



For Immediate Release  
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## **PeaceTrees Vietnam Partners With Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund** *Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team to be Established in Quang Binh Province*

**SEATTLE** – PeaceTrees Vietnam (PeaceTrees) has formed a partnership with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) to establish and fund an explosive ordnance disposal team (EOD) in Quang Binh Province.

The partnership between VVMF and PeaceTrees will take place over the next year, with VVMF pledging more than \$280,000 to fund EOD teams that will be assembled and supervised by PeaceTrees. VVMF is using funding provided by Congress for this project.

“We are delighted to partner with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to help the people of Quang Binh Province,” said Blair B. Burroughs, PeaceTrees executive director. “This is the first time that PeaceTrees has expanded its work beyond Quang Tri Province and these funds will allow us to address the risk of injury and help alleviate the burden of living with UXO for the people of Quang Binh Province.”

Quang Binh Province is one of the most heavily impacted areas in Vietnam, second only to Quang Tri Province where PeaceTrees has been engaged in mine action work for the past 15 years. Quang Binh was heavily bombarded during the war, causing serious injury to lives, limbs and property. Many types of unexploded ordnance (UXO), including cluster bombs in particular, are scattered in large numbers around the province, mostly on or near the surface. Today, UXO remains a constant threat to life and livestock.

“VVMF is proud of the work we have done in Vietnam to remove unexploded ordnance and help improve the lives of the people there,” said Jan C. Scruggs, VVMF president. “We are looking forward to our partnership with PeaceTrees to expand this good work to other provinces in Vietnam.”

### **About PeaceTrees Vietnam**

*Founded in 1995, PeaceTrees Vietnam is a humanitarian organization dedicated to healing communities affected by war. Its vision is to create a safe and healthy future for the children and families of Central Vietnam through demining, mine risk education, survivor assistance, citizen diplomacy trips, and community building projects. More information may be found on PeaceTrees’ website at [www.peacetreesvietnam.org](http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org).*

### **About Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund**

*Established in 1979, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., promoting healing and educating about the impact of the Vietnam War. Authorized by Congress, its most recent initiative is building The Education Center at The Wall, an underground facility near the Memorial that is designed to help visitors discover the stories of those named on The Wall and celebrate the values embodied by all service members who served in all of America’s wars. Other Memorial Fund initiatives include educational programs for students and teachers, a traveling Wall replica that honors our nation’s veterans and a humanitarian and mine-action program in Vietnam.*