

On January 17th, 2013 in Hanoi, the Vietnam Women's Union (VWU) and Plan in Vietnam signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the cooperative implementation of the Parenting Program, in order to promote the participation of parents and the community in improving the development of children between 0 and 8 years old.



The Signing Ceremony was attended by Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thanh Hoa – VWU President; Mr. Glenn Gibney - Country Director of Plan in Vietnam; Mrs. Tran Thanh Binh – VWU Vice President; and representatives and officials from concerned departments of the Vietnam Women's Union and Plan in Vietnam's Parenting Program.

This cooperation program aims to improve the knowledge and skills of parents in Northern and Central Vietnam on childcare practices, especially parents from ethnic minorities, with children between 0-8 years old. The implementation of this program will significantly contribute to the commitment of carrying out awareness raising activities to Women's Unions at all levels to support and promote Plan's "Because I am a girl" campaign, of which Madam Nguyen Thi Thanh Hoa, VWU President, is the Ambassador. This program will be implemented for over 3 years at the Central level and in 9 provinces namely Ha Giang, Bac Giang, Phu Tho, Thai Nguyen, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Quang Ngai, Kon Tum, and Gia Lai with the following key components: Developing materials on parenting practices based on the child's developmental milestones and parents' necessary support to the child's development; Improving knowledge and skills on parenting for Plan staff, VWU staff and ECCD promoters within Plan project areas; Advocating the important role of parenting to relevant decision makers.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thanh Hoa - VWU President

acknowledged and thanked the active support of Plan to women and children in Vietnam in recent years. With efforts made by the Vietnam Women's Union to enhance the participation of parents and communities in early childhood care and development, Mrs. Thanh Hoa highly appreciated the practicality of the Parenting Program, which will be supported by Plan to implement in the near future. She expressed the VWU's commitment to implement the agreement effectively and conveyed her confidence that with the support of Plan, the program would achieve good results not only in the provinces of the Project, but also will be expanded across the country. on the occasion of the New Year, she wished all the participants a new year full of health, happiness, and success and stated her desire for the cooperative relationship between the Vietnam Women's Union and Plan to be strengthened further.

On behalf of the Plan in Vietnam to participate in the MOU signing ceremony which marked the cooperation between the Vietnam Women's Union and Plan, Mr. Glenn Gibney expressed his honor to work alongside and support the VWU in strengthening the work of childcare. Mr. Glenn Gibney also hopes that through the cooperation program, there would be more cooperation activities between the two organizations on gender and strengthening the role of women and girls to achieve certain results in improving quality of life for women and children.

The partnership agreement for the 1st period (January – September 2013) of the Cooperation Program will start right after the signing of this MOU.

Translated by VWU International Relations Dept.

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