

**0976 WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN CHILD INJURY PREVENTION IN VIETNAM**

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10.1136/ip.2010.029215.976

Every day in Viet Nam, injuries takes away the lives of more than 20 children and adolescents (aged 0–19) and mortality represents only the tip of the iceberg in terms of the real burden of injury. It is estimated that for every child injury related death, 12 children are admitted to hospital or permanently disabled and 34 children require medical care or miss school because of injury. UNICEF has been working with the Government of Viet Nam to combat child injuries since 2001 through public awareness raising, policy advocacy and model demonstration. Important achievements have been obtained in this field, contributing to raising awareness of national public, and to advocating policy makers on child injury prevention. Today, child injury is no longer an invisible issue in Viet Nam. However, work in this area is just getting started. Child injury

prevention remains a huge challenge in Viet Nam that will require continued commitment of a wide range of partners, sectors and communities under a strong governmental leadership. In the coming years, UNICEF Vietnam will continue to support Vietnamese Government in the following areas:

- ▶ Develop a comprehensive plan of action on child injury prevention, which includes legislative, enforcement and environmental changes to support existing education and public awareness campaigns;
- ▶ Enhance inter-sectoral coordination of child injury prevention and
- ▶ Improve the quality and quantity of data for child injury prevention.