

Youth Connect

Youth Community Resilience to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta (Y-CoRe)

Lang – A Journey of Sharing (Silence)

Project background

According to the Lao Dong newspaper, the number of blind people in Vinh Chau Town, Soc Trang Province, has reached over 1,500, most of whom are not congenitally blind. The primary causes are believed to be environmental pollution from the use of contaminated water, dust, chemicals, and pesticides used in shallot farming. Additionally, a lack of awareness about eye health, failure to adopt preventive measures, and the absence of regular eye care have contributed to this situation.

An article published in the Vietnam Journal of Community Medicine in July 2020 titled *Research on the Prevalence of Blindness and Its Causes Among Rural Women in Vinh Chau Town, Soc Trang Province* indicated that the blindness rate among women in Vinh Chau is approximately 1.2 times higher than that of men. The main reason is that women are more frequently involved in agricultural activities, leading to greater exposure to dust and chemicals.

Project objectives

- To produce an audio movie telling the stories of vulnerable individuals in Vinh Chau. An audio movie is a form of entertainment that relies solely on sound, including dialogue, sound effects, and music but no visuals. Listeners use their imagination to visualise the story, making it accessible for the visually impaired or those unable to follow visual content.
- To attract the interest and support of sponsors and organisations to implement specific aid programmes for the people of Vinh Chau, such as access to healthcare, employment, food, and education.
- To connect communities and inspire young people in the Mekong Delta to engage in programmes related to climate change adaptation in general, and support for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in particular.

Project overview

- Activity One: Establish communication channels on Facebook and TikTok; introduce the project's purpose and significance and call for public attention to gender inequality in the Mekong Delta through four posts in the form of written articles and images; deliver key messages on climate change and gender inequality in the local context through a series of four video podcasts.
- Activity Two: Engage with local people to gather real-life stories and insights. Develop a script, adapt it into an audio movie, and proceed with production, including recording and post-production. Collaborate with supporting organisations and experts to finalise the film.
- Activity Three: Present the Lang audio movie and organise a volunteer connection programme for visually impaired individuals in Vinh Chau Town.
- Activity Four: Build a support network and conduct a project wrap-up session.

Outstanding outcomes

Lang – A Journey of Sharing's podcasts reached over 8,000 views on Facebook. The TikTok outreach lang.hanhtrinhsechia garnered 15,000 views and 502 likes.

A programme on climate change and gender inequality was organised through the Lang audio movie at Khanh Hoa Secondary & High School, with the participation of over 700 students and teachers.

A Mid-Autumn charity event for children was held in Vinh Chau Town, in collaboration with the Vinh Chau Student Association.

Team member's information

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