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## PRESS RELEASE

### ***Don't fear disasters!***

**Hanoi, 2 June 2014 – A set of products including movies, games and manuals on disaster risk reduction and climate change education has been developed by the Center of Live and Learn for Environment and Community and its partners. The products were presented to children, parents and teachers on during the Month for Children and for Environment.**

Children are among the most vulnerable to disasters and climate change impacts and therefore need to understand and know to live safely and sustainably. The set of educational products that includes short movies, card games, an activity organization manual was developed to facilitate “fun education” activities on natural disasters and climate change. These products are designed for children, youths, teachers, parents and communities to use when organizing educational activities on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and responses to climate change (CC).

There are two film series included in the materials. The first is a series titled “***Don't fear disasters***” which includes three animations on how to respond typhoons, floods, and landslides and two films guiding students on first aid and mock drill against whirlwinds. The parent of Nguyen Manh Hiep (5 years old) said “*Our son really likes the cartoons. He is especially impressed with the image of an approaching typhoon. He asks to watch the cartoons every night and reminds us to watch the weather forecast. He himself does not play with electricity*”. Nguyen Thuy Dung, a student from University of Economy in Ho Chi Minh City, adds “*The movies have a lot of knowledge imparted in a manner that is easy to absorb and remember. I especially like their freshness, and will show them to children in my family and to my children in the future*”.

The second film series is six cartoons titled “***Everyday little things***” focused on practical activities to prepare with disasters and climate change such as saving electricity, wearing life jackets, storing foods before typhoon seasons, saving water, reducing plastic bag use and more. “*The movies are very interesting and useful. They have taught me a lot of new knowledge on climate change. I like them very much*” – said Vu Viet Anh a 21 year old student from Bac Ha International University.

Another educational tool a ***card deck “Don't fear disasters”*** has been very well received. Ms. Mai Thi Ninh, teacher at Sa Long secondary school, Muong Cha, Dien Bien said “*the card deck has helped us very much, the games are lively, simple, and very easy for students*

to self-organize". The card deck is used in conjunction with seven games/activities. Each activity is a different challenge, and the following activities require more skills and knowledge than the preceding activities. The product was tested with students from primary and secondary schools at Hanoi, Thai Nguyen, Thanh Hoa, Da Nang, Hue, Quang Ngai and Ho Chi Minh city.

*"Children and adults all like interactive materials and activities which everyone can join and don't have to learn by heart concepts. That's why Live&Learn and partners were seeking and testing many different ideas on education materials and activities. For example, we see children fond of animations and there are no made-in-Vietnam animations on DRR and CC. Or Vietnamese often play cards ("tam cuc", "tu lo kho") then cards can be used in learning as well. Each education material contains knowledge, skills and values. Students like and use these materials because of beautiful pictures and they have chance to learn, to question, to tell stories, to work as a team in solving problems. Living in a world with increasing challenges, and to deal with "big" issues like DRR and CC, each citizen need specific actions and know how to team work, listen and cooperate to come up with solutions. These big issues will not be solved by only remembering theory!"- shared by Do Van Nguyet, Live&Learn Director.*

The products were developed by the Center of Live&Learn for Environment and Community (Live&Learn) in collaboration with partner organizations and experts, including Plan in Vietnam and Be Mam, and with contributions from many colleagues and organizations such as CARE, Save the Children, Red Cross Chapter and organizations under the Joint Advocacy Network Initiative (JANI). This is an activity under the project 'Safe School' sponsored by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation; the 'Child-Centered Climate Change Adaptation' project sponsored by the Australian Agency for International Development and project 'JANI' sponsored by ECHO – the European Commission for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection.

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**For reference:**

Movies and video clips on Climate change response and Disaster risk reduction:

<http://tinyurl.com/CC-DRRfilms>

Educational material on Climate change response and Disaster risk reduction:

<http://tinyurl.com/CC-DRRbooks>

**For more information, please kindly contact:**

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