

## **PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIETNAM**

After the war, 1975 Vietnam has initiated country re-construction process with many difficulties and challenges: infrastructure was heavily damaged, poorly developed economy, embargo etc., and numerous war consequences however, the country has made remarkable achievements and living standard of Vietnamese people has significantly improved.

In term of promotion and protection of human rights, the constitution ensures people's equal rights in all political, economic, social areas as well as before the law; the right to freedom of religion and belief; the right to freedom of movement and residence within Vietnam; the right to complain and denounce; right to work, study and enjoy health care ... regardless of their sex, social status, belief, religion. The human rights are better ensured for people from time to time through continuously strengthening the legal system and policies by developing and introducing a number of new laws as well as improving the existing laws to make sure that they are updated and in line to the fast changing country's socio-economical development context. At the same time, the country also focuses on the strengthening monitoring/supervising right implementing process as well as capacity building for different concerned government right implementing agencies to ensure better right implementation for people.

As International NGO working in Vietnam for nearly twenty years, we witness big positive changes in term of human right promotion and protection in the country as mentioned above even in the remote and disadvantage areas where we work, people not only much better understand their rights but their rights are also much better ensured. People are more respected and have adequate voice as well as influence on decision making in all aspects concerning with their daily life. The term "human right" is not sensitive and untouchable issue as some one may think. Government and authorities can openly talk and discuss any emerging issues regarding right promotion and protection. We believe that with great success in socio-economical development as well as continuous improving legal system and implementation, Vietnamese people will enjoy their rights as any other in the developed countries.