CONTAMINATION BACKGROUND AND ERW RISK MANAGEMENT IN VIETNAM

CONTENT

1. Background and consequences of ERW in Vietnam

2. Identify and implement prioritized objectives of Mine action in Vietnam

3. ERW risk management in Vietnam
CONTAMINATION BACKGROUND AND consequences of erw in vietnam

ERW in Vietnam:
- Undergone Severe Wars
- ERW contamination presents 63/63 Provinces/cities
  - Nationwide 9,083/11,145 communes contaminated (account for 81%)
  - Estimated area of 6.8 million ha, account for 20.7% on the whole nation
**CONTAMINATION BACKGROUND**

- ERW is located at different depth, shallow underground to 5m, sometimes even 10m.
- Many UXO layers
- ERW present at all topography: on land, underwater, delta, mountainous areas; urban and suburban areas.
- With thick vegetation layer and complex topography leading to difficulty for cleaning up.
- On basically, have cleared most of UXO on ground; UXO underground still exist
- Demining activities just limit to areas for soci-economic development purpose
- Have many difficulties for underwater demining
1. IMPACTS ON HUMAN, LIFE AND SOCIETY

- Still have accidents caused by UXO, affect directly on the life of locals, socio-economic development, natural resource deployment, and cause environmental pollution.
- According to uncompleted statistics, until 31/12/2013, there has been nearly 116,000 of casualties and injuries caused by UXO (about 50,000 casualties, over 60,000 injuries).
- Most of victim are key-working person in family or children, they become a burden for family, society.
2. IMPACT ON MANUFACTURING

- ERW has had impact on land for settlement and agriculture: abandoned land accounts for 15.44% meantime Vietnam is having a big proportion of agro-forestry
- Concerns of locals farming in contaminated area
- Some UXO contain chemical which is seriously polluting the environment, impact on land and forest use, water source and growth of socio-economic

3. IMPACT ON FINANCE, ECONOMY

- After war, transport system, infrastructure were nearly completely destroyed. Takes time and resource for demining tasks.
- Within heavy contaminated areas, hard to attract investment, have low economy development
- Every year, Government spends thousand of billion vnd for demining and addressing consequences of war
4. IMPACT ON SECURITY, SOCIAL SAFETY

ERW presents almost nationwide, metal and war scrap collection and deaction activities are still happening, cutting UXO for extracting explosive is sometimes happening
ADDRESSING CONSEQUENCE OF ERW BY VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT

- Decisions of Prime Minister, Circular of ministries on regimes and policies related to the management of mine action operations.
- Develop and issue SOPs, estimation, norms, unit price
- Develop and issue National Specifications on Mine Action, Vietnam National Mine Action Standards (VNMAS)
- Currently, a new Government Decree on the management of mine action is under development.
From 2001-2002, Engineering Command conducted the “Preliminary survey on the residual contamination at national scale”, which provided overall assessment of the contamination degree at national level.

From 2004 to July 2008, thanks to the funding from US DOS and technical advisor of VVAF, BOMICEN conducted the “Vietnam UXO/Landmine Impact Assessment and Rapid Technical Response” in 6 Central provinces (Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Quang Ngai)

From August 2010 to December 2014, through Government funding, Engineering Comment conducted the “Nationwide Landmine Impact Survey”
In 2009, NPA supported the establishment of the Database Department.

In 2014, the National Database Center was established within the Vietnam National Mine Action Center (VNMAC).

Right after the war ended (1975) to 1977 and 1991-1998, the UXO/Landmine Clearance was conducted mostly up to 0.3m, releasing hundred thousand of hectares of cultivation land and facilitating people’s re-settlement.

Since 1999, thanks to the investment in equipment and human resources, the volume of demining has increased from 20,000 ha/year (1999-2004) to 40,000 ha/year (2007) and 50,000 ha/year (2013).

From the end of the preliminary survey project (June 2002) to June 2014, 684,000 ha which accounts for 10.36 percent of the total contaminated area has been cleared.

International organizations and INGO in mine action sector highly appreciate Vietnam’s efforts in demining.
The Government encourages the initiative of Ministries in close coordination with local authority to finalize relevant regimes and policies; call for support from international organizations and INGOs for victims’ community re-integration; upgrade health station; establish Rehabilitation Centers, Vocational Training Centers, Orthopedic Centers.

Many INGOs also help to upgrade some commune health stations, provide vocational training, and orthopedic services.
Relevant ministries and agencies show their interest in MRE, including: MOLISA, MOD, Central Youth Union, central and local media agencies.

A number of MRE projects conducted by INGOs, such as UNICEF, VVAF/IC, SODI, VVMF, Peace Trees Vietnam, Golden West, etc. help to raise awareness of people in some provinces and contribute to decrease UXO/Landmine accidents.
Actively utilize information from every available source, timely research and apply new technologies, develop and bring into use new and advanced equipments for implementation of demining tasks.

Gradually enhance the capacity of research & manufacturing facilities. Strengthen the partnership with foreign and in-country R&D facilities.
### 1. US Government
- Demining equipments (detectors, specialized equipments and vehicles) worth 10 million usd.
- About 2 million USD to conduct the “Vietnam UXO/Landmine Impact Assessment and Rapid Technical Response” in 6 Central provinces.
- Provide funding for implementation of demining projects.
- Provide funding for international experts to deliver trainings on demining equipments.
- Hand over to Vietnam the US Bombing Map and Data (for period 1964-1972) and training Vietnam officers to utilize the provided map and data.

### 2. Japanese Government
- In 2000, provided some tree-cutting devices to support Ho Chi Minh Road project, worth 11.2 million USD.
- In 2008, funded VBMAC 1.5 million USD to implement some demining projects in Quang Tri Province.
- In 2014, funded VBMAC 4 million USD to implement some demining projects in Ha Tinh Province.

### 3. Korean Government
- An MOU regarding the support for implementation of some demining projects in Central provinces and construction of VNMAC premises has been signed with NSC 504.
3. Other countries and international organizations

- Norwegian Government funded 0.5 million USD for VBMAC to purchase equipments for National Database Center.
- UK, Belgium, and Indian Government accepted a number of Vietnam officers to abroad training on capacity building.
- UNICEF funded 5 million USD to provide MRE for children in 6 Central provinces.
- Up to now, there are nearly 40 INGOs involving in mine action sector in Vietnam, however, their support are still limited.
- GICHĐ together with IC provide support to enhance management capacity of Program 504.
- Signing of MOU with US, Australia, New Zealand Government, etc.
### DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM 504

**1. Objective**

Mobilize both national and international resources in order to minimize the impact and move forward to completely address the mines/ERW problems that impede socio-economic development; ensure a safe environment for people; and support mines/ERW victims in their society re-integration.

**2. Tasks**

Period 2010 - 2015

- Complete the impact survey to map the contamination at nationwide scale.
- Develop the National Technical Mine Action Standards.
- Establish the Database Management Center to (synthesize) collect and manage information on victims, contamination status and mitigation activities.
- Conduct mines/ERW Clearance Projects that serve the Government socio-economic development plans and ensure safety for the people. Set target for munitions clearance in specifically 6 provinces where the impact survey has been conducted, at 200,000 ha; other provinces at 300,000 ha.
- Implement the risk education programs for the people in heavily contaminated provinces reported with high accident rates according to the results of the preliminary survey in 2002.
- Victim assistance, resettlement for the people in the provinces with high hazardous level and high accident rate.
- Implement awareness raising programs on the status and consequences of contamination caused by explosive remnants of war (ERW) in Vietnam with a view to advocate other governments, international organizations, international NGO, international and national individuals and organizations to support and provide financial assistance for the implementation of the National Programme.
Period 2016-2025
- Continue implementing the clearance activities to support the social economic development objectives and ensure safety for people, at 800,000ha of land
- Continue the awareness raising programs on the status and consequences of contamination caused by explosive remnants of war (ERW) in Vietnam with a view to advocate other governments, international organizations, international NGO, international and national individuals and organizations to support and provide financial assistance for the implementation of the National Program
- Continue implementing the risk education programs for the people
- Continue implementing victim assistance, resettlement projects for the people in the provinces with high hazardous level
Organizational Structure of Program 504

- Established National Steering Committee 504, chaired by Prime Minister.
- Established, completed organizational structure and implemented activities for the following entities:
  - Standing Board 504.
  - Executive Office 504.
  - Vietnam National Mine Action Center (VNMAC).
  - Vietnam Fund for Mine Action
  - Vietnam Association for the support of Mine Action (VNASMA)

ERW Risk Management in Vietnam
PRIORITIES IN RISK MANAGEMENT

- Complete the impact survey to map the contamination at nationwide scale
- Establish the Database Management Center to (synthesize) collect and manage information on victims, contamination status and mitigation activities
- Complete regimes, policies and processes related to the management and implementation of mine action operations.
- Actively implement and fulfil demining target to serve the socio-economic development and ensure safety for people as approved plan.

PRIORITIES IN RISK MANAGEMENT

- Comply with Government policy on ERW call-out response. People must report to the authority when encountering UXO/Landmine. The local authority will then assign relevant agencies to handle and remove that risk.
- Bomb craters, abandoned stockpiles, minefields, etc must be recorded and safely handled upon discovery. It is one of Vietnam priorities in responding with UXO/Landmine left by the wartime.
- A Technical Survey Project has been currently developed to locate actual hazardous areas in order to formulate a priority list for demining at national scale.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!