



OUTWARD BOUND
VIETNAM

NEWSLETTER



12th EDITION - July 2026

Foreword

DEAR PARTNERS, COLLEAGUES, AND FRIENDS

Welcome to the 12th edition of the Outward Bound Vietnam (OBV) Newsletter!

The first half of 2026 has been a meaningful period of growth, collaboration, and impact for OBV. From strengthening our governance and renewing valued partnerships to delivering transformative programmes for young people across Vietnam, we continue to advance our mission of developing resilient, compassionate, and capable individuals through experiential learning.

This edition highlights the people, partnerships, and programmes that have shaped our journey so far, as well as the dedication of our staff in maintaining high standards of safety, quality, and learning.

Thank you to all our partners, schools, participants, and supporters for being part of the OBV community and our journey, and we hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter.

Warm regards,

Nguyen Huong Lan
Acting Executive Director





■ NEW MEMBER OF OBV'S GOVERNING COUNCIL

OBV is pleased to welcome **Dr. Cuc Nguyen** as the newest member of our Governing Council.

She holds a PhD in Entrepreneurship and has over 20 years of experience at Deakin University, Hanoi University, and La Trobe University.

Her academic expertise, combined with her experience in entrepreneurship and international education, brings valuable perspectives that will support OBV's governance and strategic development moving forward.

Please join us in welcoming her to the OBV Governing Council!

■ NEW MEMBER OF OBV'S RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

OBV is also pleased to introduce **Ms. Lai Thu Huong** as the newest member of our Risk Management Committee.

Drawing on her extensive experience in legal advisory, compliance, and corporate governance within the education sector, she will play an important role in supporting OBV's commitment to effective risk management and organisational excellence.

We are delighted to have her on board and look forward to her contributions!



Engagements

■ PARTNERSHIP EXTENSION WITH OUTWARD BOUND SINGAPORE AND REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC

OBV is delighted to begin 2026 with the extension of our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with long-standing partners Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) and Republic Polytechnic (RP). The renewed partnerships reaffirm our shared commitment to outdoor and experiential learning and will continue to create opportunities for staff and student exchanges, programme developments, training placements, and sharing of expertise. We sincerely thank OBS and RP for their trust, support, and collaboration over the years, and are excited for what we can accomplish together in the years ahead.

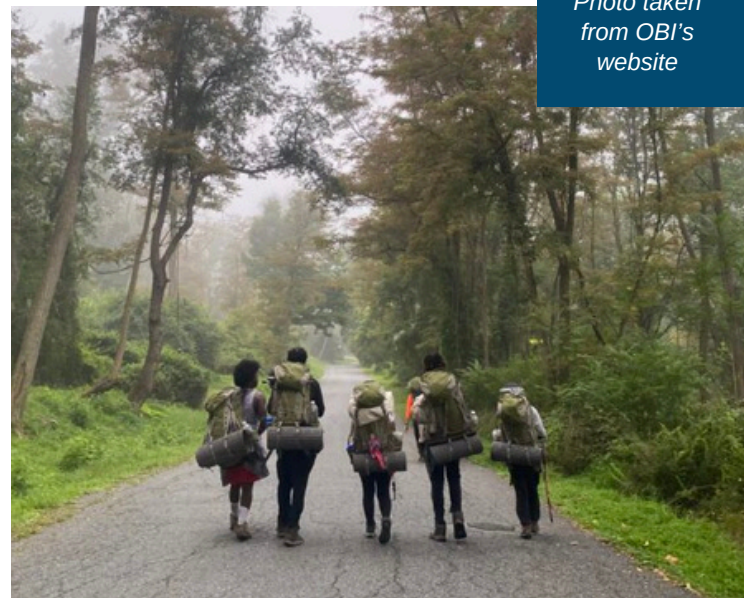


**Outward Bound
Singapore**



■ THE OUTWARD BOUND GLOBAL ALUMNI SURVEY PROJECT

The Outward Bound Global Alumni Survey has been developed by researchers from the University of Utah in collaboration with Outward Bound International (OBI). The survey aims to gain a better understand the long-term impact of Outward Bound programmes on individuals who have participated in a course over the past fifteen years. The findings will support OBI and its Schools in strengthening practices and ensuring that Outward Bound continues to offer transformative, meaningful, and authentic outdoor adventure experiences. OBV is proud to contribute to this meaningful initiative and looks forward to sharing future updates as the project progresses!



*Photo taken
from OBI's
website*



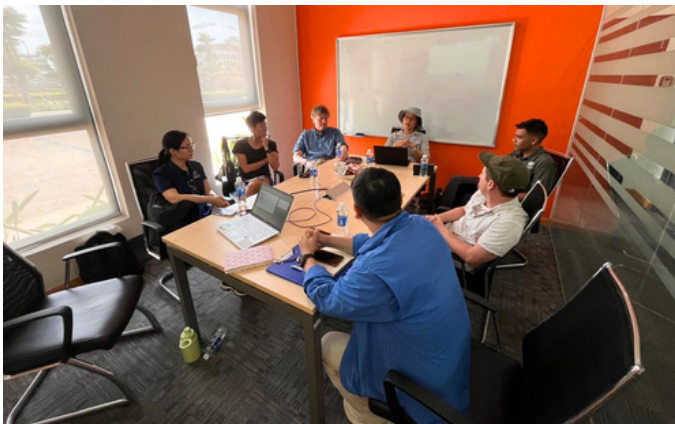
**OUTWARD BOUND
INTERNATIONAL**



Engagements

■ ASSOCIATION FOR EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION RENEWAL VISIT

The Association for Experiential Education (AEE) is a global organisation that promotes quality standards in experiential education. OBV is proud to be the first organisation in Vietnam and the third in Asia to receive AEE accreditation. Recently, OBV welcomed AEE Reviewers in Vietnam for our re-accreditation visit. Through documentation reviews, staff interviews, operational assessments, and programme observations, the visit provided an opportunity to reflect on our practices and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to international standards and continuous improvements. We appreciate the AEE Reviewers' time, insights, and partnership throughout the review process, and hope to share some exciting news with our community soon!



The AEE Reviewers visiting OBV Ha Long basecamp

■ ELMHURST UNIVERSITY DUE DILIGENCE VISIT

On 29 June, OBV welcomed Dr. Eric Sanders from Elmhurst University, Chicago to our Binh Dinh base as part of the planning and due diligence process for a proposed programme in January 2027. The visit included a tour of the base and facilities, meeting with the OBV team, and site visits to the proposed expedition routes and the Nguyen Nga Recycle Garden, which will form part of the programme's service-learning experience. The visit not only supported ongoing programme planning but also laid a strong foundation for the continued development of this exciting partnership.

OBV Binh Dinh's Head of Operations, Mr. Calvin Maguu, hosting Dr. Eric Sanders during the due diligence



Engagements

■ STRONGER TIES WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

As part of OBV's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts, our Binh Dinh team recently hosted a Safety Day for students from Cat Hai Secondary School. Through a series of interactive activities, students learned practical life skills related to beach safety, fire emergency response, teamwork, and environmental stewardship, including a beach clean-up initiative. We are delighted to support local youth in building knowledge, capabilities, and a sense of responsibility for both their own well-being and the environment.



Safety Day for students of Cat Hai Secondary School, organised by the OBV Binh Dinh team at our basecamp

OBV continued to share the impact of experiential learning and strengthen our connections across the education and outdoor education sectors through participation in events such as the TH School Entrepreneur Fair 2026, OFFSEAS 2026, and Learning Together Vietnam 2026. A particular highlight was the OFFSEAS 2026 event, where our staff joined outdoor education leaders and colleagues from across the region to exchange best practices, explore emerging trends, and foster new partnerships. Through these interactions, OBV hopes to contribute to advancing outdoor education and building a stronger network dedicated to developing resilient and future-ready young people.



Programme Summary

■ PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Over the first half of 2026, OBV welcomed participants from the Singapore International School (SIS) Network, Delta Global School, Brighton College Vietnam, Hoi An International School (HAIS) and more to a range of outdoor education programmes, including the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Expedition.



Delta Global School students conquering the kayaking challenge at OBV Ha Long

Through shared challenges, teamwork, and reflection, they developed confidence, resilience, leadership, and understanding of themselves, others and the world around them.



Students of Hoi An International School on their hiking expedition at OBV Binh Dinh

At OBV, we believe growth extends beyond adventure activities alone. In Binh Dinh, participants also had opportunities to explore local historical and cultural sites, including the Champa Towers, gaining new perspectives on the region's heritage and environment. By connecting adventure with place-based learning, participants were able to engage more deeply with both the landscape and the communities around them, enriching their overall learning journey.



OBV participants entering the Champa Tower to explore one of Vietnam's rich cultural heritage sites

Programme Summary

■ OBV MODERN SURVIVAL SUMMER CAMP 2026

This June, OBV's Modern Survival Summer Camp brought together young people for five days of outdoor adventure, learning, and discovery. Through survival skills training, outdoor expeditions, and daily challenges, participants experienced the rewards of stepping beyond their comfort zones and learning by doing. From setting up camp and navigating unfamiliar settings to working as a team and reflecting on their experiences, they developed practical skills alongside greater confidence and resilience. We believe the camp provided a meaningful experience that left participants with lasting memories, new friendships, and a deeper appreciation of what they are capable of.

Gia Khang, one of our campers, shared: *"I feel very good because I have completed the five-day challenge at OBV. The facilities are great, and every aspect of the course helped me develop new skills. Before the camp, I hoped to improve my survival skills, make new friends, and learn more about nature, and the programme gave me the opportunity to do all of that. Some challenges were hard, but I was able to overcome them. I'm going to miss all the friends I met at camp, and I want to thank them and the instructors for always supporting and helping us throughout the programme!"*

Join us to look back on the unforgettable moments from OBV's Modern Survival Summer Camp 2026!



Staffing & Training

■ TRAINING AT BOTH BASECAMPS

Across both Ha Long and Binh Dinh, OBV staff participated in a range of training and refresher sessions to maintain high standards of safety and programme quality. Training topics included Wilderness Advanced First Aid (WAFA), casualty evacuation procedures, kayaking skills, technical rope systems, open water rescue, as well as facilitation and debriefing techniques. These ongoing training efforts ensure our teams remain well-prepared to deliver safe, engaging, and impactful experiences for participants.



Left to right: Kayaking Skill Training, Technical Rope Skill (Tyrolean Traverse) Training & Evacuation Refresher @ OBV Binh Dinh

Training for Trainers @ OBV Ha Long



Open Water Rescuer Refresher @ OBV Ha Long



Staffing & Training

■ REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC INTERNS AT OBV BINH DINH

Our three interns from Republic Polytechnic, Singapore, have passed the halfway point of their five-month internship at OBV Binh Dinh. Over the last few months, they have supported programmes, participated in staff training, and contributed to various projects around the base while gaining valuable experience in outdoor and experiential education.

Reflecting on this journey so far, Muhammad Nasrullah Bin Muhammad Adi shared: *“My internship at Outward Bound Vietnam has been an incredibly meaningful experience of growth and learning. As someone who is naturally introverted, I wanted to challenge myself by stepping outside my comfort zone and working closely with participants from different backgrounds. Through supporting various courses, I have become more confident and adaptable to provide support that truly benefits the participants. I am grateful to the instructors and staff at OBV for their guidance and encouragement throughout this journey, and I look forward to continuing to develop my skills over the remainder of my internship.”*



Republic Polytechnic Interns (Left to right): Muhammad Nasrullah Bin Muhammad Adi, Qifley Bin Sadely and Farah Diyanah Binte Mohamed Rafeek

■ OUTWARD BOUND SINGAPORE 21-DAY CLASSIC COURSE

OBV is proud to share that Vo Thanh Minh, our Mentor Instructor, recently completed the OBS 21-Day Classic Challenge Course, an immersive journey of adventure, resilience, and self-discovery. Joining participants from across Asia, he embraced challenging experiences that tested personal limits, broadened perspectives, and fostered lasting connections within the wider Outward Bound community.



Minh shared: *“The programme taught me that my mental and physical limits are much further than I ever imagined. Pushing through land and sea expeditions showed me the value of resilience, the power of effective teamwork, and the importance of stepping out of my comfort zone to grow.”*



We extend our sincere thanks to Outward Bound Singapore for this valuable opportunity. Experiences like these not only support individual growth but also strengthen collaboration and learning across the global Outward Bound network for our team!



OUTWARD BOUND
VIETNAM

NEWSLETTER

Contact us for more information!



*An organisation registered as a life-skills provider with the Vietnamese
Department of Education & Training (DOET)*