

Mrs. Ho Thi Nho



Photo: Ton Nu Thi Hien

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### **Support for poor single women**

We went to Quang Thai commune (Quang Dien District) in the hot weather of the summer in Viet Nam, but when seeing the pig farm of Mrs. Ho Thi Nho, a single women in Quang Thai commune, our feeling is very comfortable when we saw a herd of about 50 pigs is holding their head high to get food.

Formerly, her family had difficulties because she had no seed money for a business, so she could not escape poverty. Mrs. Nho told us that in 2006, she was supported by Courage project (Germany) with 3 piglets, foodstuff and veterinarian for 2 months. She mainly focused on breeding. Up to now, she has developed to become a large pig farm with farrows from 30-60 porkers. Thus, she is out of poverty and can help other women in her commune to improve their live by breeding pigs.

Quang Thai Women's Union has over 1800 women, among them about 200 poor single women and poor women. In order to help them to improve their live, the Union encourages women to take part in the economic development model, especially in pig breeding for domestic use. In addition, by the support from outside the Women's Union, in Quang Thai commune there are many women who became out of poverty and overcome their difficult living permanently. Among them 45 women get income from breeding pigs of 50-70 million Dong (2600-3650 USD) every year.

Mrs. Hoang Thu Minh Phuong, Chairman of Quang Thai women's Union said that since 2006, Women's Union in Quang Thai commune has collaborated with Courage project to help poor single women in the area. On 5 May 2013, the Courage project continued supporting the training course on breeding technique for single women in there. The teacher came from the Hue College of Agriculture and Forestry. The women were equipped with knowledge about choosing good piglets, foodstuff, breeding and pigsty building technique. Up to now, the Courage project has supported more than 40 women in this region, each with 13 to 15 million Dong (680-780 USD). This is an effective and practical way to help single, unlucky women to overcome poverty and to assert themselves and to fulfill their role in the family.

Mrs. Ton Nu Thi Hien, the representative of Courage project in Vietnam said that the Courage project (Germany) helped in cooperation with local authorities to raise willingness of single women for breeding pigs. This is the best way to escape poverty. Furthermore, the good breeding model is complemented by biogas plants to protect the environment. In recent years, with the support of Courage project and the efforts of the single women, many women have escaped poverty, have good conditions for children to go to school and buy supplies for the family.

In 2013, the Courage project continued funding the household economic development model for single women in the area, constructing biogas plants, and supporting orphans who have particularly difficult circumstances. With these supports from Courage, many poor single women in Thua Thien Hue province overcome difficulties and orphans have better learning conditions.