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PILOT CLEAN WATER PROJECT
EXECUTIVE COMPLETION & IMPACT REPORT

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Project Overview

The Pilot Clean Water Project was implemented to address chronic water scarcity in the remote mountainous district of Trà Bồng, where ethnic minority households, schools, and dispersed communities rely on unstable and unsafe natural water sources. With donor support, Anh Chi Em Vietnam (ACE) installed six fully operational groundwater wells across six communes, providing reliable year-round access to clean water. This pilot phase ensures immediate impact while establishing a scalable model for future expansion.

Key Deliverables

The table below summarises all deliverables completed during the project, along with their timelines and descriptions.

Deliverable	Completion Date	Description
Project Charter	Jan 10, 2025	Defined scope, roles, responsibilities, and project objectives.
Milestone Report	Mar 15, 2025	Tracked progress and identified early adjustments.
Final Completion Report	Nov 01, 2025	Confirmed completion and readiness of all wells.
Phase 1 (pilot project)	Mar–Oct 2025	Six wells drilled, tested, and handed over.
Phase 2	Oct 2025 –Apr 2026	Five additional wells project commenced. Funding secured.

Across 2025, ACE successfully delivered six wells during Phase 1 and commenced implementation of an additional five wells in Phase 2.

Project Schedule

Phase	Timeline	Key Activities
Initiation	Jan 1 – Jan 15, 2025	Stakeholder identification; project charter development.
Planning	Jan 16 – Feb 28, 2025	Risk assessment; contractor selection; logistics planning.
Execution	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2025	Drilling, installation, testing, verification.
Closure	Sep 1 – Oct 30, 2025	Final inspections; documentation; community handover.

The project progressed through all phases smoothly, with ACE and PERNAM supervising all on-site drilling days, ensuring safety, adherence to standards, and strong collaboration with commune leadership.

Budget Summary

The project was completed within the allocated VND 600,000,000 budget. Below is the expenditure summary.

	Well 1	Well 2	Well 3	Well 4	Well 5	Well 6	Inc VAT
Water Tanks	44,280,000	44,280,000	40,000,000	40,000,000	50,000,000	40,000,000	258,560,000
Drilling	43,200,000	43,200,000	50,760,000	42,800,000	26,600,000	43,200,000	249,760,000
RO Machines	0	0	4,050,000	4,050,000	4,050,000	4,320,000	16,470,000
Water Tests	3,360,000	3,360,000	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,800,000	0	15,120,000
Transport	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000	13,200,000
Total Inc. VAT	**93,040,000**	**93,040,000**	**99,810,000**	**91,850,000**	**85,650,000**	**89,720,000**	**553,110,000**

Efficient procurement and stable drilling conditions helped keep the costs within budget.

Beneficiaries

The table below shows the project location names and beneficiaries, representing multiple demographic groups, each experiencing different but significant improvements to daily life.

These groups previously depended on distant streams, unprotected springs, or seasonal rainfall. With clean water now available near their homes, time spent on water collection has been significantly reduced, improving household hygiene, school attendance, and community well-being.

	School	Students	Households
1	Hương Trà Boarding School for Ethnic Minorities	230	0
2	Trà Lâm Boarding School for Ethnic Minorities	60	25
3	Thôn Tre 3 Preschool	45	30
4	Trà Nhan (old) Preschool	127	0
5	Trà Thủy Preschool	48	27
6	Trà Khe Boarding School for Ethnic Minorities	247	0
	TOTAL	757	82

As shown in the table above, the project now reaches 757 students and 82 households across six schools serving ethnic minority communities in Trà Bồng District, ensuring that children—especially those in remote and underserved areas—gain reliable access to safe water for learning, hygiene, and daily wellbeing.

Boarding schools such as Hương Trà and Trà Khe support nearly 480 children who live away from home and rely entirely on school facilities for their daily needs, while preschools like Thôn Tre 3, Trà Lâm, and Trà Thủy extend essential benefits to surrounding families and caregivers, with 82 households gaining safer and closer water access.

By supporting both schools and families, the project strengthens community resilience as a whole—enhancing child protection, reducing health risks, and creating more equitable opportunities for every child to learn, develop, and reach their full potential.

Community Impact

The installation of six community wells has brought meaningful and measurable improvements to the daily lives of children and families across the participating communes in Trà Bồng District. Before the project, many young children—including preschool and primary-school students—regularly walked long distances, sometimes several kilometres, to help their families collect water from streams or unprotected sources. This routine placed them at risk, reduced the time available for learning and play, and limited opportunities essential to early childhood development. With safe water now available directly at schools and within community clusters, these burdens have been significantly reduced. Children are able to remain in class, participate fully in learning, and return home without the responsibility of long daily water-collection journeys.

Families report improvements in household hygiene and overall health as exposure to contaminated water sources has decreased. Access to clean water has also freed up one to two hours each day that families previously spent collecting water—time that parents, especially mothers, can now dedicate to childcare, farming, and income-generating activities. These changes strengthen children's wellbeing by creating safer, more stable environments at home.

For communities, the wells provide a reliable buffer during seasonal droughts, when natural water sources often run dry. The presence of safe, accessible water points reduces stress on households and enhances resilience during difficult periods. Community involvement throughout the project—from identifying suitable locations to supporting early maintenance—has fostered local ownership and strengthened the likelihood of long-term sustainability.

Overall, the six wells have contributed to a safer, healthier, and more equitable environment for children to grow, learn, and thrive. The project not only addresses an immediate need but also supports long-term developmental outcomes, ensuring that every child—regardless of where they live—has the opportunity to access clean water with dignity.

Lessons Learned

The project underscored several important lessons. Continuous and transparent communication with commune leaders proved essential in aligning expectations and ensuring smooth coordination, particularly in areas where geography and weather can shift rapidly. On-site supervision was critical in managing the uncertainties of drilling in mountainous terrain. Flexibility remained a core requirement, as seasonal rains often affected logistics and equipment access.

Another significant lesson was the importance of early contractor assessment. Choosing reliable drilling partners minimized delays and ensured consistency in technical execution. Finally, the involvement of local households in site preparation and basic maintenance contributed to stronger ownership and long-term sustainability.

Recommendations

For future phases, ACE recommends strengthening regular communication structures with all stakeholders to ensure timely updates and rapid problemsolving. Standardised monitoring and reporting templates will streamline project tracking and improve documentation quality. Conducting recurring risk assessments—particularly before rainy seasons—will allow teams to anticipate access challenges and prepare accordingly.

Future wells should include expanded water-quality verification to ensure confidence in long-term use. As the model has proven effective, scaling the initiative to additional communes is both feasible and advisable. Establishing community-led maintenance groups will reinforce sustainability and ensure water points remain functional for years to come.

Conclusion

The Pilot Clean Water Project demonstrates the transformative impact of targeted and community-driven development. With 6 operational wells across six communes, hundreds of residents now enjoy reliable access to clean water, strengthening health outcomes, education, and livelihoods. This pilot provides a strong foundation for future expansion across Trà Bồng and broader Quảng Ngãi Province.

Links

Project proposals :
Sustainable drinking water supply - Tra Bong aid appeal (update January 2024).pdf
Du an cap nuoc 06 diem tai Tra Bong.12.3.2024.docx (2).pdf
Testimonials:
Copy of Thank you from Tra village kindergarten .pdf
7301598958147.mp4
7301924015389.mp4

Images and videos:
Tra Bong Clean Water Project
https://youtube.com/shorts/kgvCkzwj1ic?si=m9qsIEwKlOi3TmhL