



THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE AND FAMILY HEALTH

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INTRODUCTION OF RAFH

LEGAL STATUS

The Center for Reproductive and Family Health (RaFH) was established in 1993 under the Decree 35 of Vietnamese government as a Vietnamese non-profit and non-governmental organisation (NGO). Having registered in the Hanoi Department of Science Technology and Environment (under Hanoi People's Committee) since May 1993, RaFH is operating in the fields of gender, sexuality, reproductive and family health. RaFH's geographic areas stretch from the North, the Central to the South of Vietnam, and focus especially on mountainous and remote areas, ethnic minorities and disadvantaged groups of women and children (women suffering from violence and trafficking, sex workers, infertile women, HIV/AIDS and cancerous patients, the disability, the homeless, street children, and malnourished children, and the elderly)

I. MISSIONS

- To participate and contribute to national levelled programs such as: hunger eradication and poverty reduction, primary health care, reproductive health care, safe motherhood, family planning, HIV/AIDS prevention and gender equality, women and child rights.
- To increase awareness and knowledge for the community people on gender equality, sexual and reproductive, family and child health care, reproductive children and women rights, the participation of men in gender equality, sexual reproductive health, especially people in remote, isolated and coastal areas, ethnic minorities.
- To improve the quality life and health care services for women and children in community, especially the poor, and the disadvantage group of women and children (trafficked, prostitution, violence, HIV/AIDS, cancer, disabilities, homeless and malnourished children, infertility, the elderly)

II. FUNCTIONS

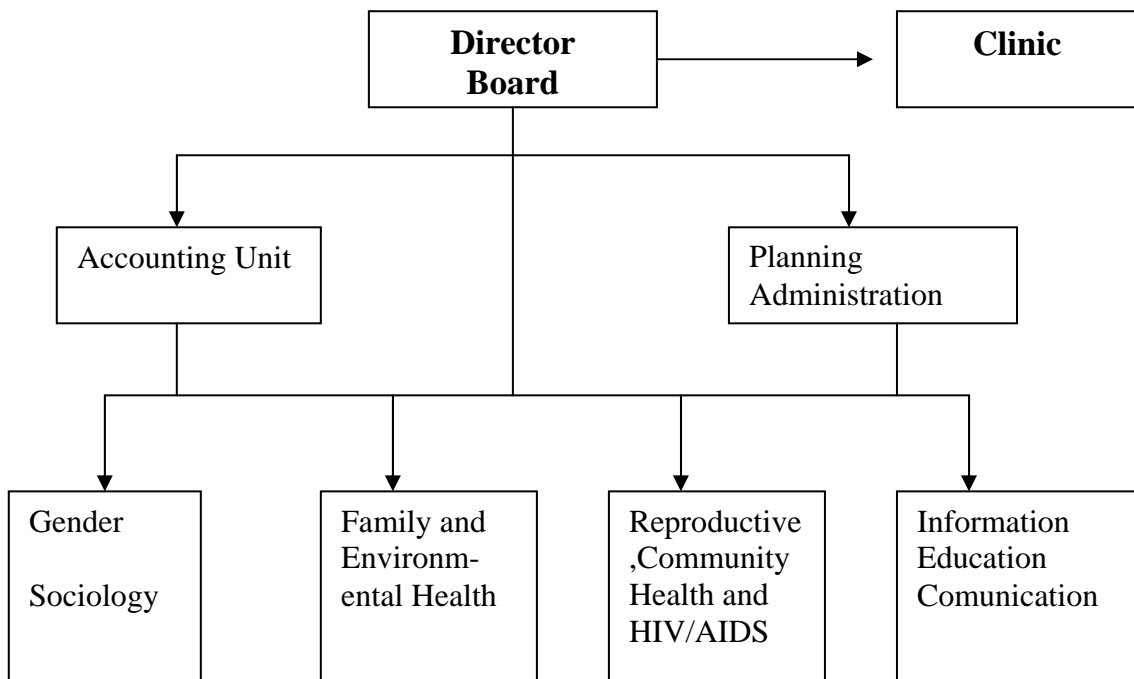
- Researching, training and implementing intervention projects in the fields of gender, sexuality, reproductive and community health in Vietnam (northern, central and southern areas).
- Behavior change communication on gender equality and sexual, reproductive health for community people, especially for men: Developing and publishing IEC materials on gender equality, women and children's rights (anti-trafficking in women and children violence against women), safe motherhood, breast feeding, nutrition, family planning, contraceptive methods, STDs, HIV/AIDS prevention.
- Increasing the participation of community people to improve the quality of reproductive, family health care services at commune level, especially in the poor,

mountainous, remote regions for the ethnic minorities and disadvantage groups of women and children (trafficked, violence, prostitution, unmarried women, adolescents, street children, infertility, cancer, and aging women).

- Improving the quality of family life (relationship between husband and wife, children, living environment, safe food, hygiene, sanitation, etc.).
- Organizing meetings, seminars, workshops, and capacity building for local authorities, mass organizations, health workers at all levels on gender equality, woman and child's rights sexual and reproductive, family health, HIV/AIDS prevention.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

RaFH's staffs include of 26 people being organized as follows:



IV. INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES

1. Current Projects/Activities:

- + Prevention domestic violence against women (Nho Quan and Gia Vien - Ninh Binh province) (2003— 2007).
- + Improving the quality of community-based reproductive health care in Lap Thach District, Vinh Phuc Province (2000-2007).
- + Integrating SRH for adolescent and youth friendly corner into existing commune health center in Hoa Binh (2003-2006).
- + Street children involvement in HIV/AIDS prevention in Phuc Tan, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi (2005-2006).
- + Enhancing knowledge on safe motherhood, nutrition and HIV prevention for village nurses

and TBAs in Krong Pa District, Gia Lai province.(2005-2006)

- + Improving the quality of life for disadvantaged single women in Yen Thanh, Nghe An (2004-2006).
- + Supporting for rehabilitation of trafficked women in Northern border of Vietnam (Mong Cai, Lang Son) (2003-2005).

2. Completed projects/activities to date

- + Improving the quality of reproductive health care for unmarried women in Northern of Vietnam (2000 - 2002).
- + Improving Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Services at 18 Communes of Hanoi and Ninh Binh province (1999 — 2003)
- + Community involvement in adolescent sexual and reproductive Health education” at 54 communes of Hanoi and Ninh Binh Province (1998 — 2002)
- + Safe motherhood and training midwife in Cho Moi district, Bac Can (2002)
- + Providing health care support for repatriating trafficked women (Mong Cai, Quang Ninh) (2002).
- + Studying on deprived children in Vietnam (2001 — 2002).
- + Studying on domestic violence against women and attitudes, practices of health workers (2001).
- + Training on project management, monitoring and evaluation (2001).
- + Researching methodology on gender, sexuality and reproductive health at community (qualitative and quantitative)
- + Training on teaching skill and approach (2001)
- + Training on adolescent sexual and reproductive health for Ninh Binh and Hanoi (2000).
- + An intervention action of improving the quality of reproductive health care at commune level in Cho Moi District, Bac Kan Province (2000 - 2001).
- + “Safe sex promotion for HIV/AIDS” in Long An province (1999-2000).
- + Developing and publishing booklets, leaflets, posters on violence against women, trafficking, maternal child health care, breast feeding, nutrition, HIV/AIDS and STDs, reproductive health magazines.
- + Survey on KAP of Adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Hanoi and Ninh Binh province (1999).
- + Training of trainers on adolescent sex and RH (1999).
- + Improving the quality of RH care for unmarried women in Soc Son District (1998 -1999).
- + An intervention action for improving RTIs/STDs diagnosis and treatment in CHCs of Nghe An Province (1998 - 1999).
- + Safe Motherhood in Hung Yen and Ha Tay provinces (1998)
- + Improving the quality of reproductive health care at 6 communes of Hung Yen and Thai Nguyen Provinces (1998 - 1999).
- + Integrating STDs and HIV/AIDS prevention into family planning in order to increase condom-using rate in project areas and improving knowledge on RTIs, STDs, HIV/AIDS prevention for community people and encouraging men’s responsibility in Hung Yen, Ha Tay, Khanh Hoa provinces (1995 -1997).

- + Supporting Program of building 300 non-smoke cook stoves (Phu Linh commune - Soc Son, Hanoi).
- + Survey on knowledge, attitude and practice of immigrant to Hanoi on family planning and STDs/HIV/AIDS (1998).
- + Analysis of reproductive health situation of unmarried women in sub-urban area of Hanoi (1998).
- + Reproductive health needs assessment in Nghi Loc district, Nghe An province (1998).
- + Studying on factors relating to the infertility status of Northern Vietnamese women (1997).
- + Studying on the need and distribution of condom in HIV/AIDS prevention in Hai Phong, Hue and An Giang provinces (1997)
- + Studying Influences on Eating Habits during pregnant women in Northern Communes of Vietnam (1996)
- + Survey on Evaluation on the acceptance of Minisiston @Fe and Microgynon in Vietnam (1996)
- + Survey on Using of Microgynon 30ED contraceptive pill of Vietnamese women (1996)
- + Studying on RTI of women in rural areas in Vietnam (1994-1995).
- + Training on infertility diagnosis and treatment (1997).
- + Training course on design and writing proposal (1996 - 1997).
- + Training on diagnosis and treatment of RTI diseases through symptoms.
- + Setting up a health motivator team in each commune, including health workers, women's union, farmer's union, housewives, and teachers with incentives: To carry out the package project on education for adolescent and on IEC materials.
- *Other activities:* community access, in each commune there are two pharmacies selling contraceptive devices such as condoms, contraceptive pills, support for 20 poor students.

V. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- + RaFH basically received support from international organizations: EC/UNFPA, SDC AusAID, Canada Fund, CORDAID, ICCO and foreign embassies in Hanoi: Canadian, Netherland, New Zealand, Switzerland.
- + RaFH also has a regular financial resource from its private clinic, IEC publishing and consultancy with limited incomes.

VI. STRENGTH OF RAFH

- + Having experience in fields of Ob/Gyn and reproductive health and family planning.
- + Having Experience in doing research, training and implementing projects on gender, sexuality and reproductive health as well as community health programs in Vietnam.
- + RaFH's staffs are obs/gyn epidemiologist, public health, HIV/AIDS experts and have much experience in implementing projects in community.
- + RaFH's achievements are highly appreciated by governmental authorities and community people at central, provincial, and district and commune level.
- + Having good collaboration with domestic and international organizations in working the field of gender equality, sexuality, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS and family planning,

participating in Vietnam's Poverty reduction Task Force, Reproductive health strategies, Plan of Actions of safe motherhood, participating in many important international conferences.

- + RaFH is a representative of Vietnamese non-governmental organisation group (VNGOCDG), HIV PAG (HIV Prevention Action Group).
- + RaFH's office and facilities are well - equipped.

VII. COLLABORATIONS

1. Domestic organisations:

- MOH, MCH/FP Department, VUSTA, Hanoi People's committee, Hanoi Department of science, technology, Social affairs committee of National Assembly, National committee of Population and family and children, Vietnamese Women's Union, Vietnamese Women's advanced committee, Youth Union, , MCH /FP Center at provincial level, National Ob/Gyn Hospital, National Institute for Nutrition, National Institute of Dermatology and Venerology, National Institute of Sociology, Hanoi Medical College, Public Health University, National HIV/AIDS Committee, Vietnamese NGOs Network.

2. International organisations:

- WHO, World Bank, ADB, European Committee (EC), UNFPA, Alliance for health policy, UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for women), country embassies (Swiss, New Zealand, Australia, Netherlands, Canada).

- International NGOs: The NGO Resources Center, World Population Foundation, CORDAID, Population Council, Pathfinder, Path American, ICCO, OXFAMGB.

- International networks:

- American Biographical Institute
- " White ribbon alliance" for safe motherhood,
- Global Forum on Reproductive Health,
- International Network on Violence against Women,
- Network of action plans for parents,
- NGO committee on UNICEF working group on girls
- Asia Pacific UICC Breast Cancer Forum
- Global Forum for Health Research
- Global Alliance against traffic in women (GATTW)
- Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research...
- Asia-Pacific Reproductive Health Network
- CEDAW South East Asia Network
- International Women's Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific

- Child Rights Information Network
- Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)
- Council on Health Research for Development

VIII. FUTURE VISION

By 2010 RaFH will become a large NGOs research, training, intervention institute on gender and health in Vietnam will have expanded its activities both geographically and technically (more community's demand driven, deeper and wider in sociological and public health areas) to contribute the poverty reduction and sustainable development program in Vietnam especially in fields of gender sexuality, reproductive health (adolescents, safe motherhood, HIV/AIDS) and place special focus on remote and isolated areas, ethnic minorities, disadvantaged women and children (trafficked women, victims of domestic violence, spinsters , aging women, street children, prostitutes...).

In this vision, women and children's rights and reproductive right especially, gender mainstreaming into health services, research capacity and training will be improved. IEC Unit will be more developed and soon become center for developing various IEC materials, organizing training courses on Gender Equality, women and children's rights and RH, Adolescence sexual reproductive health, Behavior change Communication in health, HIV/AIDS and drug abuse risk prevention counseling, Health Research Methodology, Health Promotion, Strategies - Planning and Management monitoring Evaluation for health workers and project staffs of province and district levels and local NGO who interest in participating as well.

If possible, RaFH will developing an women's health clinic on a large scale with updated technology, focusing on reproductive and family health to meet the need for women about reproductive health, infertility, cancer, gynecology diseases in Hanoi, collaborating with national ob/gyn hospital basing on investments of foreign donor agencies.

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