

**REPORT**  
**Wrap- up of the Community Development Program in 3 poor  
communes in the project**

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**I. Background**

- Based on the project general indicator “In the pilot communes supported by the project, the percentage of households below the poverty line decreases annually by at least 4.5% (referring to data of DOLISA according to new poverty definition of 2006);
- The impact monitoring report implemented by the project in May, 2008 shows that the poverty percentage in 3 pilot communes, in 2007, (selected by the project) did not achieve the project indicator mentioned as above. Specifically, the poverty percentage decreased annually by 3.89%, 3.73% and 0.01% respectively in Dong Hoa, Thanh Thach and Minh Hoa. Therefore, the project Management Board has agreed to implement the Community Development Program in these communes in 2008.

**II. Objective, timeframe and participants**

**1 Objective**

- To increase the poverty reduction percentage in these communes compared with that of 2007;
- To fulfill the project general indicator (the poverty reduction percentage increases by at least 4.5% annually);
- To help nearly-poor households generate additional income by implementing programs in a sustainable way.

**2 Timeframe**

- In order to fulfill the project indicator “In the pilot communes supported by the project, the percentage of households below the poverty line decreases annually by at least 4.5%”, the Community Development Program in 3 become-poor-again communes was carried out from August to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008 through participatory programs;
- During the implementation of these programs, the timeframe was designed and arranged suitable with steps of the programs.

**3 Participants**

- CPC leaders participated in supporting and guiding the programs;
- CEWs participated in supporting the programs;
- Heads of involving villages;
- Farmers who were the main beneficiaries of the programs need to meet the following criteria:
  - Number of family member from 3-4 people/ household;
  - Main labors of households are from 2 people above;
  - Households are in the line of nearly getting out of poverty (having potential to get out of poverty in 2008);
  - Households must have land and cages for the implementation;
  - Households are interested in involving in the programs sustainably;
  - Selected households have to commit to implement the programs under the guidance of responsible people;

**III. Implementation steps**

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- Step 1: Selection of households participating in the programs based on the above criteria  
Step 2: Need assessment by selecting useful models based on PAEM approach  
Step 3: Selection of programs to be implemented and participating households
- Type of program financed by the project and implemented by households (poor households): based on the survey, chicken raising program was selected because this ensures time and has consumption market;
  - Type of program financed mainly by households and partially by the project: Based on the group discussion and advantages of 3 poor communes, pig fattening program was selected through training courses and food provision for participating poor households

	Dong Hoa	Thanh Thach	Minh Hoa
Chicken raising	<b>20 households</b>	<b>19 households</b>	<b>15 households</b>
Pig fattening	<b>13 households</b>		<b>17 households</b>

Minimum number of participating households in each commune (in line with the project indicator “the percentage of poor households decreases by at least 4.5%”):

Commune	Total no. of hhs	Number of poor hhs as of to 31/12/2007	Percentage of poverty as of 31/3/2007	Number of poor hhs expected as of 12/2008	Percentage of poor hhs expected as of 12/2008	Minimum number of poor hhs need to be supported	Change of poor hhs in 2008
Thanh Thach	420	232	55.24	213	50.74	19	4.50
Dong Hoa	739	275	37.21	242	32.71	33	4.50
Minh Hoa	713	353	49.51	321	45.01	32	4.50

(Source: Report on project impact monitoring, May 2008)

- Step 4: Collection of commitments of participating households
- Households were confirmed as poor households by the local authorities (village/ commune) based on the project requirement.
- Step 5: Technical training on Luong Phuong chicken raising and food mixture for pig fattening  
Step 6: Distribution of chicken breeds of 25-day Luong Phuong, food for chicken and pigs  
Step 7: Evaluation and wrap-up of the programs (10 - 12/12/2008).

## 1. Purpose

- To evaluate impacts of the programs on poverty reduction in 3 poor communes in 2008;
- To fulfill the project general indicator “the percentage of households below the poverty line decreases annually by at least 4.5%”.

## 2. Methodology

- Visited some of households participating in the programs of chicken raising or pig fattening;
- CEWs presented the report on implementing the programs;
- CPC leaders raised out ideas and lessons learnt from implementation of the programs;
- Participating households discussed about advantages and disadvantages of the programs;
- Calculated economic effectiveness for each type of programs (chicken raising and pig fattening programs);
- Recommendations from CPCs, households for the programs.

## 3. Results

### a. Chicken raising program

- Chicken raising program was implemented from 1/9/2008 to 10/12/2008. The timeframe for implementation is 103 days (3 months and 13 days), suitable with the project requirements during the program implementation.
- In general, implementation of the program is quite similar in 3 communes. However, the price is quite different. This can be seen in the following table:

Content	Dong Hoa	Thanh Thach	Minh Hoa
Number of participating households	20	19	15
Number of remaining surviving chicken (average number per household)	29 heads	29 heads	28 heads
Average weight of chicken	2.0kg	2.1kg	2.0kg
Number of chicken sold at the survey period	21	20	18
Number of remaining chicken	8	9	10
Price at the locality	45,000	50,000	45,000
Yield of chicken egg	60	70	60

- During the program implementation, the input cost is equal for communes. 100% of breeding chicken and 80% of food for pig raising by the project supported .

INPUT				2,001,000
Breed	Head	30	26,000	780,000
Available food (vegetable, bran, cassava residue )	kg	50	3,000	150,000
Food bought from outside	kg	126	8,500	1,071,000

- Output cost depends on raising techniques and market price, specifically:

Dong Hoa commune	Unit	Quantity	Chicken weight	Price	Amount
Total number of chicken sold	Head	21	2,0	45,000	1,890,000
Total remaining number of chicken	Head	8	2,1	50,000	840,000
Yield of chicken egg	Egg	60		2,000	120,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>2,850,000</b>

Thanh Thach commune	Unit	Quantity	Chicken Weight	Price	Amount
Total number of chicken sold	Head	20	2.1	50,000	2,100,000
Total remaining number of chicken	Head	9	2.1	55,000	1,039,500
Egg yield	Egg	70		2,000	140,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>3,279,500</b>

Minh Hoa commune	Unit	Quantity	Chicken weight	Price	Amount
Total number of chicken sold	Head	18	2,0	45,000	1,620,000
Total remaining number of chicken	Head	10	2,1	50,000	1,050,000
Yield of chicken egg	Egg	60		2,000	120,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>2,790,000</b>

The above result shows profit which households participate in the chicken raising program achieve:

(Profit = Total receipt – total expenditure).

	<b>Total receipt</b>	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>Profit</b>
<b>Dong Hoa</b>	2,850,000	2,000,000	<b>850,000</b>
<b>Thanh Thach</b>	3,279,000	2,000,000	<b>1,297,000</b>
<b>Minh Hoa</b>	2,790,000	2,000,000	<b>790,000</b>

In the period of 3 months and 13 days (103 days), there were 26 days for raising 25 day-old breeding chicken in Dong Hoi. Therefore, the total time for chicken raising is  $103 - 26 = 77$  days, equivalent to 2.5 months. Additional income of households per month is as follow:

	<b>Total profit</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Profit per month</b>
<b>Dong Hoa</b>	850,000	2,5	<b>340,000</b>
<b>Thanh Thach</b>	1,297,000	2,5	<b>518,800</b>
<b>Minh Hoa</b>	790,000	2,5	<b>316,000</b>

**b. Advantages of the chicken raising program.**

Luong Phuong chicken raising program oriented to commodity production is one of the new orientations of Quang Binh agricultural sector. Quang Binh Centre of Animal Breeds has implemented hundreds of pilot models in all 7 districts/ city annually. Ten thousands of breeding chicken are produced every year. Luong Phuong chicken meat are acceptable by the people (mainly in big centres). Based on the feasible studies, average income can be up to VND 15,000 per head per month in case of good raising. Chicken is one of kinds of animal which is useful for poverty reduction and hunger eradication (low investment capital, quick profit return, available food, etc). As a result, after the Community Development Program completed in 2008, farmers of Thanh Thach commune, Tuyen Hoa district have more order of 500 breeding chicken.

During the implementation of the program, CPCs together with village heads monitored, supported and selected participating actors suitable with the project requirements for the success of the program.

**c. Disadvantages**

Luong Phuong chicken raising program is quite new for households in 3 project poor communes. They only access to information of this kind of chicken via means of mass information, training courses on technical tranfer by projects/ programs. Most of them are not yet familiar with commodity-production-oriented chicken raising. Moreover, the people are still not yet familiar with this kind of chicken meat. Consequently, techniques of chicken raising (cages, groundyard, feeding and drinking ways) have not yet been ensured. The price of chicken is lower than that in other localities (VND 60,000 per kg in Dong Hoi and 57,000 VND/kg in Bo Trach).

**d. Pig fattening program**

In general, the pig fattening program is very suitable with farmers' conditions. In the previous period, farmers not yet had any concepts of pig fattening before selling. Through trainings, study tours and the Community Cevolution Program, they are very satisfied and agree with this method.

Calculation of economic effectiveness of pig fattening program:

	Unit	Quantity	Price	Amount
<b>TOTAL INPUT/ COST</b>				<b>3,532,500</b>
Breed (select households having pig with weight of 30kg/head * 2 heads)	kg	60	35,000	2,100,000
Available food (vegetable, bran, cassava residue)	kg	80	3,000	240,000
Food supported by the project	kg	125	8,500	1,062,500
Cost for veterinary				30,000
Other cost				100,000
<b>OUTPUT</b>				<b>4,620,000</b>
Pig sold after 60 days of being fattened = 600g/day x 60 days = 36 kg + 30 kg (at the beginning) * 2 heads	Kg	132	35,000	<b>4,620,000</b>
<b>CALCULATION OF ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS</b>				<b>1,087,500</b>
Input – total cost	4,620,000	3,532,500		<b>1,087,500</b>
Monthly profit				<b>543,750</b>

Although this method is very effective, easy and safe for implementing, selected households must have pigs with weight of over 30 kg. Studies shows that this is the best weight for pig fattening. In this stage, since pig skeleton develops stably in terms of structure, increasing weight due to fattening (600g/ day) is the weight of meat. All households participating in this program were carefully surveyed and selected by the project and CPCs. They had to sign the commitments when implementing the program.

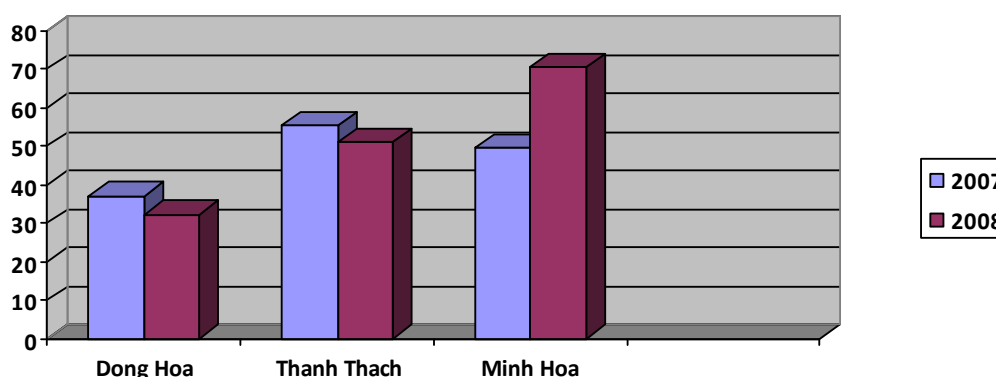
### **Conclusion**

According to the poverty evaluation level of DOLISA, the poverty definition of 2007 is that average income of household is below 200,000 VND. Households involved in the Community Development Program supported by the project are nearly-poor households with average income from 150 - 170,000VND/month.

Average additional income of each household is over 350,000 VND/ month contributing to the decrease of poor household percentage in communes in the project area.

According to unofficial information (data provided by CPCs after the poverty data verification in 2008), the poverty reduction percentage remarkably decreases in 2008 compared with the new definition.

Commune	Percentage of poor households as of 31/12/2007	Percentage of poor households as of 12/2008	Change of percentage of poor households in 2008
Thanh Thach	55.24	52.62	- 4.74
Dong Hoa	37.21	34.37	- 7.64
Minh Hoa	49.51	51.89	+ 4.82



The diagram shows that two communes of Dong Hoa and Thanh Thach achieve the project general indicator “poor households decrease by 4.5% annually” (Dong Hoa decreases by 7.6% and Thanh Thach 4.7%). For Minh Hoa commune, Minh Hoa district, the poverty reduction percentage increases higher than the project indicator (increasing by 4.9%).

Based on information provided by Minh Hoa CPC leaders:

- This data is not official. DPC will reverify the poverty data again, but this is still higher than the project indicator.
- Factor contributing to the remarkable increase of poverty reduction percentage is due to the cold weather in the Quarter 1, 2008 (01-04/ 2008) which causes serious damage:
  - 556 buffaloes/ cows dead
  - 14.8 ha of spring-winter rive lost
  - 13.2 ha of rice overflowed by water and cannot be recovered
  - 10 ha of peanut lost completely
  - 4 ha of bean of all kinds
- Only 3 out of 9 villages (villages of Tan Thuong, Kim Bang 4 and Tan Son) are accessed to the Program 135.

#### 4. Recommendations

- It is proposed that the project Management Board consider the case of Minh Hoa to have suitable supporting activities;
- Continue to implement the Community Development Program by lots of practical activities in order to achieve the project indicator in pilot communes;
- As each communes has its own economic development conditions, supporting activities should be suitable with the local conditions and based on PAEM approach.