

Traditional Medicine Project

Aims:

To improve health of local people by promoting the use of affordable and available traditional medicines in the community with active support from local units in charge of traditional medicine

Objectives:

To improve the health of the poor through the use of traditional medicines (TM) available in the regions and better quality of service provided by local TM practitioners

Backgrounds:

MCNV has long cooperated with the Traditional Medicine Faculty in the Ho Chi Minh City University of Medicine and Pharmacy, which provides technical assistance. The faculty introduced MCNV to a volunteer TM distribution group in Vinh Long province. MCNV supported them to build a TM storage facility and provided necessary equipment for collection and processing of TM before distributing them free to TM clinics in the region. The volunteers have collected more than 30 tons of dry herbs each year. They have started up a TM



This project also supports capacity development of TM practitioners, using e-learning materials, for TM practitioners in Vinh Long, Quang Tri and Dak Lak provinces.

Main Activities:

- Support to three provinces: Vinh Long, Dak Lak and Quang Tri, to develop projects on capacity building for TM practitioners
- Support for potential expansion of TM storage facility in Vinh Long

Achievements:

- Each year, the volunteers at the storage facility collect about 30 tons of dry TM and deliver them to free TM clinics in the region.
- A nursery garden has been built in Vinh Long to promote planting TM in home gardens.
- Partly supported TM Faculty to develop 12 electronic books on TM (started them on it).
- Started a capacity building project for TM practitioners in Vinh Long, Dak Lak and Quang Tri.



nursing garden to prepare for growing TM in local gardens, to prevent environmental exhaustion. The volunteers run this project by themselves and MCNV does not support the operational costs.

- The TM project in Vinh Long has received good recognition from local authorities who are asking for replication in other places in Vinh Long province.