

## **40 Mekong Capital members overcome rain, lack of oxygen, exhaustion to climb Mt. Kinabalu – the highest mountain in Southeast Asia**

**HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM (13 August 2008)** – Kota Kinabalu, the capital city of Sabah, Malaysia, is a beautiful island with unique primeval forests and well-known by its Crocker Range, of which the highest peak of Southeast Asian, Hugh Low's peak at over 4.000 meters above the sea level. This is an ideal destination for adventurous tourists, with lots of activities such as trekking, rock climbing, and cave discovery.



With a strong will to create breakthroughs, 40 employees of Mekong Capital chose to rise to Mt. Kinabalu. Yet, the first day was an extremely hard day. The group was faced with many unpredictable obstacles on the way up to the top of the mountain such as rain, high slopes, physical challenges, lack of oxygen, exhaustion, darkness, etc.... Nevertheless, nothing was stoppable to the whole team in supporting & empowering each others and 100% of the team reached to the destination safely at the end. The team then realized that conquering Mt. Kinabalu was possible as long as the entire team supported each other to reach the objective.

Mr. Chris Freund, Managing Director of Mekong Capital shared, *"We were totally aware that nothing would stop us from getting to the destination. As we ascended the mountain together in the darkness of night, climbing over the unpredictable rocks and obstacles, we were fully committed to each other and nothing would stop us."*

Ms. Tran Thi Thu Hong, Investment Manager said, *"On the first day, I knew that my health limits would stop me from climbing. However, my teammates were being with me, sharing every tough momentum of mine and kept encouraging me all the time. Being empowered by them, I found myself being self - full confident to complete the last obstacles. From that moment, I found that being unstoppable is simply focus on your target without making any assumption that holds you back."*

Ms. Pham Vu Thanh Giang, Investment Officer recalled, *"One of my teammates was badly in need of help while I was trekking but later I found that she made it to the camp herself. Yet the next morning she became the team's inspiration on our way... Now I know as long as I am with the right persons, I will never get lost, even on a strange route in the darkness."*

Ms. Nguyen Tran To Uyen, Head of Business Development shared, *"This was not my first time to conquer a mountain since I have been to a lot of climbing trips with the professionals. But trekking Kinabalu with Mekong Capital fellows was the most wonderful trip in my life. I have been extremely inspired by those who were completely unstoppable to not only make their personal breakthrough but also fully take care of each other, empowering them to the team's success."*

According to most of the participants, the trip provided an opportunity to empower each other to achieve a difficult goal, step-up as leaders and work together as a team to make sure 100% of the group safely reached the top, and the bottom, of the mountain.

We believe Mekong Capital is the first company in Vietnam to have team building trip to climb this mountain.

## **About Mekong Capital**

Mekong Capital is a Vietnam-focused private equity firm. Established in 2001, and with a team of 50+ full time people in our offices in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, we are the most experienced Vietnam-focused private equity investor.

We stand for integrity, responsibility-taking, direct communication, empowerment, leadership and achieving extraordinary results. We are committed to being an organization that causes breakthrough results, both internally and for our business partners. We are committed to being the most consistently successful private equity investor in Vietnam.

Our investor base consists of over 50 investors, primarily traditional private equity Limited Partners. Our investor base is conservative and long-term in their outlook. None of our funds are listed on a stock exchange.

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