

# Review of programs and a model for caring for and promoting the role of the elderly in Vietnam (2002 – 2012)

2012



## Overview

In the contexts of the rapid aging population, living arrangements of the elderly in their households, from extended family to the small family, as well as, the challenges in ensuring income and health are necessary to learn and select a model for caring and promoting the role of elderly people in their family, community and society. In particular, in the context of Vietnam's position as the low-middle income country, the rapid aging population requires suitable models in the development stages.

This research is an activity between the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Vietnam and Institute of Social and Medical Studies (ISMS), organizations implementing the research. In this study, we reviewed, analyzed and synthesized information on programs for caring for and promoting the role of the elderly in Vietnam over the period of 2002-2012. Programs were run by state organizations, non-governmental organizations, and social associations and about the policies of GOV for the elderly during this period.

This research focused on identifying strengths, appropriation, as well as, the difficulties, challenges and gaps of the models for the current conditions of Vietnam. A typical model, the intergeneration self-help club (ISHC), was analyzed in the report to summarize the lessons learned. In doing so, the findings contribute to developing and implementing more comprehensive and sustainable programs for caring and promoting in the role of elderly people in Vietnam.

## Study Objectives

The study had following objectives to:

- Collect and review information about the model for caring and promoting the role of the elderly conducted by agencies, governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, social organizations in Vietnam during the period of 2002-2012, and the policies for the elderly of the state of Vietnam during the above mentioned period;
- Analyze a typical model, determines the strengths, conformities, as well as the difficulties, challenges and gaps of the model;
- Summarize lessons learned, good performance for process of developing and implementing the UNFPA program for caring the elderly in Hai Duong province and Ben Tre in particular, as well as on a national scale in general;
- Propose recommendations for policy and programs so that the care and promotion of the role of the elderly in Vietnam will be more comprehensive and more sustainable.

## Data Sources

All the information from the published documents, reports, as well as unpublished documents, reports which analyzed and evaluated the models for caring and/or promoting the role of the elderly in the period 2002-2012 were reviewed. Besides, the study also reviewed the legal documents, policies for the elderly in Vietnam, such as the Social Insurance Law (2008); Elderly Law (2009); Decree 13/2010, etc.

## Methodology

Based on these documents, the study focused on the analysis of key issues related to each model including the purpose, subjects, and areas of intervention, approaches, some major results, limitations, advantages and disadvantages of the model. To have a proposal, suggests for a model in accordance with the current socio-economic conditions of Vietnam in general and with the context of the local aging population in particular, the advantages and disadvantages of these models should be carefully analyzed including institutional factors, human resources and financial resources, etc.

## Donors & Partners

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