soon as children are abused, what they need the most is timely attention and support of the closest people, who are the "first aid" for children. In addition, medical and legal support and evidence collection also need to be done quickly,*

delicately and skillfully, avoiding further cutting into the children's pain and avoiding forcing them to tell the sad story over and over again."

Writer / journalist Hoang Anh Tu - who has published many publications related to children, said: *"Communicating and reporting on cases of child abuse is a way to help prevent these cases from sinking into oblivion. However, journalists when implementing these contents should not attach great importance to reporting quickly but need to provide accurate information and most importantly, ensure the confidentiality of the victim's identity and his family. This action will help the victim not be more hurt, as well as not cause further fear and shame."*

At the end of the talk, Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD gave the message: *"The journey to build a safe shield for all children is a long, difficult journey that requires efforts, especially for parents. But always remember that parents are never alone. State agencies and CSOs are always ready to accompany and support families on this journey. We will not stop if only one child is not safe."*

Training course

Gender transformative advocacy for youth



In two days, March 26 - 27, 2021, in Hanoi, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), in collaboration with Plan International, organized a training course "Gender transformative advocacy for youth". The event is sector of the project "Safer cities for girls in Hanoi" implemented by Plan International Vietnam (PIV) from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023 to contribute to building safe, friendly and responsible cities for girls.

The training course was attended by Doctor Nguyen Thu Giang and youth from the Leaders of Change Club and the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) of Plan International

The objectives of the training session was to provide knowledge and skills of gender transformative advocacy for PIV's YAC group. At the training session, the lecturers and youth had discussed and learned about advocacy and gender transformative advocacy; together discussed some current gender mainstreaming policies and the current advocacy context in Vietnam; learned how to develop a gender transformative advocacy plan.



After two days of training, the youth had the basic knowledge about advocacy and gender transformative advocacy, some current gender mainstreaming policies and Vietnam's current advocacy context today. At the same time, after the training course, the trainees could develop a plan to advocate for gender change.



Child sexual abuse: Confronting or compromising?

On the morning of April 23, 2021, Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD), in collaboration with Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights (VACR) held an event to summarize the campaign "You are safe now, my child!" and the online talkshow "Child Sexual Abuse: Confronting or Compromising?". This event was a section of the project "Supporting access to justice for sexually abused children in Hanoi" financially supported by the Justice Initiatives Facilitation Fund (JIFF) – a component of the ODA Project "Justice and Legal Empowerment in Vietnam – EU JULE" funded by the European Union

The talkshow was attended by: Ms. Ninh Thi Hong - Vice President of Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights; Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh – Director of MSD; Lawyer Dang Van Cuong - Hanoi Bar Association and Ms. Nguyen Khanh Linh – Officer of Peace House.

At the talkshow, the speakers discussed and shared the current situation of children being sexually abused, legal proceedings, evidence collection during the investigation of cases of child sexual abuse, as well as ways to provide psychological support for children who unfortunately become victims of sexual abuse.

Ms. Ninh Thi Hong - Vice President of Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights shared: "Everyone has a role in protecting children from child abuse, in which the family plays the most important role. Parents must always trust, accompany their children, learn about their children's psychology, and ask their children every day for about 15 minutes to know what risks their children may face. If unfortunately, our children are sexually abused, we cannot compromise but have to face it. We must report it to the authorities to catch the criminal, which is also a way to protect our children and also protect others so that no more children will be sexually abused."

It is a common fact that although many cases have been reported and prosecuted, they tend to sink or persist, making the families and victims feel discouraged and unwilling to continue. Talking about this issue, lawyer Dang Van Cuong said: *“For the case of lengthy events, the main reason is due to the delay in reporting. If you do not report early, it won’t be easy to collect evidences. In some cases, families did not cooperate in the investigation process because they did not have enough trust or were threatened not to report. In addition, the responsibilities of the litigator must also be further enhanced to best support children after being abused.”*



Sharing about the practical experience when directly supporting victims of sexual abuse, Ms. Nguyen Khanh Linh - Peace House Officer shared: *“The cases of victims coming to Peace House mostly happened a long time ago but unreported. The victims had a lot of psychological problems, and the repeated answers to questions during the investigation led to the re-trauma for the victim.”*

Summarizing the discussion and the communication campaign “You are safe now, my child!”, Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh - Director of MSD shared: *“The journey to protect children from sexual abuse and also the process of finding justice for child victims can be arduous, but it is a mission, a right journey to pursue. We believe, step by step, not slow but agile, we do not compromise but confront to protect children from sexual abuse, help them have a safe environment for healthy development.”*

The talkshow received a lot of interactions and positive messages from the live audience at the talkshow as well as people watching via livestream. In particular, the speakers also discussed and answered very specifically the questions and concerns of the audience’s issues such as how to report crimes, the legal corridor to support sexually abused children; evidence collection and proceedings for both boys and girls; penalties and ways to prevent pedophilia; the role of families, schools and teachers in protecting students from sexual abuse; gender stereotypes in child sexual abuse;...

Development Story



Story of N.K.N.N



"Someday, when I grow up, I want to become a lawyer to help children who did not have birth certificates like me to go to school, like the A New Life Page project officers have helped my family.. - N.K.H.N, 6 tuổi.

N.K.H.N, a pretty girl with the beautiful eyes and bright smile, turns 6 this year, but for the past 6 years, she has not had her birth registered and possessed an official name. H.N's mother is a Khmer (an ethnic minority in Vietnam). She migrated from Soc Trang to Ho Chi Minh City for a better life 20 years ago, and her personal documents had been lost due to frequent moves. H.N's father is nearly 50 years old now, and his vision is getting blurry and unclear due to corneal inflammation. The main livelihood of the whole family is picking up scraps and bottles on the old tricycle.

Since H.N was born, her parents have been trying to get a birth certificate and an official name for her. Her father has taken the papers to every place that he heard of, with the belief that Muoi (H.N's nickname) would go to school and have a brighter future. At the end of 2020 - as H.N attended a charity school in the neighborhood (without a birth certificate, she could not attend public schools), under the guidance of

nuns, H.N' parents reached out to A New Life Page project. The dream of having a birth certificate eventually came true.

After a while, with the companionship of the A New Life Page project and local authorities and lawyers' support, H.N has officially got a birth certificate with her name. The birth certificate and new name have opened up a brighter future for "Little Muoi" after 6 years of anonymity. H.N happily said: "When I grow up later, I want to go to school to become a lawyer, helping children who didn't have a birth certificate like me to go to school, like the uncles and aunts of the project A new life page has helped my family."

The first new chapters are officially opened, the opportunity to walk on the path of building a bright future for H.N has gradually laid the first bricks.

COMING UP

01

NATIONAL ACTION MONTH FOR CHILDREN

- Online talkshow: “A happy and safe summer holiday for children”
 - Online talkshow: “Protecting and taking care of children during the COVID-19”
 - Online talkshow: “SNET - Online safety, Happy summer”
 - Online talkshow: “Children’s dream and parents’ expectations”
- and other interesting companion activities

02

PROJECT LAUNCHING SHINHAN S² BRIDGE VIETNAM

03

PROJECT LAUNCHING SAFER CITIES FOR GIRLS



About Management and Sustainable Development Institute (MSD)

As a Vietnamese non-government organization, MSD efforts to act for an enable environment for the development of civil society sector and to promote the rights of marginalized groups, especially children, youth, women and people with disabilities. MSD now is recognized as a leading organization in coordinating, supporting and providing capacity building, coaching and consultancy services for CSOs in Vietnam. In additio, MSD is also a professional organization effectively responding to the needs and protecting the rights of disadvantaged communities through implementing projects, providing services to children, youth, women, street and migrant groups and people with disabilities (PWD) in Vietnam and promoting gender equality.



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