



DỰ ÁN PHÒNG CHỐNG NHỮNG THIẾT HẠI VỀ NHÀ Ở DO BÃO GÂY RA Ở MIỀN TRUNG VIỆT NAM  
PREVENT TYPHOON DAMAGE TO HOUSING, CENTRAL VIET NAM

# CHUYỆN VỀ MỘT GIA ĐÌNH **Ở VÙNG CỎ GIÓ BÃO**



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**PREVENT TYPHOON DAMAGE TO HOUSING, CENTRAL VIET NAM**

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The end of another day in the often tranquil countryside of Central Vietnam



Mr. Phan and his wife, Mai, leave their paddy field to return home. The rice shoots have been planted.



But their satisfaction with the day is clouded by knowledge that the typhoon season will soon arrive.





They know that each year huge storms and floods damage the region.



Their own house has been destroyed twice.



Phan: "We were too poor to rebuild strongly last time"  
"I know, the house is weak, just look at it and ..."



Phan: "But what can we do? We cannot afford to start again, but like this, our likes will not improve".



Mai: "I have an idea... With our daughter I saw a DW / Dipecho play last week - it was very funny."



"There were songs about storm damage prevention, our daughter loved it."



"The play told a story about a family like us, who got help to strengthen their existing home and reduce risk."



"In the play, the commune damage prevention adviser told the family what to do"





Phan: "That sounds fantastic. Why don't we go and see this 'commune damage prevention adviser'?"



The family set out for the People's Committee to ask for the damage prevention adviser. Yes, he is here...



Thang: "Hello, how can I help you? I am the damage prevention adviser, coordinating with DW to implement their project funded by Dipecho. My name's Thang."





Thang: "Well, we encourage people to apply the ten key points of storm resistant construction."



"The first point is to choose a building site where the land can provide some protection. That is for new houses."



"Point 2 is to keep the shape of the house simple, this reduce risk of wind causing damage."



"The shape of the roof is important - it should be at an angle of  $30^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$  to reduce risk of the covering being lost."





"The veranda is a weak point.  
It should always be separate from the main roof."



"All the different parts of the house have to be strongly  
tied together. A weak joint can cause major damage!"



"Bracing in the roof and strong walls help stop the house  
being bent and broken by wind and water."



"The roof covering must be securely tied down to  
the roof structure to prevent it being blown or sucked off."





"Windows should be the same at the front and rear of the house so that pressure cannot build up inside."



"Even better, all openings have to have solid shutters or doors that can be firmly closed."



"And finally, plant trees and bushes around the house (but not too close) as these act as a break to wind and water."



Thang: "Why don't we go and look at your house, and I can explain what needs to be done and how?"



Thang: "Let's see. There are some good things!  
The shape of the roof is good, to start with."



"But the veranda roof is the same as the main house roof,  
so that will need to be changed."



"Shutters and door should be stronger."



"Let look inside. Ah, not so good. All the beams, rafters  
and trusses need fixing together with brackets."





"The shape of the house is good, but it would help to plant trees and bushes round it."



Mai: "Oh dear, he is finding more things wrong, and it will cost too much for us."



Thang: "Look, I have made a list of main work that needs to be done to make your house strong. Don't be discouraged, as the commune can help you."



"You can also help yourselves, that's to save all good materials for reuse using the right techniques."





"And you can do a lot of the work yourselves, with the help of a DW trained construction worker."



"And finally, to make the process easier, the Damage Prevention Committee can provide you with credit."



"A loan of about 2 million dong can be paid back over 18 months, and that will cover at least half the costs."





Thang: "Why don't we visit Mrs. Sam, she had her house strengthened and can tell you about it."



Mai: "Hello, we want to strengthen our home."  
Mrs. Sam: "I did, and I am now happy and confident for the future."



Reassured, Mr. Phan signs an agreement for help with the Commune



Work starts, and they begin to take the roof off.





All the good materials are carefully stored on the ground for re-use.



The builder works on plastering the walls and adding extra columns to make them stronger



The roof goes back on, each part held together with metal brackets.



The veranda gets a new separate roof, and brackets are used to hold it. All the roof covering is tied down with concrete ribs.





The inside of the veranda has diagonal bracing put in to stop the wind twisting it out of shape.



New shutters and doors are hung.



Some new materials have to be bought. Mr. Phan gets these in the market, including the special brackets.



At last work is finished, and Phan and Mai paint the walls and woodwork.



It is time to celebrate. Phan and Mai invite their neighbours and Thang to a finishing ceremony.



This provide the occasion to plant the trees round the house. In the years to come, these will provide added protection.



Meanwhile, a meal awaits. Phan toasts Mr. Thang for his help. "Cent pour Cent."





A few years later, clouds gather on the horizon.



Phan and Mai and their child carefully bolt the shutters and doors and prepare for the storm.



The storm is violent and last a long time.  
But they seem to be safe.



When the wind finally dies,  
they look out to a scene of devastation.





To their delight, their own house is perfectly safe and has not been touched. All is well.



But around them, they see that their neighbours unprotected homes have been destroyed.



They decide to go and offer what help they can assist the rebuilding, and to share the techniques they have used.



In a few weeks, with help from Mr. Thang, neighbours have rebuilt safe houses using DW's ten key points.

**The end**