Partners

A large part of our success is because we have formed partnerships with local, national, and international organizations working in Vietnam. These partners have a strong commitment to improving the quality of life of the citizens of Vietnam.

- Action Center for City Development
- Association of Cities of Vietnam
- Center for Environment and Community Research
- Fresh Studio
- Fruit and Vegetable Research Institute
- Global Research Centre (University of Hawaii) - USA
- Hanoi Old Quarter Management Board
- Hoi An city government
- Institut national de la recherche scientifique (Canada)
- Lac Viet Center
- Ministry of Construction
- Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Ministry of Transportation
- The Asia Foundation in Vietnam
- The Fatherland Front of Hanoi
- University of Construction
- University of Twente (Netherlands)
- Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences
- Vietnam Architects' Association
- Vietnam Environment Association
- Vietnam Federation of Civil Engineering Associations
- Vietnam Institute of Architecture and Urban and Rural Planning
- Vietnam Urban Planning and Development Association
- Vietnam Women's Museum

HealthBridge

works with partners world-wide to improve health and health equity through research, policy and action.

HealthBridge is an international, non-profit, non-governmental organization that aims to identify, understand and bridge gaps in public health, including gaps between needs and technologies, evidence and policies, policies and practice.

HealthBridge Vietnam was founded in 1993, and the Livable Cities program was established in 2006. It focuses primarily on supporting policy development and works to ensure livable spaces for at-risk and vulnerable urban populations.

Http://healthbridge.ca/programs/livable-cities

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The Livable Cities program tackles quality of life issues in rapidly developing cities. We focus on policy and community engagement strategies to build strong, resilient communities, especially for the most vulnerable including women, children, the poor, and people with disabilities. Our work ultimately creates healthier people and a healthier environment.

**Healthy Transportation**

Our programs encourage people to walk and cycle and, when necessary, to take public transit. Streets are an important resource in every city and they can be designed to support and encourage walking and cycling or, in too many cases, they can be designed to discourage walking and cycling. Our program works with local city officials to plan, design, and build street networks that encourage active travel.

**Parks. Plazas and Playgrounds**

Parks and public spaces are meant for play and other leisure activities such as meeting friends and neighbors. Many parks are being degraded, poorly maintained, and are encroached by commercial centers and car and motorbike parking. Our program works with local and national partners to protect, improve, and maintain existing parks and ensure that as cities grow, new parks are being built.

**Major Impacts**

- **Protecting Hanoi’s Parks.** We persuaded the Hanoi Government to stop two commercial projects in Thong Nhat Park, which means thousands of residents continue to enjoy the park every day. Recently, we received commitment from the government to study and protect the small neighborhood parks where children play.

- **Hoi An Parks Master Plan.** Our work with the city of Hoi An has resulted in a Parks Master Plan that will create 79 new public spaces. By 2020 all residents will be within a 5-minute walking distance to a park.

- **Preservation of Local Public Markets.** Because of our efforts, the government has reconsidered their plan to redevelop the local markets in Hanoi into commercial centers. This means thousands of women continue to have employment and tens of thousands can shop for healthy food close to home.

- **Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS).** ASRTS encourages communities in Hanoi to ensure that children are able to walk or cycle to school safely. Our work in Ha Dinh ward, Hanoi has led to the successful pilot of the project and increased safe and active travel for children.

- **Local Public Markets**

  Local public markets provide city residents with easy access to healthy, fresh foods. They also provide important meeting places in the community and many opportunities for neighbors to socialize. The local public markets are an important part of Vietnam’s cultural heritage. Our program works with local and national level partners to preserve and protect local public markets.