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# Annual & Impact Report

## 2025/20026

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*Empowering A Thousand Hopes: Building brighter futures through education and opportunities.*



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## Introduction

**The transition period of January 2025 – May 2026 has been a defining chapter for A Thousand Hopes — one marked by growth, resilience, and continued meaningful impact.**

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

This report covers a special transition period of 17 months (1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026) as A Thousand Hopes moves to a new financial year cycle of 1 June – 31 May, starting from the 2026/2027 financial year, to align with our annual project roadmap and fundraising timeline.

During this period, we grew from the foundations established in our inaugural year into an organization that has now completed five Adopt a Book projects across three provinces in Vietnam. Building on the momentum of our first two projects in Vinh Long province in 2024, we expanded our reach to the Central Highlands and Central Coast regions — completing three school projects in Gia Lai and Quang Ngai provinces. This expansion represents a step forward in our mission to bring quality educational resources to underserved communities.

We continued to strengthen our partnerships with Vietnamese publishers, deepened our engagement with donors, and navigated the complex regulatory and logistical landscape of

operating a Sweden-based charity supporting schools in Vietnam. A highlight of this period was the partnership with Pennybridge, enabling supporters, for example, to sell second-hand items on Tradera and donate the proceeds to A Thousand Hopes — a new and creative channel for fundraising.

Like any growing organization, we also faced challenges. Our expenditures exceeded income during this period, partly due to a lengthy process to find a cost-effective solution for a micro-nonprofit like us to establish a new SEK IBAN account to receive additional funding sources, resulting in a net deficit. This was compounded by a temporary loan from the founder to pre-fund book purchases while awaiting corporate donations due to payment system limitations. These growing pains are a natural part of scaling impact while patiently building infrastructure for future growth, and we remain committed to financial sustainability and transparency.

Thank you for continuing to believe in us. Every book adopted, every contribution made, and every word of support has helped us come closer to our vision of a world where every student has access to quality educational resources.

With gratitude,

Hồng, Founder and Executive Director

## 1. Executive Summary

*The board and executive director of A Thousand Hopes, nonprofit association (ideell förening), organization no. 802546-4226 with headquarters in Älmhult, hereby submit the annual report for the transition period **1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026**.*

During this 17-month period, A Thousand Hopes expanded its Adopt a Book program, completing three new school projects across two additional provinces in Vietnam:

- **Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School** – Gia Lai Province
- **Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School** – Gia Lai Province
- **Hanh Dung Secondary School** – Quang Ngai Province

Together with the two projects completed in Vinh Long province during 2024, A Thousand Hopes has now delivered books to five schools, reaching thousands of students and strengthening educational resources in some of Vietnam's most underserved regions.

### **Financial highlights for the transition period (1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026):**

- **Total Income:** SEK 30,450.76
- **Total Expenses:** SEK 33,141.90
- **Net Deficit:** SEK -2,691.14
- **Verksamhetskravet (Programs / Expenses):** 91.10% (minimum required by Skatteverket: 90%)
- **Fullföljdskravet (Expenses / Income):** 108.84% (minimum required by Skatteverket: 75%)

The deficit was primarily driven by a temporary loan of EUR 550 from the founder, Hong Dao Wind, to pre-fund book purchases for the three school projects while corporate donations via Benevity remained unpaid as of 31 May 2026 due to a limitation in Benevity's disbursement system, which requires a direct SEK IBAN account — a challenging service to find at an affordable cost for a small organization like A Thousand Hopes. Once those funds are received, the financial position is expected to stabilize.

A Thousand Hopes continues to operate with a fully volunteer-based team, maintaining its steadfast commitment to transparency, accountability, and maximizing the impact of every donation.



## 2. Organizational Overview

### 2.1. Vision & Mission

**Vision:** To create a world where every student, regardless of their background or circumstances, has access to learning resources, quality education, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

**Mission:** A Thousand Hopes is dedicated to bringing positive change to the lives of needy children and youths in rural areas of developing countries by supporting libraries, providing scholarships to bring educational opportunities. Through these efforts, A Thousand Hopes aims to empower young minds, foster literacy, and offer them the tools they need to succeed.

### 2.2. Governance Structure

#### 2.2.1. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for administration, finances, and activities of the organization. Specific duties of the Board of Directors include ensuring that the organization's activities are conducted in accordance with the purpose of the organization, managing the organization's financial affairs, keeping accounts and making decisions regarding the operational plan and budget.

During the year, the Board consisted of:

- **Hong Dao Wind** ([LinkedIn](#)), *Founder & Chairperson*, based in Sweden & Vietnam, with experience in program development, social entrepreneurship, relationship management, banking & finance. Hong has worked, studied, and volunteered in multiple countries, including Sweden, Singapore, USA, Nepal, and Vietnam. She spent over six years at The Bank of New York (BNY), Singapore branch, with her last position as Vice President, Relationship Management & Business Development, Treasury Services, managing Vietnam, Cambodia, and Singapore markets. In Sweden, Hong studied a Master program in Economic Development at Lund University while establishing UPCorp Global, a social enterprise developing personalized financial education and tools for labour migrants. She served as a volunteer Team Lead at the Red Cross Malmö and a Program Lead at Ronald McDonald House in Lund. Currently, Hong works at IKEA of Sweden AB supporting social enterprises across multiple countries and leading demand planning in supply chain for IKEA's global network across 60+ countries.



- **Else Wind**, *Board Member & Advisor*, based in Denmark, a retired librarian who has dedicated her career to ensuring access to information. She previously led the Lending Department at the library at Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University (merged into University of Copenhagen since 2007) and served as Head of Library, Publishing, and Internal Services at the Danish Patent and Trademark Office. As a mother and grandmother, she deeply values providing children with quality reading materials.
- **Lars Wind** ([LinkedIn](#)), *Board Member*, based in Sweden, with extensive finance and investment expertise. Lars is currently a Founding Partner at QLO Advisors (London). He served as Head of Internal Portfolio at Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), and previously worked at ATP, Denmark's largest pension and processing company, as Head of Tactical Asset Allocation.

### 2.2.2. Staff

A Thousand Hopes has operated entirely through volunteers. In 2025/26, key roles included below unpaid volunteer positions:

- *Executive Director*: **Hong Dao Wind** leads the organization's strategic vision, operations, partnerships development, fundraising efforts, donor relations, and compliance.
- *Programme Analytics Specialist*: **Jue Wang** ([LinkedIn](#)), based in Sweden, responsible for expanding online reach and improving impact through online presence. Jue has six years of marketing experience across diverse industries and works as a Dealer Marketing Specialist at BYD Sverige.
- *Data Analyst*: **Ashwani Bhati** ([LinkedIn](#)), based in Sweden, who supported with systems, online donation platform, and automation tools. He brought technical experience specializing in data analytics, visualization, process automation, and workflow optimization. He is now working as a Data Analyst at Lindström in Sweden.
- *Vietnam Field Coordinator*:  
**Thanh Vo** ([LinkedIn](#))– supported A Thousand Hopes in handling and processing all books for the three school projects during this period, assisted with book delivery, and represented A Thousand Hopes at the handover of books to two schools in Gia Lai province.



Thanh is a strategic partnerships and communications professional with extensive experience building cross-sector collaborations, leading international engagement initiatives, and strengthening organisational visibility across development, ESG, and sustainability sectors. She now serves as Head of Partnerships and Development at Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST) in Vietnam. Previously, she worked at Christina Noble Children's Foundation in Vietnam as Deputy Director of Partnerships and Communications.

**Thanh Nguyen** – supported with book delivery and represented A Thousand Hopes at the handover of books to a school in Quang Ngai province. Thanh has been a dedicated schoolteacher with more than 20 years of teaching experience. He frequently organizes community activities to support children in need in rural Vietnam.

## 2.3. Organizational Development

### **January – April 2025: Consolidation and Expansion Planning**

Building on the foundation established in 2024, A Thousand Hopes focused on consolidating learnings from the first Adopt a Book projects in Vinh Long province and planning expansion to new provinces. We received requests for support directly from 12 schools in Vinh Long, Vinh Phuc, Dong Thap, Gia Lai, and Soc Trang.

### **May – July 2025: New School Partnerships and Fundraising**

After carefully learning about schools' needs through various interactions and discussions, A Thousand Hopes secured partnerships with new schools in Gia Lai province (Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School and Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School) and a school in Vinh Long province (which later needed to be changed to another school due to prolonged provincial procedures). Fundraising campaigns were launched to support these new projects. The partnership with Pennybridge was activated, enabling supporters to sell second-hand items on Tradera and donate proceeds to A Thousand Hopes.

### **August – December 2025: Fundraising Momentum and Donor Expansion**

Fundraising continued with individual and corporate donations, peaking during December, a traditional giving period globally. A keen donor introduced A Thousand Hopes to her company's corporate donation matching program through Benevity, which expanded our visibility and reach.



### **January – February 2026: Book Procurement and Delivery**

A Thousand Hopes completed book purchases from three publishers — two returning partners, Tre Publishing House and Dinh Ti Books, along with a new partnership with Kim Dong Publishing House. Books were procured and delivered to our Vietnam volunteer point for checking and processing, including placing appreciation stickers with donors' names — a way to show gratitude to donors who wish to have their names displayed. Books and volunteer transport were also arranged to Gia Lai province for the book handover.

### **March – May 2026: Expanding Support and Impact Monitoring**

We received requests for support directly from 12 more schools in Quang Ngai, Lam Dong, Quang Tri, Nghe An, Gia Lai, Hai Phong, Dak Lak, Lang Son provinces, and Ho Chi Minh City. After careful consideration, A Thousand Hopes decided to redirect book support previously planned for a school in Vinh Long province to Hanh Dung Secondary School in Quang Ngai province, after working closely with the school to ensure our book collection would be truly useful and supportive of their educational programs.

At the same time, the organization focused on monitoring impact at the benefited schools, collecting qualitative data and feedback, and preparing for the transition to the new financial year cycle.

## **3. Strategic Focus: Vietnam**

### **3.1. Context and Rationale for Vietnam Focus**

As A Thousand Hopes embarks on its mission, our current efforts focus primarily on Vietnam, a country where we are more familiar while many rural schools in the country still lack the resources necessary to foster a thriving educational environment.

In rural Vietnam, educational disparities remain stark, especially for low-income students. While access has improved thanks to continuous efforts of the government, completion rates drop from 98.3% in primary to 86.8% in secondary and just 58.1% in high school, with higher rates linked to household wealth <sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/media/8686/file/Education.pdf>



**Poverty and Education:** According to UNICEF Vietnam, till 2021, approximately 21.1% of Vietnam's 26.2 million children live in multidimensional poverty, meaning they lack access to basic needs such as quality education, nutrition, and clean water <sup>2</sup>. By age 19, only 20% of students from the poorest households are still in school, compared to 80% from the wealthiest families. This highlights the urgent need for targeted interventions in education for the most vulnerable groups.

**Resource Scarcity in Schools:** Many schools in Vietnam, especially in rural areas, still operate with resource constraints. Libraries, meant to be places of learning and discovery, often contain outdated, irrelevant, and worn-out books that fail to engage students. Schools heavily rely on second-hand donations, which are often not age-appropriate or aligned with the current curriculum, leaving students deprived of stimulating materials. This lack of engaging, age-appropriate reading resources contributes to declining literacy rates and missed learning opportunities, especially in rural regions such as Mekong River Delta, Northern, and Central Highlands, where learning outcomes consistently lag behind urban areas.

**Economic Barriers to Education:** In Vietnam, education has generally been not free until possibly FY25 – 26, and while the country has experienced significant economic growth and made efforts to improve access to education, the cost of schooling and related expenses, such as study materials, remains a burden for many families. For low-income households, these costs often compete with other basic daily needs, making it difficult to prioritize education. As a result, many parents are unable to cover the necessary expenses, leading to high dropout rates among disadvantaged students. Without targeted support, bright and motivated students are often forced to leave school early, missing out on crucial opportunities to break the cycle of poverty.

**Long-Term Implications:** Without intervention, these educational inequalities perpetuate poverty and prevent children from reaching their full potential. Addressing these disparities is crucial not only for individual students but for their communities' future development, ensuring that all students, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to succeed.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/media/9261/file/Multi-Dimensional%20Child%20Poverty%20in%20Viet%20Nam.pdf>



### 3.2. Program: Adopt a Book

The Adopt a Book program remains A Thousand Hopes' flagship initiative, designed to address the critical shortage of quality reading materials in rural Vietnamese schools. The primary objectives continue to be:

- Enhance school libraries with relevant, age-appropriate books
- Foster a culture of reading and learning
- Support educational development through access to quality resources
- Create sustainable partnerships between donors, publishers, and schools

#### Implementation Process

A Thousand Hopes works directly with schools to create wish lists of books that schools need most, ensuring the new additions are both relevant and age-appropriate for their student populations. Through strategic negotiations with publishers, we secure these books at discounted prices, allowing donations to go further and maximizing impact.

The implementation process follows a structured approach:

1. School selection and needs assessment
2. Creation of school-specific book wish lists
3. Publisher partnership and discount negotiation
4. Fundraising campaign
5. Book procurement and quality control
6. Delivery and handover to schools
7. Impact monitoring and donor reporting

#### Partnerships with Publishers

During this period, A Thousand Hopes expanded its publisher partnerships from two to three:

- **Tre Publishing House** – One of the three largest publishers in Vietnam, government-owned
- **Dinh Ti Books** – One of the largest private book publishers in Vietnam

- **Kim Dong Publishing House** – One of Vietnam's most established publishers, particularly known for children's literature, government-owned

These partnerships enabled significant discounts on book purchases, ensuring donor contributions could be stretched further.

## 4. Adopt a Book Impact Assessment

During the transition period of January 2025 – May 2026, A Thousand Hopes completed three new Adopt a Book projects, expanding from Vinh Long province to two new provinces: Gia Lai and Quang Ngai.

### **Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School — Ia Piar Commune, Phu Thien District, Gia Lai Province**

Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School is located in a mountainous region of Gia Lai province, serving as an educational beacon in an area where resources are scarce. The school serves 352 students, of whom 347 (98.6%) are from ethnic minority communities. A total of 120 students come from economically disadvantaged families. The school's library spans 200 m<sup>2</sup> but held only 237 outdated books prior to A Thousand Hopes' intervention — many of which were old and no longer suitable for students' current learning needs. The school's principal expressed a strong desire for new book titles to support the school's academic aspirations and foster a reading culture among students.



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Figure 1: Pictures of Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School and inside its library

Through the Adopt a Book program, A Thousand Hopes delivered 419 brand-new books to Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School on 6 February 2026, purchased from Tre Publishing House, Dinh Ti Books, and Kim Dong Publishing House. The books span a wide range of genres including life skills, Vietnamese history, science and technology, literature, philosophy, STEM, environmental education, and fiction. This donation nearly tripled the school's existing book collection.

### **Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School — Ia Yeng Commune, Phu Thien District, Gia Lai Province**

Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School is located in the remote commune of Ia Yeng in Gia Lai province. The school serves 297 students, with over 97% from ethnic minority communities. A total of 85 students come from low-income or near-poor households. Educational resources at the school are not just limited but described as scarce — the library area spans just 50 m<sup>2</sup> with only about 50 sets of textbooks and minimal supplementary reading materials. The school's librarian highlighted the critical need for additional textbooks, reference books, and age-appropriate reading materials.



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Through the Adopt a Book program, A Thousand Hopes delivered 185 brand-new books to Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School on 6 February 2026, purchased from Tre Publishing House, Dinh Ti Books, and Kim Dong Publishing House. The books cover genres including life skills, science encyclopedias, Vietnamese history, inspirational stories, environmental education, philosophy, and fiction — substantially expanding the school's nascent library.



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Figure 2: Pictures of Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School and inside its library

### **Hanh Dung Secondary School — Phuoc Giang Commune, Quang Ngai Province**

Hanh Dung Secondary School is located in Phuoc Giang commune, Quang Ngai province. The school has 24 staff members (2 administrators, 20 teachers, 2 support staff) and serves 338 students across 10 classes (Grades 6–9). In the 2025–2026 school year, the school has 4 students from poor households, 25 students from near-poor households, and 15 ethnic minority students. The school's library spans 48 m<sup>2</sup> with a single room, equipped with 2 reading tables, 25 chairs, 5 bookshelves, a computer, and a barcode scanner. The library holds

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a total of 2,783 books (468 textbooks, 2,209 reference books, and 106 professional books), but the majority have been used for many years, with many titles outdated and no longer aligned with students' current interests and learning needs. The school also maintains an outdoor reading area.

Despite these challenges, the library actively serves students and teachers, organizing monthly book introduction sessions during flag ceremonies, creating videos, designing reading magazines, and successfully hosting Vietnam Book Day. The school has expressed the need for new books on life skills, science exploration, educational comics, STEM books, and English-language materials.





Figure 3: Pictures of Hanh Dung Secondary School and inside its library

Through the Adopt a Book program, A Thousand Hopes delivered 469 brand-new, high quality, age-appropriate books to Hanh Dung Secondary School on 5 June 2026 (with books purchased since Jan/Feb 2026 together with books for the other two schools), covering genres including life skills, science exploration, educational comics, STEM, and English-language materials — directly addressing the school's expressed needs.

**Our book handover days on 6 February 2026 and 5 June 2026**



Figure 4: Pictures on handover days for three schools

## 4.1. Quantitative Impact Metrics



The transition period yielded measurable results that demonstrate A Thousand Hopes' continued growth and impact:

**Cumulative Impact (2024 – May 2026):**

- 5 School Libraries benefited across 3 provinces (Vinh Long, Gia Lai, Quang Ngai)
- 3 publisher partnerships established (Tre Publishing House, Dinh Ti Books, Kim Dong Publishing House)
- A total of 1,073 books delivered to 3 schools during this period

**This Period (January 2025 – May 2026):**

- 3 new school projects completed
- 1,073 books across 26 book genres (Adventure Fiction; Art & Photography; Autobiography/Memoir; Biography; Children's Fiction; Classic Fiction; Classic Literature; Contemporary Fiction; Essays; Fantasy; Food & Drink; History; How-To/Guides; Humanities & Social Sciences; Literary Fiction; Mystery; Philosophy; Poetry; Romance; Science & Technology; Science Fiction; Self-Help; Short Story; Sports; Travel; Young Adult) delivered across 3 schools: 419 books to Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School, 185 books to Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School, and 469 books to Hanh Dung Secondary School
- Approximately 987 students potentially reached (352 from Ngo Gia Tu, 297 from Nguyen Tat Thanh, and 338 from Hanh Dung)
- Over 230 students from disadvantaged backgrounds directly benefited (120 from Ngo Gia Tu, 85 from Nguyen Tat Thanh, and 44 from Hanh Dung)
- Books purchased from 3 publishers totalling approximately EUR 1,682 (excluding transfer fees)
- 25 individual donation transactions received
- 4 corporate donation transactions received via Pennybridge (Tradera)
- Donors contributed from multiple countries
- 100% of book-designated donations went to purchasing books
- Zero payroll — the organization continues to operate entirely on volunteer work
- Over 200 hours of volunteer work contributed

## 4.2. Qualitative Impact Metrics

### 4.2.1. Project Impacts

A Thousand Hopes' Adopt a Book projects in Gia Lai and Quang Ngai have generated meaningful qualitative impacts:

- Enhanced library environments in regions with among the highest rates of educational disadvantage in Vietnam
- Expanded geographic reach to the Central Highlands (Gia Lai) and Central Coast (Quang Ngai), areas that consistently lag behind in educational outcomes
- Increased diversity of reading materials available to students
- Strengthened reading culture within participating schools
- Improved access to age-appropriate educational resources

### 4.2.2. Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals

A Thousand Hopes' work continues to contribute to three key United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Quality Education (SDG 4), Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).



**SDG 4: Quality Education** — By delivering age-appropriate, relevant books to school libraries that previously had inadequate resources, A Thousand Hopes directly supports improved



educational quality and access. The expansion to Gia Lai province, one of Vietnam's Central Highlands provinces with significant ethnic minority populations and educational disparities, further deepens this contribution.

Prior to A Thousand Hopes' intervention, Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School had a book-to-student ratio of only 0.7:1, and Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School had a ratio of 0.6:1. These figures were significantly below any recommended benchmark.

**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** — By focusing on underserved schools in rural and remote areas, A Thousand Hopes helps bridge the resource gap between urban and rural education. The book selections are tailored to each school's specific needs, ensuring donations are relevant and impactful rather than generic.

**SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals** — The growing network of publisher partnerships, the new Pennybridge/Tradera fundraising channel, and the international donor base all reflect the power of collaboration in achieving educational equity. During this period, corporate donations via Pennybridge introduced an innovative model where anyone can contribute by selling second-hand items.

#### 4.2.3. Testimonials & Statements

*"These books are meaningful gifts that help us broaden our knowledge."* – A Student

*"I really love reading because I discover new and interesting things."* – A Student

*"Books open up a world I never knew."* – A Student

*"Thank you for helping us to learn more."* – A Student

*"I'll borrow one book every day so I can read them all."* – A Student

*"For books and storybooks, we let teachers bring about 15–35 books to each classroom. This way, any student who comes to class can pick up and read the books in the classroom during break or during the first 15 minutes of class activities at the beginning of the school day."* – Librarian of Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School

*"There are so many books, and they're beautiful too. Even I feel like reading them. We'll have plenty of new books to introduce to the students. Once again, thank you. We promise to*



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*manage, preserve, and use them in the most effective way."* – Librarian of Hanh Dung Secondary School

*"We worked through the weekend to get the books ready for the students to read and borrow immediately on Monday when the school opened. The students are very happy and really enjoy them."* – Principal of Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School

*"Our students love the books very much. The students become completely absorbed in reading."* – Principal of Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School

*"The collection of new books is very diverse and well suited to middle school students. We truly appreciate it!"* – Principal of Hanh Dung Secondary School

*"Thank you very much, A Thousand Hopes. Our commune wishes to have more such meaningful support from organizations like you. There are still so many underserved schools in our area!"* – Head of Educational Department, Phu Thien District, Gia Lai province

## 5. Credibility & Partnerships

A Thousand Hopes is committed to building credibility and operational excellence through strategic partnerships with established organizations. Despite being a young and small nonprofit, we have been accepted into several prestigious programs that provide essential tools, resources, and validation for our work.

### 5.1. Technology & Nonprofit Program Partners

**Microsoft for Nonprofits** — A Thousand Hopes was accepted into the Microsoft for Nonprofits program, gaining access to Microsoft 365 Business Basic for our team. This provides essential productivity and collaboration tools, including email, cloud storage, and communication platforms, enabling our fully volunteer-based team to work effectively across multiple countries.

**Google for Nonprofits** — Through the Google for Nonprofits program, A Thousand Hopes received access to the Google Ads Grant, providing up to \$10,000 per month in ad credits.

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This has enabled us to increase global awareness of our Adopt a Book initiative and reach potential donors and supporters worldwide through search advertising.

**Canva for Nonprofits** — Acceptance into the Canva for Nonprofits program has given A Thousand Hopes access to Canva Pro, which supports the creation of professional-quality visual content for our communications, fundraising campaigns, social media presence, and reporting — all at no cost to the organization.

**Adobe for Nonprofits** — A Thousand Hopes was also accepted into Adobe's nonprofit program, gaining access to tools that support our content creation and design needs.

**Sana Civic Tier** — In December 2025, A Thousand Hopes gained access to the Sana Civic Tier through the Swedish AI Reform program. This AI-powered platform enhances our organizational productivity, enabling our small volunteer team to work more efficiently in areas such as content creation, knowledge management, and operational workflows — a valuable resource for a micro-nonprofit operating with limited capacity.

## 5.2. Book Publisher Partners

Our publisher partnerships are central to the success of the Adopt a Book program:

- **Tre Publishing House** – One of the three largest publishers in Vietnam (government-owned), partnering with A Thousand Hopes since 2024
- **Dinh Ti Books** – One of the largest private book publishers in Vietnam, partnering with A Thousand Hopes since 2024
- **Kim Dong Publishing House** – One of Vietnam's most established publishers, particularly known for children's literature (government-owned), partnering with A Thousand Hopes since 2025

These partnerships enable A Thousand Hopes to negotiate significant discounts on book purchases, ensuring that every donor contribution stretches further and reaches more students.

## 5.3. Fundraising & Donation Partners

- **Loopia** — Provides web hosting sponsorship, supporting our online presence at no cost



- **Pennybridge (Tradera)** — Enables supporters to sell second-hand items and donate the proceeds to A Thousand Hopes
- **Benevity** — A corporate donation matching platform through which A Thousand Hopes was introduced by an individual donor to her company's matching program

These partnerships collectively demonstrate that A Thousand Hopes, though small in scale, operates with the tools, standards, and credibility of a well-supported nonprofit, enabling us to maximize impact while maintaining near-zero operational overhead.

## 6. Fundraising & Communications

### 6.1. Fundraising

A Thousand Hopes continues to be fully funded through donations from individuals and corporations, processed via its website and integrated payment system.

In the transition period (January 2025 – May 2026), the organization received:

- Total monetary donations: SEK 17,149.54 (individuals SEK 11,329.39 + corporations SEK 5,820.15)
- Individual donations: SEK 11,329.39 (66.06% of monetary donations) from 25 transactions
- Corporate donations: SEK 5,820.15 (33.94% of monetary donations) from 4 transactions via Pennybridge (Tradera)
- Donations in-kind: SEK 13,256.92 (Canva Pro through Canva for Nonprofits, Microsoft 365 Business Basic through Microsoft for Nonprofits, Google Ads Grant through Google for Nonprofits, and Loopia web hosting sponsorship)

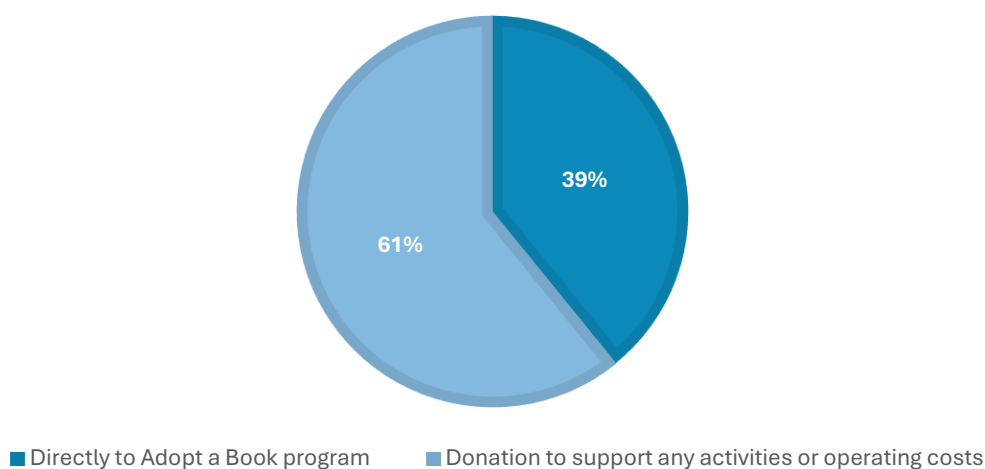
A significant development during this period was the activation of the Pennybridge partnership, which enables supporters to sell second-hand items on Tradera and donate proceeds directly to A Thousand Hopes. This generated 4 transactions and accounted for nearly a third of all monetary donations, demonstrating the potential of this innovative fundraising channel.

We gained access to Benevity thanks to an individual donor who decided to introduce A Thousand Hopes to her company's corporate donation matching program. A EUR 550



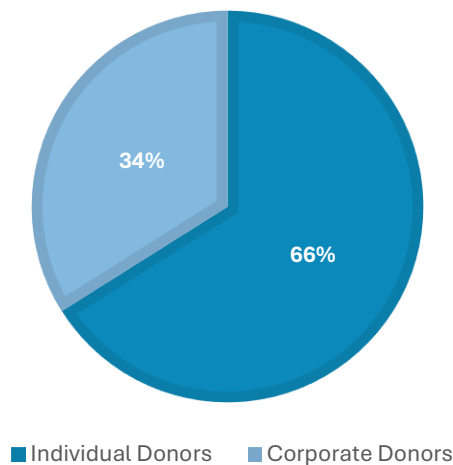
donation resulted from this program and is visible in the Benevity dashboard but had not been received by A Thousand Hopes as of 31 May 2026 due to a SEK IBAN requirement. This amount is not recognized as income and will be recorded when received.

During 1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026, we received a total of SEK 17,149.54 in monetary donations. Of this, 39% was specifically allocated by donors to the Adopt a Book program, sponsoring specific titles or any title of books. The remaining funds were unrestricted, covering any charitable activities or operational expenses.



A Thousand Hopes' board decided that all unrestricted donations, after covering operational costs, would be used to purchase additional books for the Adopt a Book program during the period.

Within total monetary donations of SEK 17,149.54, 66% came from individual donors, while the remaining 34% was contributed by corporate donors.



## 6.2. Communications

A Thousand Hopes continues to engage with the public through multiple communication channels:

- Regular posts on official LinkedIn and Facebook pages with project updates and organizational news
- Email updates to Adopt a Book donors at key project milestones
- The Google Ads Grant (\$10,000/month in ad credits) has been under-utilized thus far, as we have never reached such spending levels monthly; however, it has helped increase global awareness of the program
- The organization's website continues to be updated and serves as the primary platform for donations and project information
- During 1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026, our website recorded approximately 1,800 views from 723 unique visitors

## 7. Challenges and Lessons Learned



## 7.1. Challenges

While the Adopt a Book program made an initial meaningful impact in its first year, launching and scaling a nonprofit initiative came with its share of challenges. These experiences have provided valuable insights and shaped A Thousand Hopes' strategic direction for the future.

### **Funding Gaps and Cash Flow Management**

During this period, total expenses exceeded total income by SEK 2,691.14, resulting in a net deficit. This was partly due to the timing mismatch between book procurement (which required upfront payment) and the receipt of corporate donations via Benevity (EUR 550 pending as of 31 May 2026). To address this, the founder, Hong Dao Wind, provided a temporary loan of EUR 550 at 3.5% annual interest to ensure books could be purchased and delivered to schools on time.

Given our scope, A Thousand Hopes is still a micro-nonprofit with a strong focus on doing things right and efficiently from the start. We actively seek support for tools through prestigious programs such as Microsoft for Nonprofits, Google for Nonprofits, Canva for Nonprofits, Adobe for Nonprofits, and most recently, gaining access to the Sana Civic Tier with AI-powered tools to increase our productivity — all resulting in zero spending on these services. We also strive to minimize costs wherever possible, such as avoiding bank accounts with expensive setup and maintenance fees, in order to direct the most resources toward our charitable programs.

Raising broader awareness remains a challenge in expanding our donor base beyond board members' personal networks.

### **Geographic Expansion Logistics**

Expanding from Vinh Long province to Gia Lai and Quang Ngai provinces introduced new logistical challenges. The Central Highlands region (Gia Lai) is significantly more remote and harder to reach than Vinh Long, requiring travel arrangements and volunteer coordination across greater distances. Travel costs for the Gia Lai book handover were incurred and covered as program expenses.

### **Navigating Legal & Regulatory Compliance**



Operating as a Sweden-based nonprofit working in Vietnam presents regulatory challenges in both regions:

- **Tax & Donation Regulations in Sweden & Europe:** Understanding how donations from outside Sweden or the EU should be reported and managed requires ongoing legal guidance.
- **School Donations in Vietnam:** Regulations regarding how schools can receive financial and non-monetary support from foreign organizations are not universally understood across schools. Some schools are confident in accepting overseas book donations, while others hesitate due to uncertainty regarding official policies. To address this, A Thousand Hopes has maintained close contact with the Vietnamese Embassy in Sweden and the HQ of the Vietnamese People's Aid Coordinating Committee (PACCOM) — the governmental body responsible for relations with INGOs and for mobilizing aid — for guidance on legal frameworks that will allow smoother collaboration with schools in Vietnam.

### **Measuring Impact Without Overburdening Schools**

A key challenge is how to measure the long-term impact of book donations. While initial data shows high levels of borrowing and reading engagement, there is no formal tracking system in place to assess which books are used the most and why.

Developing an impact assessment framework needs to strike a balance between collecting meaningful data and acknowledging that many schools lack the resources for complex reporting processes. In Vietnam, it is not uncommon for teachers to work part-time as librarians due to resource constraints, meaning some schools do not have dedicated librarians. Finding a simple, effective way to measure the program's success without adding administrative burdens to schools remains a priority.

## **7.2. Lessons Learned**

From these challenges, several key takeaways will guide A Thousand Hopes going forward:

- **Cash flow planning** is critical when scaling operations. Securing funding commitments before book procurement, or maintaining a reserve fund, would reduce reliance on temporary loans.
- **Building a broader donor base** beyond individual networks remains essential. The Pennybridge partnership is a promising model that should be expanded and promoted further.



- **Establishing in-province volunteer networks** ahead of project launches simplifies logistics and reduces costs when operating in remote regions.
- **Diversifying corporate partnerships** and pursuing grant funding from foundations can provide more stable, predictable funding sources.
- **The Benevity IBAN issue** highlighted the importance of ensuring greater payment infrastructure compatibility with all donation platforms.

## 8. Future Development

### Continuing Adopt a Book Expansion

For the 2026/2027 financial year (June 2026 – May 2027), A Thousand Hopes will continue to expand the Adopt a Book program to new schools and provinces, building on the successful model established in Vinh Long, Gia Lai, and Quang Ngai provinces. Priority will be given to:

- Strengthening relationships with existing school partners for follow-up support
- Strengthening relationships with existing book publishers and negotiating improved book discounts by demonstrating growing impact and volume
- Identifying new schools in high-need areas
- Developing a structured volunteer network across multiple provinces

### Scaling Fundraising for Sustainability

Future fundraising efforts will focus on:

- Expanding the Pennybridge/Tradera partnership and promoting it more broadly
- Resolving the Benevity IBAN issue to unlock pending corporate donations
- Pursuing grant applications from international foundations supporting education and literacy
- Enhancing digital marketing through the Google Ads Grant to increase global awareness
- Exploring additional corporate sponsorship opportunities



### Improving Impact Measurement

To provide better reporting to donors and demonstrate program effectiveness, A Thousand Hopes will develop simplified tracking mechanisms for book usage, collect student and teacher testimonials, and produce periodic follow-up reports on how books are being utilized.

## 9. Financial Summary for FY2025/26

Financial efficiency, transparency and accountability lie at the heart of A Thousand Hopes' mission. Our work is possible because of the generosity of network of supporters, and we are deeply committed to leveraging that support for maximum impact and sharing transparently how investor funding is used.

A Thousand Hopes is committed to maintaining administrative overhead costs well below industry averages to maximize the impact of donor contributions. Key efficiency metrics for FY 2025/26 include:

- **Total Income:** SEK 30,450.76
- **Total Expenses:** SEK 33,141.90
- **Net Deficit:** SEK -2,691.14
- **Verksamhetskravet (Programs / Expenses):** 91.10% (minimum required by Skatteverket: 90%)
- **Fullföljdskravet (Expenses / Income):** 108.84% (minimum required by Skatteverket: 75%)
- **Percentage of Adopt a Book program donation allocated to Books Purchasing:** 100%

## 9.1. Statement of Activities

**Period:** 1 January 2025 – 31 May 2026

EUR/SEK exchange rate on 05/2026 from Sveriges Riksbanken: 10.85845

		Swedish kr (SEK)	%
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>			
Donations	Individuals	11,329.39	37.21%
	Corporates	5,820.15	19.11%
	Donations in-kind	13,256.92	43.54%
Other	Interest	44.30	0.15%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>		<b>30,450.76</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
	Program Expenses	18,891.75	57.00%
	Donation Transaction Fees	384.36	1.16%
	Fundraising	10,915.00	32.93%
	Internet/Website	2,876.92	8.68%
	Miscellaneous (Loan Interest)	73.87	0.22%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b>33,141.90</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>-2,691.14</b>	<b>-8.84%</b>
<b>Verksamhetskravet (Programs / Expenses) — At least 90%</b>			91.10%
<b>Fullföljdskravet (Expenses / Income) — At least 75%</b>			108.84%

## 9.2. Notes to the Financial Statements

**1. Reporting Period:** This report covers the transition period 1 January 2025 to 31 May 2026 before the new financial year cycle of 1 June to 31 May.

**2. Reporting Currency:** The report is prepared in SEK. Wise actual transaction/conversion rates are used where available. The closing EUR bank balance and loan liability are translated using the Riksbank May 2026 rate of 1 EUR = 10.85845 SEK.

**3. Benevity Donations:** EUR 550 of Benevity donations relating to November–December 2025 are visible in the Benevity dashboard but had not been received by A Thousand Hopes as of 31 May 2026 due to the SEK IBAN requirement. The amount is not recognized as income and will be recorded when received.

**4. Hong Dao Wind Loan:** On 22 January 2026, Hong Dao Wind provided a temporary loan of EUR 550 to finance book purchases while Benevity donations remained unpaid. The loan bears interest at 3.5% annually and had not been repaid as of 31 May 2026. Accrued interest for 129 days (22 January – 31 May 2026) amounts to SEK 73.87.

**5. Donations In-Kind:** Donations in-kind include Canva Pro (SEK 150/month × 17 months), Microsoft 365 Business Basic (SEK 68.88/month × 2 users × 17 months), Google Ads Grant (SEK 4,780 for the full period), and Loopia web hosting sponsorship (SEK 3,585). These are recognized as both donation income and matching expenses.

**6. Program Expenses:** Program Expenses include book purchases for Ngo Gia Tu Secondary School and Nguyen Tat Thanh Secondary School in Gia Lai province, Hanh Dung Secondary School in Quang Ngai province, volunteer transport for book handover, and Wise fees related to these book/transport transfers.

**7. Verksamhetskravet:** For the purpose of calculating Verksamhetskravet, A Thousand Hopes includes Program Expenses, Fundraising expenses, and Donation Transaction Fees as purpose-related costs. General internet/website administration, Microsoft 365, and loan interest are excluded from the numerator.

### 9.3. Financial Position at 31 May 2026

	Amount (SEK)
<b>Assets</b>	
Wise SEK closing balance	975.00
Wise EUR closing balance (EUR 320.64 × 10.85845)	3,481.65
<b>Total cash and bank</b>	<b>4,456.65</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Loan payable to Hong Dao Wind – principal (EUR 550 × 10.85845)	-5,972.15
Accrued interest payable to Hong Dao Wind	-73.87
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>-6,046.02</b>
<b>Closing net assets at 31 May 2026</b>	<b>-1,589.37</b>

### Equity Bridge

	Amount (SEK)
Opening accumulated funds / prior-year equity incl. FX adjustment	1,101.77
Net surplus / deficit for the period	-2,691.14
<b>Closing net assets at 31 May 2026</b>	<b>-1,589.37</b>



## 10. Acknowledgments

A Thousand Hopes extends its profound gratitude to all individuals and organizations whose support made this period of growth and expansion possible. The achievements and impact documented in this report reflect the collective effort of a community united by a shared commitment to educational equity.

### **Donors and Supporters**

We are deeply grateful to each individual and corporate donor who contributed to our mission during this transition period. Your generosity directly enabled the delivery of books to three new schools across two provinces. We received 25 individual donation transactions and 4 corporate donation transactions, with donors coming from multiple countries — a testament to the growing global network of supporters committed to advancing educational equity.

Special appreciation is extended to Pennybridge for enabling the Tradera donation channel, which opened a creative new pathway for supporters to contribute to our cause.

### **Partners**

Our partnerships with Tre Publishing House, Dinh Ti Books, and Kim Dong Publishing House were instrumental in maximizing the impact of donor contributions through negotiated discounts. These collaborations exemplify how strategic partnerships enhance nonprofit effectiveness and resource efficiency.

We also gratefully acknowledge the continued support of Microsoft, Google, Canva, Adobe, Loopia, and Sana for providing essential tools, resources, and services that support our operations and enable our volunteer team to work effectively.

### **Volunteers and Contributors**

A Thousand Hopes continues to operate entirely through volunteer efforts, and we extend our heartfelt appreciation to each individual who contributed their time, expertise, and passion to our mission. Your dedication has enabled us to grow from two school projects to five, reaching students in three Vietnamese provinces.

As we enter our new financial year cycle, we remain inspired by the generosity and dedication of our community. Together, we will continue working to create educational opportunities that empower children to build brighter futures.



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**Believe in what we are doing?**

**Be part of A Thousand Hopes community**

