

Peace Boat Disaster Relief (PBV) Project Report

Emergency Relief for Flood and Storm-Affected Areas in Central Vietnam

Project implementation period: 11 December 2020 - 31 March 2021

Following the severe flooding and storm damage in Vietnam in autumn 2020, Peace Boat Disaster Relief (PBV) set up an emergency relief fund and implemented an assistance project through a local organization.

■ Overview of disasters and its damage

Since the beginning of October 2020, Vietnam has experienced a series of floods and landslides caused by intermittent heavy rains and tropical storms, especially in the central region. On 13 October, the Vietnamese Government issued a request for emergency assistance to the international community. By mid-November, seven typhoons and tropical storms had made landfall in nine provinces and one municipality (Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Nghe An, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Kon Tum and City of Da Nang) and caused severe damage. According to the report published by the UN Office in Vietnam on 24 December 2020, 253 people have been killed or remain missing, 1.5 million people have been directly affected and 600,000 houses have been damaged due to the series of wind and flood disasters since October¹. In addition to human casualties and damage to homes, 30,000 hectares of farmland were damaged and more than 2 million head of livestock and poultry were lost, raising concerns about the long-term impact on food security.

Due to the spread of COVID-19, many households in Vietnam were already suffering from loss of jobs and income before the disaster struck, and locals' livelihoods were made even more difficult by the repeated storms.



Map Sources: VNDMA, UNCS, JTWC

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created on 12 November, 2020

Figure 1: Blue areas: Affected provinces
Orange line: The path of the storms



Youth Union member delivering relief supplies to flood-affected community, October 2020.

¹ Viet Nam : Floods, Landslides and Storms, Office of the UN Resident Coordinator Situation Report No. 2 (As of 24 December 2020). Figure 1 and table 1 are also reproduced from the same report.
https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Situation%20Report%20No.%202%20-%20Viet%20Nam_final.pdf

Table 1: Summary of typhoon and flood damage in October-December 2020

Lost or missing persons	Houses damaged	Affected farmland area	Loss of livestock and poultry	Affected hospitals and health centers	Affected schools
253	600,000	30,000 hectares	2 million	124	862

■ Project overview and outcome

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, international flights have been suspended, making it impossible for overseas organizations to send staff to Vietnam to provide direct support. PBV collaborated with the Da Nang City branch of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, which is based in Da Nang City in central Vietnam, to carry out support activities in the affected areas.

By maintaining close contact with members of the Youth Union through online meetings and emails, we aimed to deliver food packages to 200 families living in two communities in Hoa Vang district, in the impoverished areas of Da Nang city, before the Lunar New Year (called “Tet” in Vietnamese) on 12 February, one of the most important holidays for the Vietnamese people.



Presentation ceremony in Hoa Vang district on 5 February 2021

Contents of food package (per household)

- Rice 10Kg
- Cooking oil 2L
- Fish sauce 2 bottles
- Seasoning powder 2 packages
- Support money VND 200,000

Da Nang is a port city located in central Vietnam and one of the country's fastest developing cities. The project targeted 200 households in Da Nang with incomes of less than JPY 7,092 per month (which is regarded as the poverty line for Vietnam), including households headed by the elderly, people with disabilities, and people experiencing financial difficulties due to unemployment or reduced income.

Thanks to the donations made in response to the PBV's appeal for emergency relief, the Youth Union of Da Nang city was able to provide the target households with food packages on 5 and 6 February 2021, in time to prepare for the Lunar New Year. Whilst distributing the food, the Union members avoided gathering in large numbers, invited

only a small group of residents to a donation ceremony, and visited resident's houses individually to deliver the packages with preventive measures against the spread of infection in place.

■ **Local partner organization: Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Da Nang City**

The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is a social action organisation with branches all over Vietnam, which carries out volunteer activities and international exchange projects during non-disaster times. Our associated organization, NGO Peace Boat, has continued to organize our exchange program with the Da Nang Youth Union for more than 30 years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PBV could not send staff from Japan to provide direct support for this project. However, the trusting relationship we have built with the Youth Union through the Peace Boat’s activity enabled us to exchange information online, identify changing needs, and successfully deliver assistance to people in needy situations.

The Da Nang Youth Union had been working with the Vietnamese government since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic to distribute hygiene supplies and support those in need. In the aftermath of the floods and typhoons, the Youth Union continued to distribute food, drinking water and daily necessities in Da Nang and neighbouring areas. Through this joint relief program, PBV was able to utilize their understanding of the local community and knowledge accumulated through the Youth Union’s daily activities to provide effective assistance within a short period of time.



Members of the Da Nang City Youth Union started delivering relief supplies to the affected areas immediately after the flood in October 2020.

■ Message from Da Nang City Youth Union

Thanks to the companionship and support from Peace Boat Disaster Relief and Japanese people, Da Nang City Youth Union successfully organized the program of “Giving the love of Tet with Peace Boat Disaster Relief and Japanese people” in two communes in the Hoa Vang district. As a part of the program, the organizing committee awarded the gift packages to 200 disadvantaged households living there, who were affected by natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic. These meaningful gifts were a huge support to the people who already suffered after a very difficult year.



On behalf of the Da Nang City Youth Union, I would like to give you the utmost thanks. We hope that through these meaningful activities, our organization will further tighten the solidarity and friendship between the two countries. We hope to continue to receive your companionship in the future.

Nguyen Manh Dung
Secretary of the Da Nang Youth Union

■ Financial Report

Thanks to the generous donations from more than one thousand individuals and organizations including Shinnyo-en, PBV successfully carried out the project in collaboration with the Da Nang Youth Union. We send our heartfelt gratitude to all the donors for their generous contribution.

Income	(JPY)
Individual donations	951,009
Donation: Shinnyo-en	300,000
Donation: DOORS Japan-Vietnam-Cultural Exchange Project	26,670
Total	1,277,679

Expenses	(JPY)
Direct project expense	1,000,000
Printing	11,633
Postage and communication	107,214
Transaction fee	120,000
Administrative expense	146,832
Total	1,277,679

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