



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

**EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAMME & CHRISTINA NOBLE
EDUCATON PROGRAMME
VIETNAM**

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

ESTABLISH	2002
LOCATION	Ho Chi Minh City
BACKGROUND	The Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) was established in response to the growing need of adequate support for children living in poverty and/or experiencing economic hardship to remain in school and further their education. Students enrolled in the Programme are provided with scholarships to cover tuition fees and receive additional assistance in the form of career career guidance, life skills training and support through other CNCF's Programmes. The Education Scholarship Programme enables vulnerable children and young adults to remain in the education system as well as enhancing awareness on the importance of education and empowering the students and their families to break the cycle of poverty, not only for themselves, but for their future generations to come.

BENEFICIARIES	Students from disadvantaged backgrounds wanting to pursue or remain in the education system. The children in this programme are often orphans, street children living with relatives, children coming from low-income households, families affected by the acute financial hardships caused by a serious accident or illness to the primary income earner, children of large families whose parents are physically impaired or children from other CNCF programmes who want to pursue higher education.
LOCAL PARTNERS	Thao Dan Social Protection Centre, Ho Chi Minh City Child Welfare Association, Women Union of Cau Ong Lanh Ward, Fulbright University Vietnam.
CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY	CNCF is entirely responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation.
MONITORING AND EVALUATION	The students' progress is closely monitored by CNCF Social Workers and timely support is provided when necessary. Prior to enrolment, and if issues arise, the Education Scholarship Programme Manager and Social Workers conduct home visits to the students' families. CNCF Board of Management and ESP staff organise weekly internal meetings for programme discussions. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are provided to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is made available to all stakeholders.

OUR YEAR

In 2023, CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) continued to provide financial support to students, enabling them to remain in and pursue their education at Primary, Secondary, High School, College, University, and Vocational levels.

This was a special year as CNCF, a British Registered Charity operating in Vietnam for 34 years, celebrated 50 years of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Vietnam. CNCF was therefore honoured to host two scholarship ceremonies for this year's recipients at the British Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City in 2023. The ceremonies were attended by representatives from our local government partners, university partners, and distinguished donors, as well as, most importantly, 100 beneficiary students who made this initiative truly special.

CNCF also welcomed representatives from two significant ESP partners, Furniture Industry for Education (FIFE) and the Wednesday Afternoon Golf Society (WAGS), who had the opportunity to meet many of the children and young people they are supporting through the programme.

Since inception,



6,267 STUDENTS

have been supported by the Education Scholarship Programme in Vietnam to continue their schooling and pursue tertiary education.

In 2023,

100 STUDENTS

were supported by the Education Scholarship Programme in Vietnam

01 STUDENT

was from CNCF's Sunshine School

01 STUDENT

was from CNCF's Tay Ninh Centre for Visually Impaired Children

18 STUDENTS

were from CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme

80 STUDENTS

were from the wider community

02 SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONIES

were held at the British Consulate General, Ho Chi Minh City in April and in October

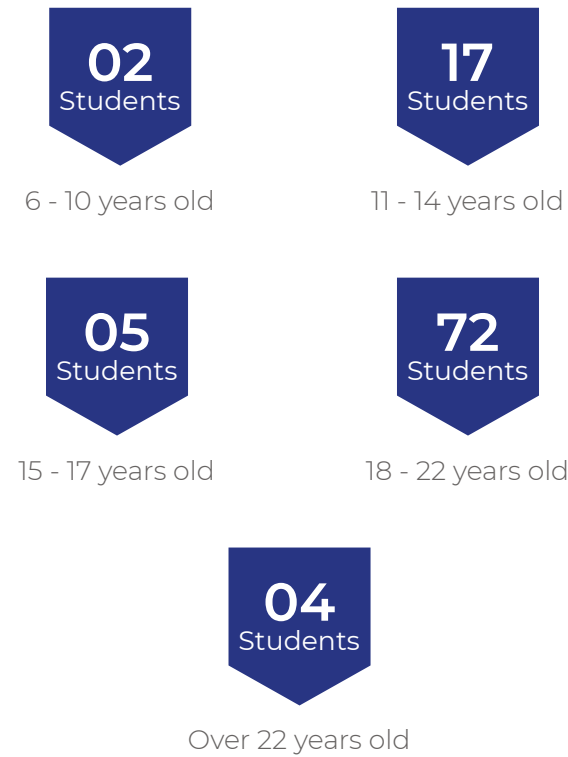


OUR YEAR

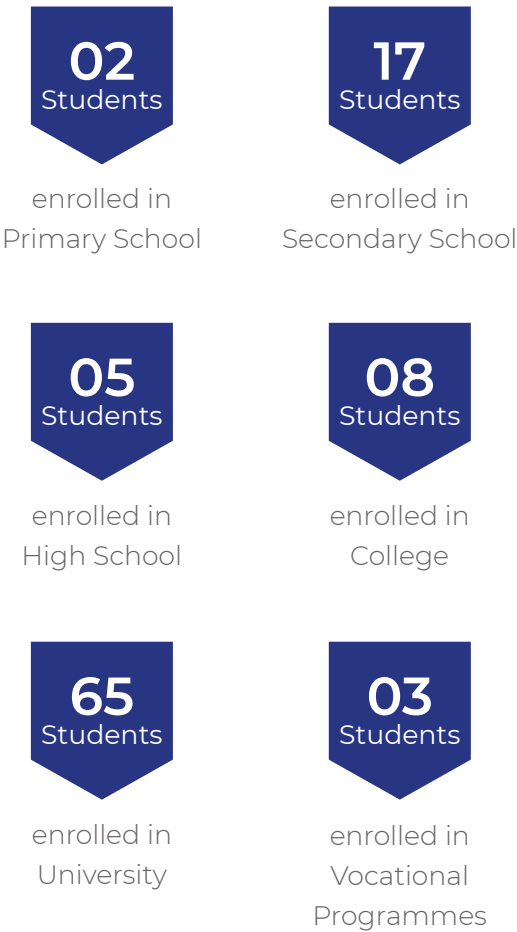
Demographic Data

45 STUDENTS
come from single-income families

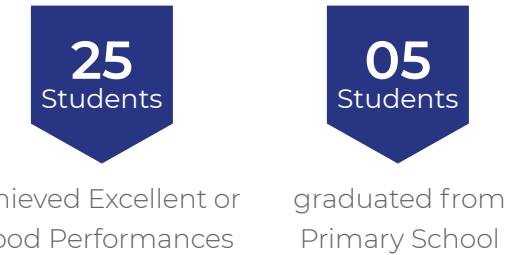
Age Group



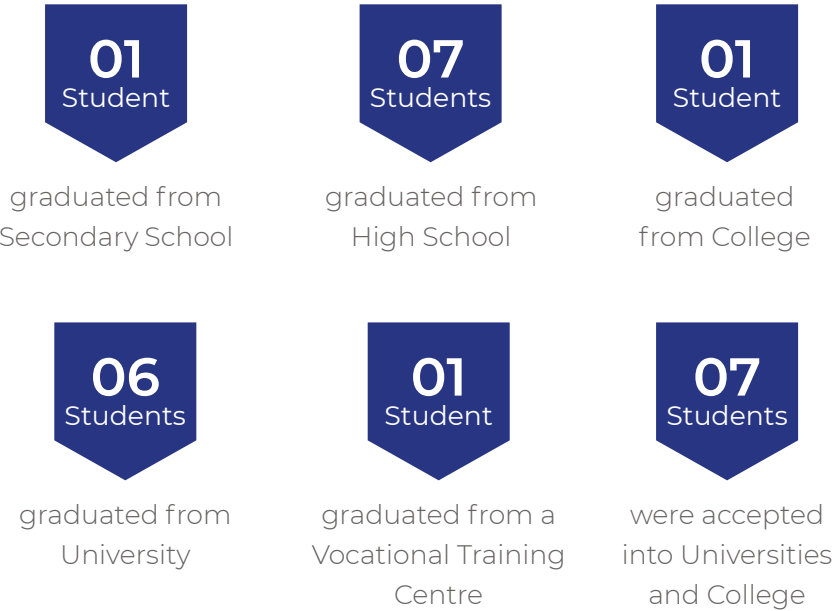
Education Level



Education Outcomes



Education Outcomes





REPORT 2023

OUR YEAR

Home Visits & Additional Student Support



37

HOME VISITS

were conducted to the students' families for progress updates



14

STUDENTS

received bicycle kit and road safety training through CNCF's Bicycle Support Programme



05

STUDENTS

received career guidance and advice from our ESP staff regarding their educational performance, career orientation and effective learning methods

Life Skill Trainings & Workshops



57

STUDENTS

attended **03** life skills trainings

Staff Training



03

ESP STAFF

attended **12** skills training session

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Christina Noble Education Programme (CNEP)

ESTABLISH	2023
LOCATION	Ho Chi Minh City and across Vietnam
BACKGROUND	<p>The Christina Noble Education Programme (CNEP) was established in response to the issues of substandard pedagogy and high dropout rates in Vietnam. The Programme helps students from disadvantaged backgrounds realise their dreams in a rapidly changing local and global employment market by bridging the gap between their educational and professional lives. The CNEP enables vulnerable young people to remain in the education system and empowers them with progressive soft skills through four components; Scholarship: providing financial support for students to complete their university education; Fellowship: providing 100 hours of intensive training to strengthen competences that are aligned to the global development goals, preparing students with essential skills and mindsets for future careers; Internship: connecting students to professional workplaces to apply competences at work and Mentorship: connecting students with experienced mentors for real-field consultancy.</p>

BENEFICIARIES	Final year University students from disadvantaged backgrounds who have achieved outstanding academic results and show potential for leadership or a commitment to social impact
LOCAL PARTNERS	Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City (VNU-HCM), Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT), Ho Chi Minh City University of Science (HCMUS), Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities (HCMUSSH), University of Economics and Law (UEL), An Giang University, Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh (AGU), Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City - Campus in Ben Tre, Faculty of Medicine (VNU-HCM), Institute for Leadership Development of VNU-HCMC (VNUHCM-ILEAD), Authentic Live & Learn (ALL), Vietnam Alumni Mentoring Network (VAM).
CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY	CNCF is entirely responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation.
MONITORING AND EVALUATION	The students' progress is closely monitored by CNCF Social Workers and timely support is provided when necessary. Prior to enrolment, and if issues arise, CNCF's Education Programme Manager and Social Workers conduct home visits to the students' families. CNCF Board of Management and CNEP staff organise weekly internal meetings for programme discussions. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are provided to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is made available to all stakeholders.



OUR YEAR

The Christina Noble Education Programme (CNEP) was initiated and proposed by CNCF in response to the needs of disadvantaged youth. At the national level, the Programme addresses high youth unemployment and employment retention across the country. At an individual level, the programme aims to empower Vietnam’s youth, and future leaders of the country, to overcome professional barriers and enable them to thrive in the 21st century labour market, achieve their dreams by cultivating professional skills, mindset and learning ability.

In October 2023, the CNEP was officially launched, welcoming its inaugural cohort of 60 students from seven universities across Ho Chi Minh City, An Giang Province, and Ben Tre Province in Vietnam. This launch coincided with the commemoration of 50 years of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Vietnam, marking a special milestone. In honour of this occasion, CNCF was privileged to joint host the scholarship launch ceremony with CNCF’s ESP ceremony at the British Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City.

The last quarter of 2023 saw the initiation of the Fellowship component of the programme, highlighted by a series of training sessions and networking activities. This period also marked the start of collaborations with various prestigious partners, including universities and educational service organisations, setting a significant milestone in the programme’s implementation.

Since inception this year,



60 STUDENTS

have been supported and empowered by the Christina Noble Education Programme in Vietnam.



In 2023,

60 STUDENTS

were supported by the Christina Noble Education Programme in Vietnam

14 STUDENTS

were from the Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology

04 STUDENTS

were from the Ho Chi Minh City University of Science

16 STUDENTS

were from Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities

12 STUDENTS

were from the University of Economics and Law Ho Chi Minh City

07 STUDENTS

were from An Giang University, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh

04 STUDENTS

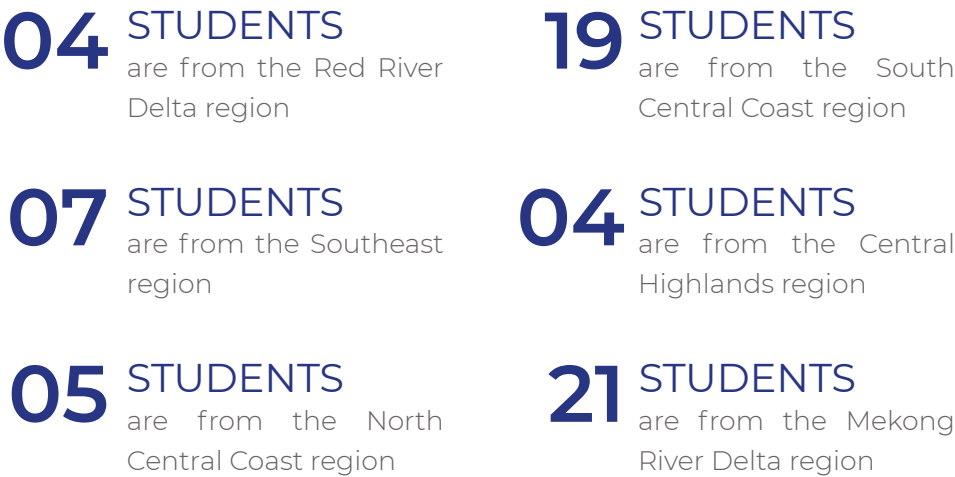
were from the Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City - Campus in Ben Tre Province

03 STUDENTS

were from the Faculty of Medicine, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City

OUR YEAR

Demographic Data



Gender



Education

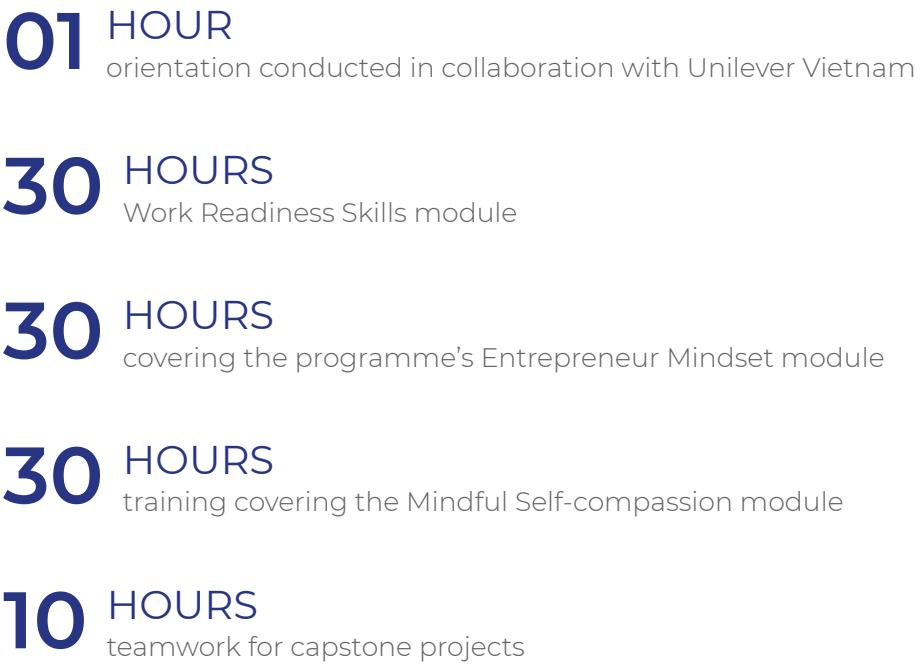


Education Outcomes

60 STUDENTS completed the 3-month Fellowship training component of the programme, accumulating **100 hours** of learning across three modules:



This include:



OUR YEAR

Education Outcomes



WORK READINESS SKILLS

included workshops run by the Institute for Leadership Development and Entrepreneur Mindset by EnCube Labs (US)

01

CAPSTONE STUDENT PROJECT

was conducted with 02 rounds and 05 external juries

03

STUDENT GROUPS

were awarded based on the criteria of innovation, sustainability, and feasibility

19

SKILLS

were acquired through the training programme. These include entrepreneurial spirit and creative thinking, stress management skills, complex problem-solving and critical thinking abilities, and network/relationship building skills applicable in both work and life. Participants also developed their learning in confident demeanour, intercultural communication skills, and self-compassion. Additionally, the programme enhanced time management, interview techniques, job application writing, and presentation skills. Leadership, initiative, social responsibility, teamwork, gender sensitivity, emotional balance, bravery, perseverance, growth mindset, and positive thinking were also emphasised

43

STUDENTS

secured internships in their chosen career sectors with the remaining being matched in 2024

60

STUDENTS

were matched with their individual mentors through the Vietnam Alumni Mentoring Network (VAM). Post programme, mentors continue their support until mentees secure stable employment, guiding them through their transition from university to the professional world.

Additional Student Support

20

STUDENTS

received career guidance and advice from our CNEP staff regarding their educational performance, career orientation and effective learning methods

60

STUDENTS

received CNEP Learning Packages

01

ONLINE PRIVATE CNEP SOCIAL GROUP PLATFORM

was established to provide education and career information support to the 60 students

Staff Training

02

CNEP STAFF

attended 12 skills training session

OUR STORIES

From Market Stalls to Academic Halls: Ngan's* Triumph with CNCF

In a bustling market, Ngan's* mother tirelessly sold tissues and wet wipes to support her three children. Since the early passing of their father, she has carried the weight of providing for the family. Despite the small income, she fought for Ngan and her two younger brothers to have opportunities and a brighter future. CNCF learned of their situation and promptly provided multifaceted support, laying a strong foundation for Ngan and her siblings to excel and become self-sufficient.

Thanks to her determination, passion, and CNCF's financial and personal development support through CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme, Ngan is now a freshman studying Japanese Language at a prestigious University in Ho Chi Minh City. She has excelled academically and demonstrated her talents and resilience by securing third place in a district-level women's Karate competition and second place in her school's Flashmob dance contest. Each achievement not only brings pride to her family but also serves as inspiration to others facing challenges, proving that with determination and perseverance, nothing is insurmountable.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



OUR STORIES

Celebrating Huu's* Success: A Story of Resilience and Achievement

Huu's* life journey began in challenging circumstances. Living a life in abject poverty, his family relied solely on his mother's modest and unstable income to survive. Learning of their situation, CNCF stepped in to provide critical and timely support to the family, offering Huu and his siblings the opportunity to attend school and covering their basic living expenses, thus easing their mother's relentless financial burden.

After several years supported by CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme and now onto worthy support through CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme, this year, Huu's dedication, and hard work have yielded remarkable results. He has recently gained admission to a prestigious University in Ho Chi Minh City, where he is pursuing his passion for Information Technology.

Huu shares, *"I feel immensely proud and grateful that CNCF found us when life was at its lowest and we could not see a way out. They've helped me grasp and cherish the values of love, kindness, respect, and honesty. Their support not only encouraged me to become stronger but also allowed me to spread these positive values to others. Now I am off to University thanks to CNCF, something I never dreamed I would ever be able to say."*

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



OUR STORIES

A Journey of Growth: Gratitude From A Father

"Witnessing my child, mature into an independent individual with significantly enhanced communication skills has been a source of immense pride for our family. His unwavering positivity and determination to improve himself shines through in all his endeavours. He has always dreamed of studying at Law University, and this ambition has been his driving force. Seeing him embark on her journey as a freshman at Law University has been an emotional experience, filled with tears of joy and pride. Achieving this milestone would have been unattainable without the support from CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme (ESP). CNCF's ESP has been crucial in securing his education, his entire future, for which we are eternally grateful."

- Father of Education Scholarship Programme Beneficiary



Nha's* Journey: From Rural Roots to Financial Independence

"Our family resides in a rural area of An Giang province in the Mekong Delta. From an early age, Nha has been passionate about learning and determined to succeed, and we have always encouraged his hard work. Unfortunately, his father passed away from overwork before he could see Nha* be accepted into university. Nha chose to study finance and banking to secure a stable income, support the family, broaden his social network, and gain practical knowledge to achieve financial independence. Receiving a scholarship from the Christina Noble Education Programme is a proud moment for our village. I believe it will greatly motivate him, boost his confidence, and provide the skills needed to sustainably and confidently enter the workforce in the coming months."*

- Mother of a Christina Noble Education Programme Beneficiary

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy

OUR STORIES

Ngoc's* Journey: Overcoming Challenges with CNCF Walking Alongside

Ngoc* was born into a farming family in a coastal province of Vietnam, facing significant hardships. She grew up in a mud-walled home until her family received a modest charity house through government support. Her journey toward education was marked by numerous challenges until CNCF heard of her situation and provided financial and self-development support through our Education Scholarship Programme.

During her second year at university, Ngoc was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. She underwent two surgeries and received radiation therapy at the Ho Chi Minh City Cancer Hospital, supported by CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme.

Despite these challenges, Ngoc remained steadfast in her commitment to education while undergoing treatment. Her health has considerably improved, and she is currently completing an internship, preparing to enter Vietnam's job market equipped with financial and job-readiness skills provided by CNCF through the Christina Noble Education Programme.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2023

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of the Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) in Vietnam in 2023 was:

Scholarship Distribution Amount: \$ _ USD

Operational Costs: \$ _ USD

The total cost of the Christina Noble Education Programme (CNEP) in Vietnam in 2023 was:

Scholarship Distribution Amount: \$ _ USD

Operational Costs: \$ _ USD

Heartfelt thanks to our primary donors: Furniture Industry For Education (FIFE) (VN/US); Onsemiconductor (VN); Wednesday Afternoon Golf Society (WAGS) (HK); Asiatan (HK); Mitek (VN/US) and British International School Ho Chi Minh City (VN) who enabled CNCF to keep these programmes operating and also to the many kind individuals not mentioned their additional support which enables us to keep our costs down.

Our audits can be found [here](#).



2023 EXPENDITURES

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME (ESP)








Expenditure	Amount (USD)
Scholarship Distribution Amount	–
Operational Costs	–
TOTAL COST	–

CHRISTINA NOBLE EDUCATION PROGRAMME (CNEP)

Expenditure	Amount (USD)
Scholarship Distribution Amount	–
Operational Costs	–
TOTAL COST	–



For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Vietnam, please contact:

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