



VVAF Update

June-December 2014

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- July 28-August 1, 2014. The first 5-day training course on mental health leadership and mental health system development for managers at provincial levels will be held in Hanoi
- August 14, 2014: Dr. Hien participated in a workshop to promote for the Development and Quality Management of Training Curriculum and School Psychology Practice Facilities in Vietnam. The workshop connected American and Vietnam universities into a joint effort in psychology appliance.
- September 10-12: "Milestone Assessment Workshop" of the MORE project in Hanoi Participating in the workshop were high-level managers from GICHD, CMAA, NRA Laos, Fenix Insight (UK), and related Vietnamese government agencies.
- September 22-23: the 1st fieldtrip within the Land Release pilot project was conducted with the participation of BOMICEN/EC, IC-VVAF, NPA, and two advisors from GICHD.
- November 14, 2014: VVAF met with representatives from WRA, GICHD, and the US Embassy in Hanoi. They discussed IC-VVAF Program Updates, with a specific focus on Program 504 and the path forward.
- November 26-27: VVAF also supported VNMAC in providing background information prior to their participation in the Regional Seminar on South-South Cooperation Exchange Program in Mine Action for Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.
- December 3: VVAF organized the Roundtable discussion on "Partnership in Victim Assistance of Landmine/UXO Survivors in Vietnam in the Context of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" in Hanoi.

MORE Project Announced

On September 12, 2014 in Hanoi, VVAF and GICHD organized a seminar introducing the project Management of Residual ERW (MORE) to share knowledge about risk management approaches for ERW. The MORE Project is designed to support and encourage each country in development of management mechanisms in solving ERW and introduce of practical plans and time frames to resolve ERW contaminations. The project also helps identify sustainable solutions including effective policies and risk management in order to enhance efficiency of financial allocation.

Mr Guy Rhodes, Director of Operations of GICHD, said: "The purpose of this project is to research the development of policies and practices applied in

solving contamination caused by ERW. This is also the basis of the reports that could help managers, policy-makers in decision-making, and promote a change in the application of approaches to minimize the risks from ERW in countries affected by recent conflicts. The announcement came as part of the Milestone Assessment Workshop, attended by relevant government agencies as well as high ranking members of Mine Action groups.



MORE Announcement in Vietnam

VVAF Mental Health Leadership Training

This July, 29 representatives from 8 provinces participated in a Mental Health Leadership training. They were from a variety of different agencies including DOH, DOLISA, social protection centers for mental illness, and provincial mental health facilities. Lecturers and speakers included those from Melbourne University and representatives from NIMH, HSPH, DOLISA, WHO, and UNICEF. Dr. Hien (IC-VVAF) also delivered 3 sessions and facilitated group work during the course. The course covered topics on policy and legislation, mental health services, human resources, inter-

sectoral collaboration and mental health information system. On the last day of the course, participants developed a work plan for province based on group discussion results each day.



Participants engaging in the Mental Health Leadership Training in Hanoi, Vietnam.