

# Vietnam Report



**ALTERNATIVE CARE WORKSHOP  
IN BANGKOK, THAILAND  
28 – 29 November 2005**

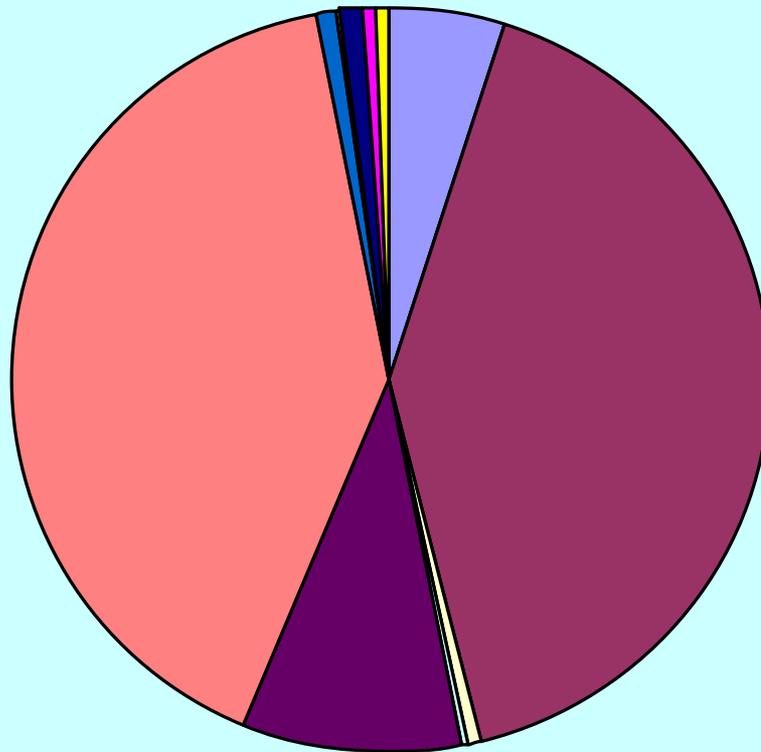
# Vietnam's Basic Information

- Viet Nam: 82 Million people , 12th most populous country in the world ;
- Children: 34% of Viet Nam's total population.
- 53 ethnic minority groups ( 14% of total population)
- Almost 80% of population lives in rural areas;
- One of the World's fastest changing countries

# Situation of CNSP

- Vietnam has over 2.5 million Children in Needs of Special Protection( CNSP) or 9% of the child and adolescent population in the country are vulnerable children
- 126,309 children without the care of their biological parents
- 25,000 children live in institution

# Situation of CNSP in Vietnam



Orphans	= 150,514
CWD	= 1,200,000
Street Children	= 16,000
HIV+	= 8,500
CABA	= 265,000
Poverty	= 1,200,000
Child labourers	= 23,000
IDU's	= 8,500
Children in institutions	= 25,000
CICWL	= 13,000
CSEC	= 20,000

# Situation of institutional care

- Vietnam has 373 institutions - of which 138 (40%) are run by the Ministry of Labor, Invalid & Social Affairs & the rest by NGOs/INGOs, religious organizations, private entities
- Institutional care provided for orphans, abandoned children, street children, children with physical and/or mental disabilities, children in conflict with the law, rehabilitation of child and adolescent commercial sex workers and drug users and care of HIV/AIDS-infected children

# Situation of institutional care

- Other institutions provide occasional care for children include
- Special schools for children with disabilities,
- Evening schools for street children,
- Opened-houses,
- Vocational training centres for street children and other CNSP

# Situation of institutional care

- Institutional care provides food, accommodation, education and vocational training
- 50% of children spend 5 to 7 years in the institution
- Most of children still have alive parent in the community
- There is large number of children living in the institution (200-300 children/center)
- Children live together with adults in the same institution

# Reasons for Institutional care

- Poverty
- Divorce or broken family
- Lack of alternative care forms in Vietnam

# Alternative care

**Non-residential care** include :

- Informal kinship care;
- Domestic & inter-country adoption
- Guardianship;
- Provision of monthly financial allowances for orphans and children with disabilities

# Achievements to dates

- The government has shown an increased awareness of & a commitment to alternative solutions to institutional care
- National Plan of Action ( NPA) for Caring of Children with Special Difficulties in communities for 2005-2010
- National Strategy on Alternative Care
- A number of laws & policies related to alternative care , children infected with HIV/AIDS were developed & revised that contribute to creation of a protective environment

# Achievements to dates

- Guidelines on community based alternative care models,
- Guideline for Social House & Foster care
- Review of Social Protection Centers (CPC) Standards
- Child protection is being incorporated into MOLISA' s Social Economic Development Plan of 2006-2010

# Key Challenges/Constraints

- Essential elements of care provided to children in institutions stimulate motivation of children to stay longer in institution
- Lack of alternative care models in VN
- Lack of adequate legislation & confusion about different forms of fostering & adoption
- Lack of awareness about the importance of family environment for the development of the child.
- Lack of economic & psychosocial support for foster families
- Lack of monitoring system & basic support services for affected children including orphan , children take care of sick family member(s), street children.

# Key Challenges/Constraints

- Attention to CABA is inadequate
- Support concentrates on infected child from purely medical point of view
- Lack of a comprehensive legal framework on child protection
- Social work is not a profession; lack of network of social workers/child protection case workers, lack of child protection professional.

# Planned activities

- Review & reform the functions of social protection center (SPC)
- Implement National Plan of Action on Alternative care, 2005-2010
- Pilot model on alternative care (social house, day house, etc.)
- Training on indicators, guidelines of social house and day house for MOLISA and SPC staff

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

