



July 2021 Newsletter

Updates from Vietnam

PeaceTrees Destroys Dangerous Cluster Bomb at Quang Binh Middle School

On the morning of July 19th, PeaceTrees' EOD teams received a call about a suspected bomb discovered by construction crews just outside the Nam Ly middle school in Quang Binh Province. PeaceTrees teams confirmed that the suspected item was a cluster bomb and was not safe to move. They then conducted a safe, on-site demolition after evacuating the school and surrounding areas. **Now that this cluster bomb has been safely destroyed, the 1,067 students and 43 teachers that attend the school can study, play, and teach in safety!**



The cluster bomb found just outside of Nam Ly middle school on July 19th



PeaceTrees' EOD team preparing the area for an on-site demolition

Mine Action Training and Growth

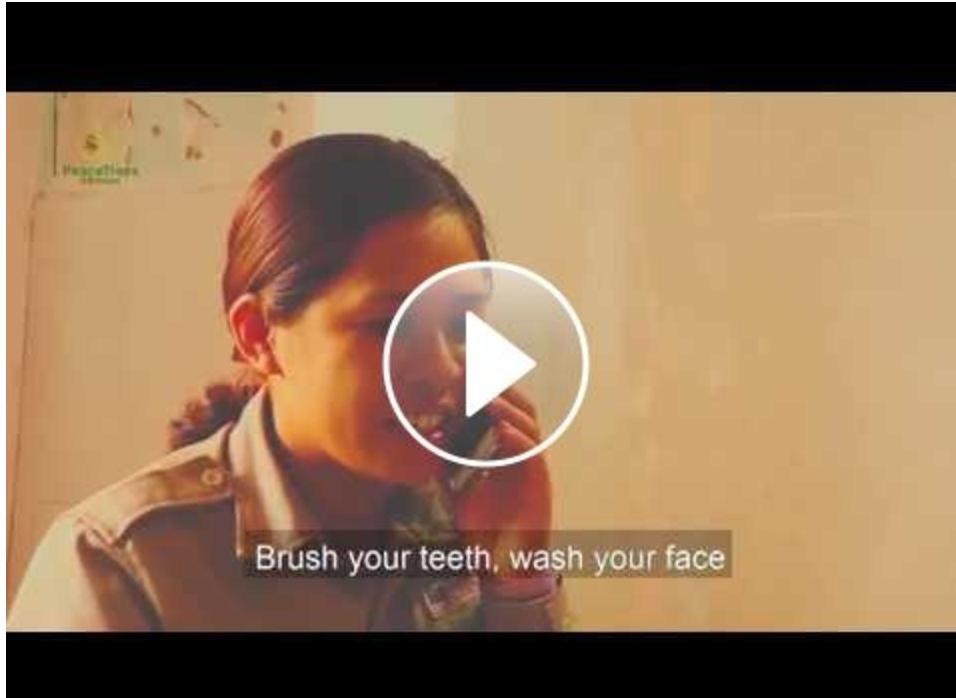
PeaceTrees would like to congratulate the 23 Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) technicians who were certified to International Mine Action Standard (IMAS) Levels 2 and 3 on July 23rd! All technical staff must pass intensive training and testing to ensure safety and build expertise in support of PeaceTrees' demining programs. With thanks to our training partner, Golden West Humanitarian Foundation, we are pleased to announce that 21 PeaceTrees EOD technicians achieved IMAS Level 2 and two deminers achieved IMAS Level 3 Certification. Congratulations to all our demining teams, who despite the challenges of COVID are continuing to clear land and build safer communities every day.



Nguyen Thi Le Khuyen celebrates her Level 3 certification with In-Country Director, Ha Pham, and training partner from Golden West. Khuyen is the first woman in Vietnam to achieve IMAS Level 3 Certification



7 of PeaceTrees' female EOD technicians after achieving their Level 2 and 3 IMAS Certification



If you haven't watched this video of Nguyen Thi Le Khuyen already, click to learn more about what a day in the life of a PeaceTrees EOD technician is like!

PeaceTrees 2020 Annual Report

PeaceTrees 2020 Annual Report is now available online! Whether you are new to the PeaceTrees community or a long-time supporter, we hope this report is valuable and helps illustrate the challenges and triumphs of 2020! Click below to view the report in its entirety:



PeaceTrees Vietnam's 26th Anniversary Celebration

Save the Date and RSVP

We are looking forward to virtually celebrating another year of peacebuilding and partnership on Monday, October 25, 2021! We invite you to register for our 26th Anniversary Celebration and visit our website and Facebook page for event updates throughout the summer.

[Register here!](#)

Sponsorship Support

Do you have a business or know someone that might like to support PeaceTrees Vietnam's 26th Anniversary Celebration? PeaceTrees has a few sponsorship opportunities available that could be great marketing opportunities for local businesses!

We invite you to email us at info@peacetreesvietnam.org for more information! PeaceTrees would also like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful 2020 event sponsors!



Meet a PeaceTrees Deminer

This month, we interviewed Đoàn Thị Hồng, who has been working with PeaceTrees since 2020.

Could you please introduce yourself?

My name is Doan Thi Hong, 28 years old, a technician of PeaceTrees VietNam. I was fortunate to be born and grown up in peace. However, in this central region of Vietnam, where was to be one of the fiercest battlefields, the war legacies are still there. Still many areas are unexploded ordnance contaminated where people could not cultivate or live safely. People still suffer from UXO accidents after the war.

How do you feel about doing work that involves dangerous explosive ordnance?

From the very beginning, we all understand that this job is never easy. It requires knowledge, skill, carefulness, professionalism. To be eligible to work on-site, we have to pass a training course on International Mine Action Standard (IMAS). While working, we continue to be mentored and regularly evaluate, following the standard operating procedure. Our work is to bring safety to people, and firstly, we must ensure safety for ourselves and our team members. Therefore, we always try our best to learn more and more to complete our tasks, work confidently and carefully.

How do you feel about working for PeaceTrees Vietnam?

I am so honored to be a member of PeaceTrees VietNam. I started working for the organization as a technician of the special project to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Vietnam – US relations and 25th Anniversary of PeaceTrees VietNam in 2020. The project offers us the honor to contribute to bringing safe land and development to our community. After the project completed in April 2021, our team continues to work for the organization and join the existing teams of Peace Trees VietNam's Quang Tri project.

Could you tell us more about the 25th Anniversary Project that you worked on?

The project aims to clear UXO to support the implementation of the Huong Ha district's social and economic development plans. By the time the project was completed, more than 32 hectares were cleared by our team, exceeding the initial target of 30 hectares. From our cleared sites, kindergarten and resettlement areas have been built, and there will be roads, community houses...we are so delighted and happy for the people.



Donate Your Used Vehicle to PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! PeaceTrees has partnered with non-profit organization CARS to facilitate a vehicle donation program. All vehicles are eligible for donation – even if they are not running! This includes cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, farm equipment, and even airplanes! CARS has extensive experience with all steps of the vehicle donation process from pick-up to sale. This a quick, free, and easy way to get an unwanted vehicle off your hands!



[Looking for a creative way to support PeaceTrees Vietnam from home?](#)

When you are online shopping, consider Amazon Smile and set PeaceTrees as your beneficiary! AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

The donation will be made at no extra cost to you, and you will be contributing to PeaceTrees Vietnam's lifesaving work while you shop!



For more information contact us at 206-441-6136 or info@peacetreesvietnam.org

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