

# 2020



**SCDI**

Center for Supporting Community Development Initiatives

ANNUAL REPORT

# from the Executive Director

Dear valued partners,

What a challenging year 2020 is! The outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic has placed people worldwide in such a unprecedented situation of change. For those who are optimistic, this is considered as the rare break for self reflection and re-energization from the hectic life. For those who are pessimistic, this is nothing more than the disaster turning their life up side down...

In SCDI, we are neither optimists nor pessimists. We are anchored to the roughest reality – the life of the communities we have been working with for a decade, and of whom are most hardly hit by the pandemic. They are the homeless, the elder, children and adults living in extreme poverty, for whom our interventions were somehow limited in the past five years. We turned Covid-19 into the opportunity to put on their shoes to gain better insights of poverty in Vietnam and relevant critical issues. It is high time to incorporate the work of poverty alleviation and social inclusion for poor people in SCDI's 2021 – 2030 strategy. We are not unreasonably optimistic because we acknowledge the challenges to transform the lives of vulnerable populations. Yet, those challenges cannot suppress our determination to fulfill the mission of SCDI.

I would like to express my sincere thank to all SCDI colleagues especially. We not only adapted to but continued thriving through the turbulence. We learnt to communicate with limited physical contact. We built our system responsive to unpredictable changes. We are navigated by new ideas every day. Like the trees growing stronger after storms, SCDI people becomes more resilient during tough time. We are restlessly making our work more meaningful and impactful.

We appreciate donors and partners for your companionship. You have provided immense support allowing SCDI to address most neglected community needs. You encourage us to take the boldest initiatives to serve the community. Thank you for sharing the same values with SCDI in accountability and transparency. The strategy 2016-2020 has been wrapped up notably with you beside us. SCDI is looking forward to your partnership in the new chapter 2021 – 2030 towards an inclusive society and a sustainable planet.

Stay Strong & Develop Together!



Dr. Khat Thi Hai Oanh  
Executive Director

# Table of Contents

**1**  
Foreword

**2**  
Table of Contents

**3**  
Abbreviations

**4-12**  
2020 Highlights

**13**  
SCDI Implementation Site

**14**  
Advocacy Beyond the Numbers

**15-16**  
Financial Report

**17-18**  
SCDI People

**19-20**  
Testimonial of Volunteers and Interns

**21**  
Testimonial of Community

**22**  
Contact Information

# Abbreviations

Amphetamine Typed Stimulants	<b>ATS</b>
Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs	<b>MOLISA</b>
Community Based Organization	<b>CBO</b>
Department of Administrative Management for Public Orders	<b>C06</b>
Department of Social Vice Prevention	<b>DSVP</b>
Vietnam Agency of AIDS Control	<b>VAAC</b>
Provincial AIDS Center	<b>PAC</b>
Non-governmental Organization	<b>NGO</b>
Methadone	<b>MMT</b>
Men Who Have Sex with Men	<b>MSM</b>
People Living with HIV	<b>PLHIV</b>
People Who Use Drugs	<b>PUD</b>
People Who Inject Drugs	<b>PWID</b>
Injecting Drug User	<b>IDU</b>
Sex Worker	<b>SW</b>
Transgender People	<b>TG</b>
Vietnam Vulnerable Community Supporting Platform	<b>VCSPA</b>
Vietnam Community Network for Tuberculosis Control	<b>VCTB</b>
Vietnam Network of People who Use Drugs	<b>VNPUD</b>
Vietnam Network of Sex Workers	<b>VNSW</b>
Vietnam Network of Transgender People	<b>VNTG</b>
Supporting Alliance for Treatment Adherence for People living with HIV	<b>SATA+</b>

# Apx. 100,000 people received services



HIV · Reach: 15,786 · Test: 11,920  
Treatment referral & support: 218



Malaria · Reach: 28,086 · Test: 8,067  
Treatment referral & support: 292



TB · Reach: 2,329 · Screen: 1,517  
Treatment referral & support: 33



Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)  
Screen: 3,455 · Treatment referral: 2,532



Hepatitis C: 1,300 (DRIVE C, Buyer Club)



Health insurance cards: 365



Education & nutrition support for children and adolescents: ~1,200



Addiction treatment: 1,050 · Methadone treatment referral: 350 · Methadone fee support: 750  
Police referral services: 369 · Overdose rescue: 89



Domestic violence victims supported: 40



# COVID-19 Response



Emergency essential packages & meals for homeless people: ~1,000



Emergency food packages for families living in extreme poverty: apx. 8,000



Support for birth certificate, ID, household book:



Livelihood recovery: 415

Accommodation rental (flat-months): 262 · House construction/renovation: 6  
Waterlogging for a 478-hectare commune of 1,464 households, which is severely impacted by the catastrophic flood in Central Vietnam (October, 2021)  
& nearly 20 tons of clothes were provided to residents.



SCDI mission is to work with the most vulnerable and marginalized populations in Vietnam. They are people whose health and life is most affected by HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria. They are the ones who are excluded from the healthcare and social security system due to barriers of legal recognition (transgender men & women) and personal identity papers (undocumented people). They are also most stigmatized and discriminated because of the diseases they suffer, the sexual orientation and gender identity they naturally were born with, or the poverty of their own family... SCDI not only wants to improve their both physical and mental well-being, but also to enable their inclusion into the society.

### We have been working with

- People who use drugs
  - Sex workers
  - Men who have sex with men
  - Transgender people
  - People living with HIV
  - TB patients
  - Ex-prisoners
  - Ethnic minority people in the Central Highlands
  - Marginalized children
- 
- People in crisis such as the homeless and slum dwellers, who are the “Covid-19 victims without symptoms” and natural disaster victims
  - The empty-nest elderly

Our works continued contributing to the goal to end HIV, Tuberculosis (TB) and Malaria in 2030. About 46.200 people were reached with HIV, TB and Malaria services. Among whom, 46.5% were assessed to be in high risk of these three diseases based on their behaviours; 100% of them received testing services and/or diagnosis and knew their status. Meanwhile, 99% were successfully connected with treatment and supported in adherence.







## “Think out of the box” SCDI’s creative intervention models to control and end AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

### Efforts in promoting an enabling environment for voluntary community-based addiction treat ment

Promoting voluntary addiction treatment is the most powerful way to entitle addiction patients to a happy and healthy life. In 2020, a total number of 1,050 patients have received voluntary addiction treatment services including consultancy, detoxification, and referrals to social-legal and other healthcare services upon needs. 350 people who use drugs got enrolled in Methadone program with SCDI referral. When Covid-19 hit the country in late March 2020, many Methadone patients lost their income entirely, they were too financially exhausted to afford as little as \$15 to maintain the treatment. Many of them were on the edge of dropping out of the program. SCDI has supported 750 patients with the treatment fee for 1-3 months. The community-based overdose management program saved the lives of 89 people in 2020. The pilot of the police diversion model in Hanoi has successfully made 369 referrals from police officials to local treatment services, which became the inspiration to replicate it inside and outside Hanoi.



# CHEER

## CHEER Model – new light to control the HIV epidemic among key populations in Vietnam

CHEER (Community HIV Epidemiological Evaluation and Response) is a replicated and improved model from the DRIVE research model implemented by SCDI, Hai Phong Medical School, ANRS and NIH and community-based organizations in Hai Phong (100 kilometers from Hanoi) in five years. DRIVE generated important evidence of no serostatus conversion, which reshaped the HIV interventions among key populations in Vietnam to control and finally end the epidemic in the next ten years.

With the application of CHEER, SCDI can:

- Evaluate the HIV epidemiology situation among key populations in the chosen site;
- Determine the HIV treatment cascade
- Identify the clients & their needs and connect them to suitable services supplementing the strategies to control HIV in the province
- Estimate the coverage of HIV intervention program

CHEER model uses cross-sectional methods by sampling according to RDS (Respondent Driven Sampling) to assess the HIV epidemiology among most-affected populations. Participants of CHEER are required not to know their HIV status by the time they were recruited into the program; they then received HIV testing and a customized follow-up & care plan. The project also provides

customers with HIV prevention services such as behavioral change communication, preventive commodities: lubricants, condoms, etc.

The pilot of CHEER model was technically supported by DRIVE's expert team and financed by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria, the component of Strengthening the Participation of Social Organizations and Community Organizations in Vietnam, GF VUSTA project in short. Five implementing provinces are Hai Phong, Thai Binh, Ninh Binh, Quang Ninh & Nghe An - SCDI' site in GF VUSTA project to utilize the well-established and skilled community system. In 2020, CHEER focused on three groups: men who have sex with men, transgender people & people who inject drugs with a total of 2,761 recruited clients to join the first round. The pilot of CHEER emphasized some of DRIVE's results, which are:

- The importance of follow-up care for HIV (+) patients avoiding the treatment dropout and drug resistance
  - The interaction of other health issues such as Hepatitis C, mental health, and tuberculosis, etc. to HIV treatment
- With these positive pilot results, CHEER will be adopted in all 15 provinces/cities of the GF VUSTA project by SCDI and the other two implementing organizations in the next cycle of 2021 – 2023.



## Fostering community-based response in finding active tuberculosis among high-risk and hard-to-reach populations

Vietnam has made significant progress in fighting tuberculosis (TB) in recent years, yet more effort is required to end the disease by 2030 due to the challenges of a high rate of missing TB cases, treatment dropout and lack of focus on high-risk and hard-to-reach populations. In 2017, with the first project named FORCE TB supported by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB & Malaria, SCDI laid the foundation for a community system including national community networks and CBOs who actively engage in the provincial and national TB response. The goal is to focus on high-risk populations of TB which did not receive adequate attention and intervention namely: people who use drugs, people living with HIV, sex workers, homeless people, slum dwellers and contacts of TB patients (families, colleagues, etc.) In 2020, SCDI continued the implementation of this model in Hanoi, Hai Phong, Quang Ninh and Hai Duong. Local CBOs are the site implementers to provide preventive services and refer TB clients to the hospitals for diagnosis and treatment. CBOs play an important role in eliminating the transmission by identifying the contacts of found TB patients and getting those people to be screened and treated on a timely basis. We have provided screening services for 2,329 people, referred and supported 37 people with active TB to treatment. To raise community awareness of TB, 79 communications sessions were organized with 1,666 visits in four provinces.

## Community synergy to eliminate malaria in Vietnam

The Community Malaria Action Team (CMAT - /si'mat/) is a community development initiative implemented by SCDI within the Regional Artemisinin-resistance Initiative (RAI). The goal is to enhance community participation in malaria response. CMAT organization has grown up to 231 individual members working in 60 groups in 149 malaria high-burden communes in Binh Phuoc, Dak Lak, Dak Nong, and Gia Lai since 2017. As CMAT members grew up in the locality, they have deep insights into indigenous culture, customs & practices – they are in the best position to understand the minds and souls of their community to bring out effective & efficient solutions to issues slowing down the malaria fight in Vietnam. In addition, SCDI further strengthened CMAT's capacity with training on multiple topics and skills such as smartphone use for data collection and monitoring, communications, social health insurance and tuberculosis. In 2020, CMAT have reached and mapped 70,186 forest goers, the most mobile, hardest-to-reach and malaria most affected population, to organize 1,970 group communications sessions and 21,580 individual ones. CMAT referred 8,063 suspected cases (4% nationwide) to parasitological testing with 363 confirmed cases (4.5%) and successfully followed up 98% of those in treatment adherence. Provision of preventive products is another CMAT's key activity, which has supplied the forest goers and villagers with 4,650 long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and 7,290 tubes of repellent.



## Kicking off the intervention model for methamphetamine users

In 2020, the intervention model for methamphetamine users in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City has kicked start. The model has been developed by SCDI Youth & Children Program in the project Saving the Future supported by L'Initiative & Expertise France, and with the technical assistance of Mainline International.

The center of the model is the methamphetamine users (clients) who will receive harm-reduction services and care from CBOs in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The targeted populations are young people and adolescents (older than 15) among key populations who have high risks of methamphetamine abuse and addiction. Direct outreaching was the main source to find and connect to the clients. The CBOs have reached 586 clients through their direct networks and provided 1,007 consultancy sessions, among which at least 51% of clients were consulted once and 34% twice and more upon needs.

Then Covid-19 outbreak; the situation of travel restriction, lockdown, and quarantine forced SCDI and partners

to think of a new outreach strategy. The team brought most of the communication materials online to make them more accessible: 02 handbooks, 04 animation videos, 215 Facebook posts, 35 informative articles on mental health, drug use harm reduction, safe sex behaviors, social and self-stigma reduction, etc. receiving 808,806 views in 2020.

SCDI shared our knowledge in harm reduction with other social organizations that work with high-risk populations to increase the number of people who could benefit from the model. We organized 05 training workshops on interventions for methamphetamine users for CBOs in Hai Phong, Ninh Binh, Thai Binh, Quang Ninh and Nghe An. In Hanoi, we partnered with Blue Dragon – an NGO working with homeless and street children to provide training on mental health and drug use risks for their outreach staff.



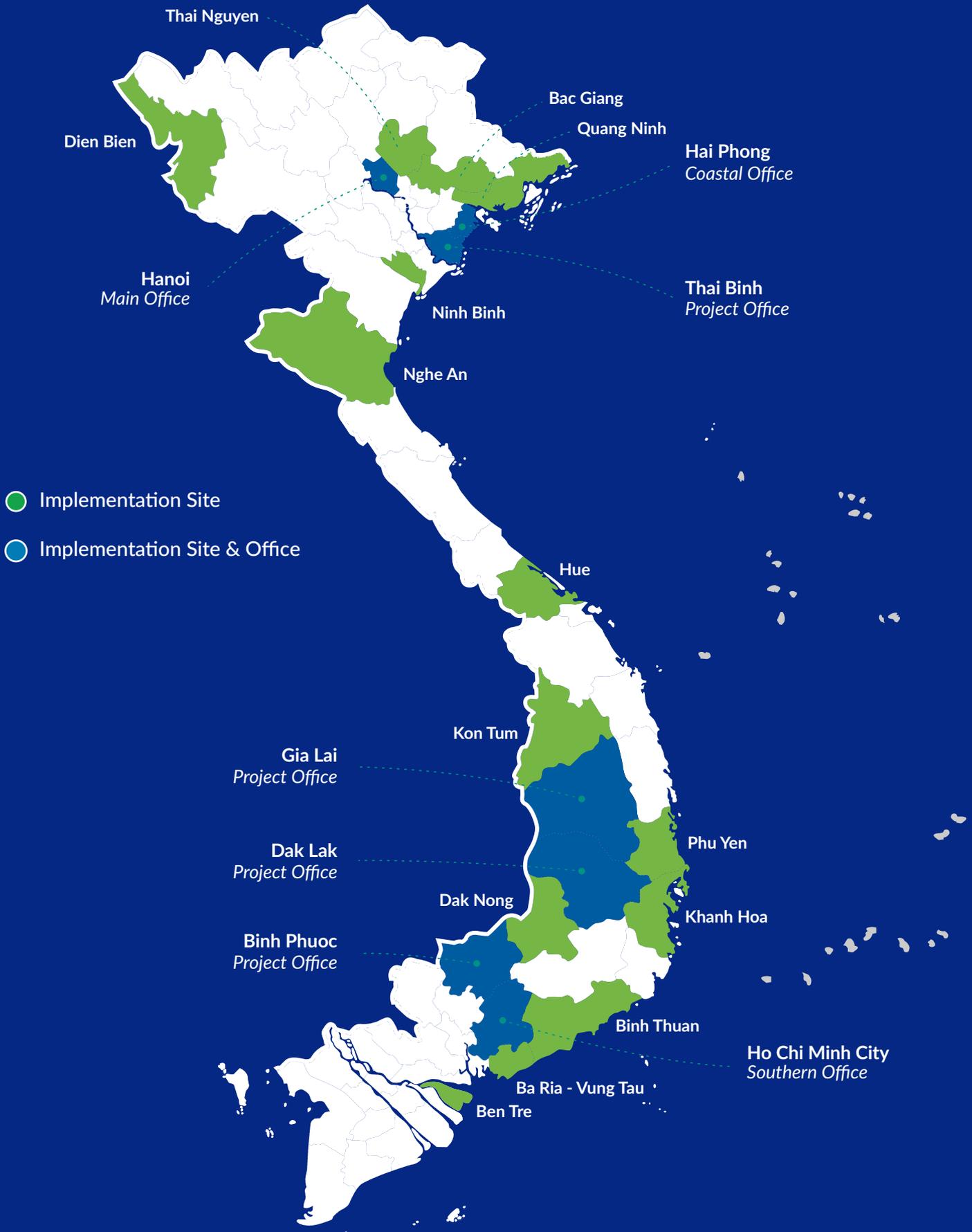
## Sexual and reproductive health & rights and gender-based violence intervention

Sexual and reproductive health & rights (SRHR) and gender-based violence intervention is an important cross-cutting field across programs in SCDI supporting young women, adolescent girls & boys, transgender women and sex workers. In 2020, SCDI reached 3,455 female clients for STIs screening and supported 645 people to receive STI treatment. SCDI collaborated with CBOs to organize 113 group communication sessions on SRHR, drug harm reduction (due to the relation of drug use to risky sexual behaviors) for 388 adolescents (age 14-24, male: 150-38%, female: 238-62%) of vulnerable populations in Hanoi, Hai Phong and Nghe An. Besides, we also rolled out training on SRHR and harm reduction for teachers and student clubs in two high schools in Hanoi so that they could roll out the program for the whole students by themselves.

Ho Chi Minh city (HCMC) is the main site to implement gender-based violence interventions employing the case management model. In 2020, SCDI office in HCMC supported 40 victims of domestic violence with 143

visits; 34 of those were referred to healthcare, social and legal services upon need. We supported the registration of birth certificates for six children of those clients and bought social health insurance cards for one woman. In addition, SCDI also referred 41 victims of violence in other provinces to support and connected 1,257 female sex workers to psychological services.

Community system building is our key approach to empowering the populations of women and adolescent girls. A capacity building program for young leadership took place in 2020 with 21 participants from CBOs led by women and adolescent girls. The participants received trainings on three crucial skills: Community-based Organization and Development, Self-Management and CBO Management. With financing from SCDI, VNSW - the national network of sex workers in Vietnam, which were supported by SCDI since its establishment in 2012, has successfully organized the training on "Organization Development" for 86 participants from 23 CBOs of adolescent girls & young women, transgender women and sex workers.



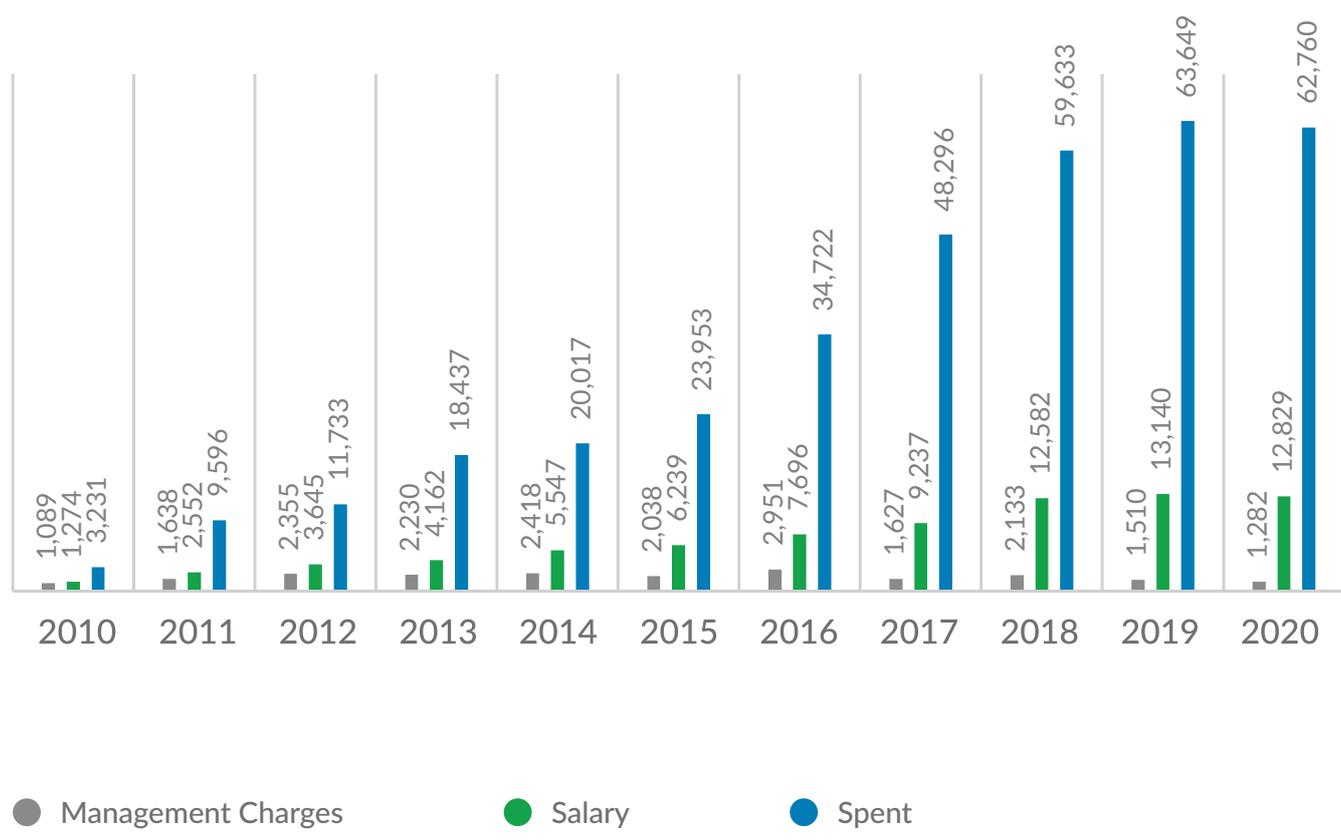
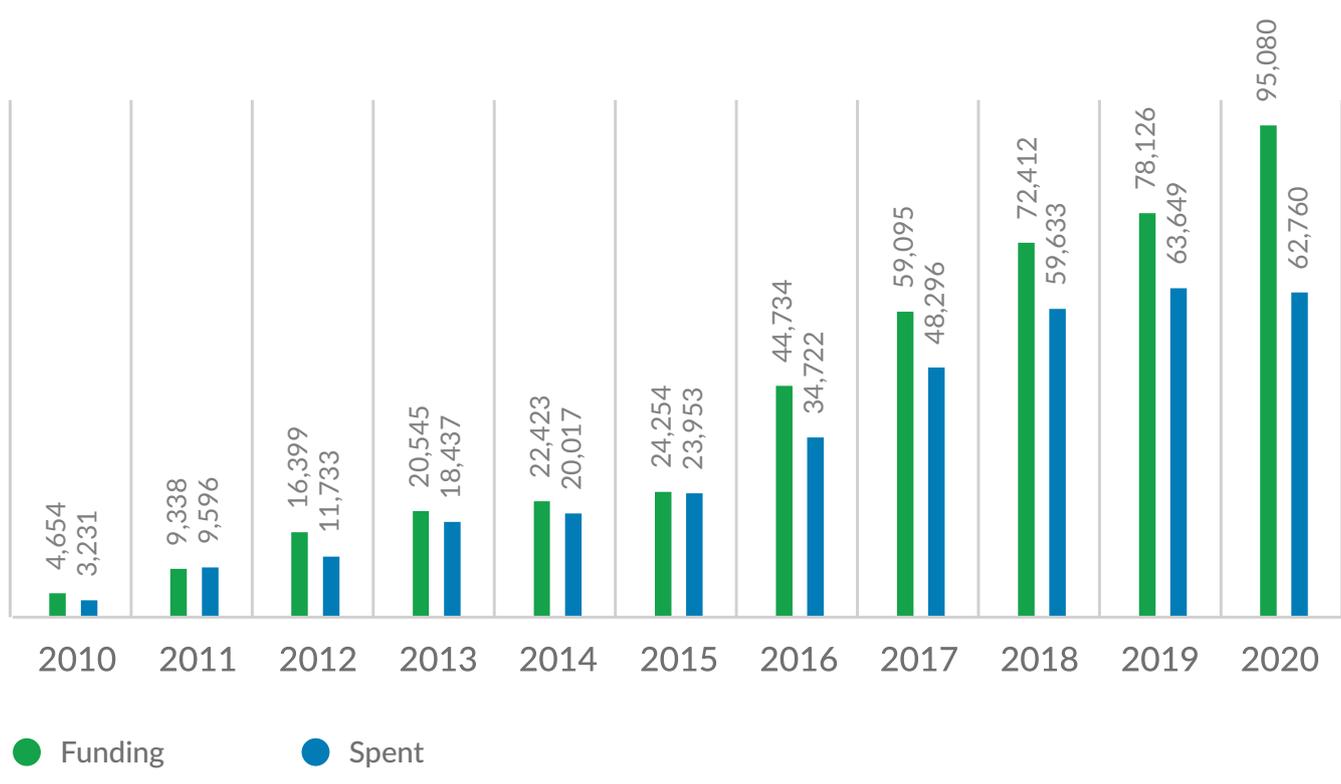
# Advocacy Beyond the Numbers



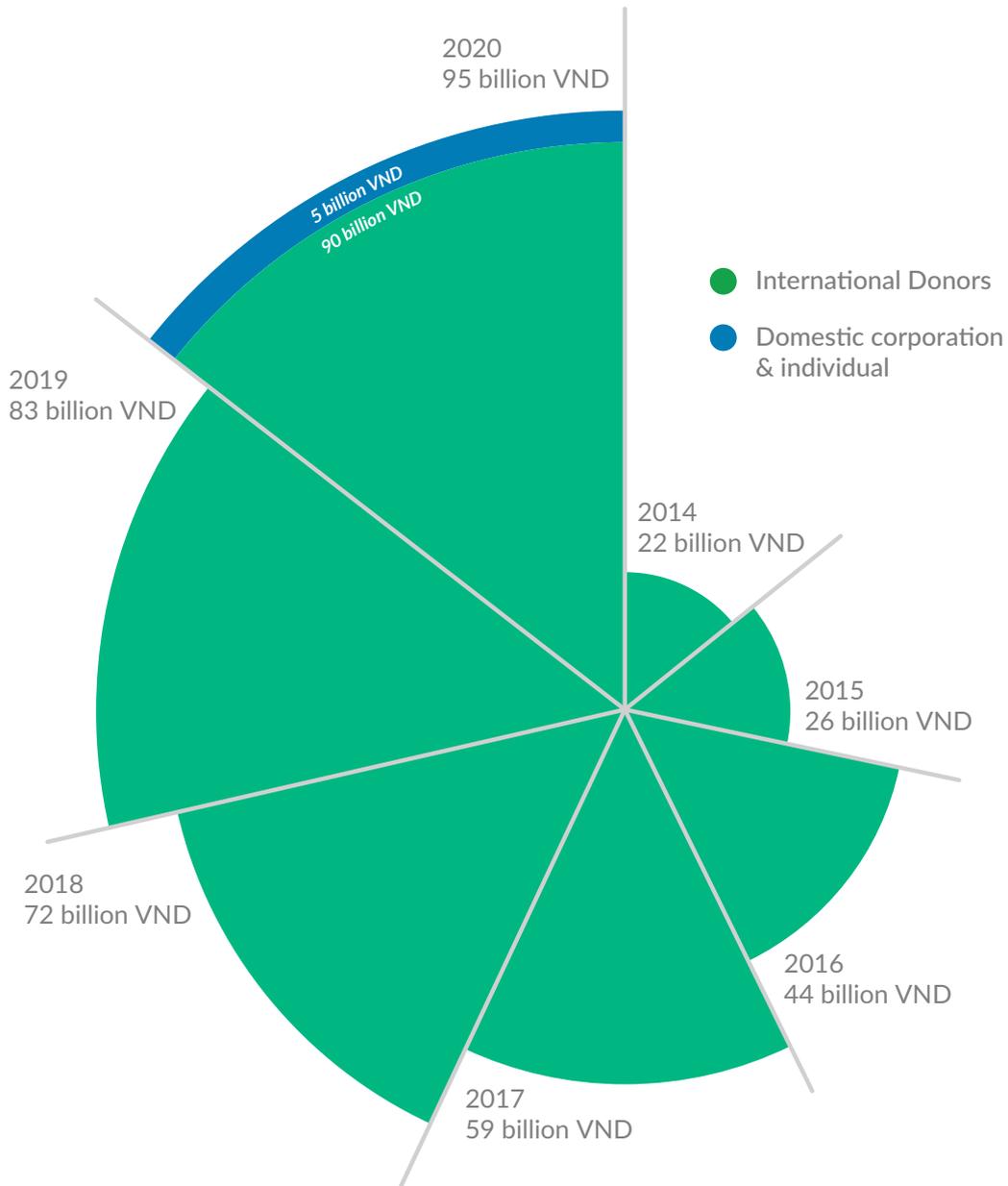
- Impact Area
- Outcome
- Alleviated or Eliminated

In 2020, SCDI has contributed to the improvement of policies to further protect and promote the rights of the vulnerable communities.

We have successfully advocated for the removal of the two provisions from the amended HIV law, which are the partner notification and sending methadone patients who are positive to drug test to compulsory detoxification centers.



Currency Unit: Billion Vietnam Dong



Starting with an initiative responding to the emergency needs during Covid-19, SCDI explored the potentials of the domestic contribution of individuals and corporates. In 2020, SCDI mobilized thousands of individual donors and approximately 10 corporates of all sizes. The total amount of domestic funding is 5 billion VND not to mention the in-kind donation of food, necessities, transportation, and volunteer working hours. The social mobilization enabled us with higher flexibility to carry out rapid responses to emergency situations such as pandemics and natural disasters.

2020 Domestic Partners



Number of staff 72

Our staff location  
Hanoi  
Hai Phong  
Nghe An  
Ninh Binh  
Thai Binh  
Quang Ninh



Gia Lai  
Dak Lak  
Binh Phuoc

Ho Chi Minh City





Do Thu Tra  
Volunteer  
Children and Youth Program

*"Everyone at SCDI is friendly and approachable. Here, chị Thủy prepares for lunch, and during lunch-time, the whole team would gather around to eat and talk. These were some of the most unforgettable experiences that I had working at SCDI."*



Khuat Thi Minh Hieu  
Volunteer  
Community Network Program

*"I still remember vividly the first lesson I learned at SCDI: respect towards everyone, no matter who they are and how they appear to be. During the time spent at SCDI, I have also learned a lot of skills that can support my future career."*



Do Phuong Anh  
Volunteer  
Children and Youth Program

*"At SCDI, I have been able to understand and empathize with young people by working directly with them. In their teenage years, these young adults are very straightforward, which might come across as 'unpleasant' sometimes yet very similar to my personality."*



Le Thi Phuong Hien  
Volunteer  
Children and Youth Program

*"I have joined SCDI for three years now and have participated in multiple programs, with each position providing me a different experience. In every work that SCDI takes on, they are devoted to building the community and supporting those in need so that these people can have a better life."*



Pham Thu Thao  
Volunteer  
Community Network  
Development Program

*“The work at SCDI comes in different shapes and sizes. Back when I just started, I made many mistakes yet everyone was patient enough to guide me through the work. I have learned a lot thanks to this.”*



Hoang Thanh Binh  
Volunteer  
Communications Program

*“On the first day I came to SCDI, I questioned why the first floor was filled with boxes of goods. Later on I found out that those boxes were sent in by donors to support the ones in need. The first floor of SCDI is always crammed with carton boxes carrying love and warmth.”*



Tran Thu Hang  
Volunteer  
Addiction Treatment and  
Harm Reduction Program

*“The more I work in SCDI, the more I feel that SCDI fits my personality and work orientation. And I can meet and talk to people who use drugs so that I can understand their needs, the services they receive and know how to assess whether the intervention is appropriate or not.”*



Ngo Xuan Quynh  
Volunteer  
Communications Program

*“The three words that come into my mind when I talk about the people and the way of working at SCDI are friendly, resilient, and graceful. Everyone who works at SCDI is kind, funny, and passionate towards the mission of supporting our community.”*



Do Thuy An My  
Hoa Cat Tuong Group

*“The people of SCDI are amiable, relatable, and even “casual” sometimes, just like the people in our community. The distance between SCDI and our community does not exist. To us, SCDI is definitely more than just an organization, but a second home.”*



Doan Tieu My  
Starlight Group

*“I love the way I am at the moment, though not perfect. I hope that SCDI will always be a warm and welcoming home, a second home to anyone who wishes to become a better version they’re in love with.”*



Chu Thai Son  
Niem Tin - Hai Duong Group  
The Vietnam Network of  
Community on TB Control  
(VCTB)

*“Young, Energetic, and Enthusiastic: The SCDI team is young not just in terms of age but also mentality. The people of SCDI are devoted to supporting and inspiring the people around them.”*



Pham Thi Minh  
The Vietnam Network of  
People Who Use Drugs  
(VNPUD)

*“The way that SCDI works with people who use drugs is to believe in these people while no one else does: Believe that they will stop using drugs - Believe that they will live positively - Believe that they will contribute back to their own community.”*

**TRUNG TÂM HỖ TRỢ SÁNG KIẾN PHÁT TRIỂN CỘNG ĐỒNG**  
**CENTER FOR SUPPORTING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

[scdi@scdi.org.vn](mailto:scdi@scdi.org.vn) [fb.com/SCDIVietnam](https://fb.com/SCDIVietnam)

[www.scdi.org.vn](http://www.scdi.org.vn) +84-24-35720689

**Văn phòng chính · Main Office**

Số 9, Ngõ 165/30 Thái Hà, Quận Đống Đa, TP. Hà Nội  
No. 9, Alley 165/30 Thai Ha Str., Dong Da District, Hanoi

**Văn phòng Duyên hải · Coastal Office**

Số 73 Nguyễn Công Hòa, Quận Lê Chân, TP. Hải Phòng  
No. 73 Nguyen Cong Hoa Str., Le Chan District, Hai Phong City

**Văn phòng phía Nam · Southern Office**

Số 223 Lê Niệm, Phường Phú Thạnh, Quận Tân Phú, TP. Hồ Chí Minh  
No. 223 Le Niem Str., Phu Thanh Ward, Tan Phu District, Ho Chi Minh City

