

To United Nations Human Rights Council,

PeaceTrees Vietnam, respectfully submits the following information:

PeaceTrees Vietnam, based in Seattle Washington USA, with In-Country Offices in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam, is a humanitarian organization working in Central Vietnam to assist those whose lives and livelihoods are threatened by the explosive remnants of war. Founded in 1995, PeaceTrees was the first US organization to be given permission to engage in humanitarian demining efforts in Vietnam after the war ended.

Quang Tri Province is one of the poorest and most wartorn provinces of Vietnam. Over the last thirty five years, more than 10,800 people in the province have been killed or maimed by landmines and unexploded ordnance. In one of every five cases, the victim is a child.

Since early 1996, PeaceTrees has been working alongside the Vietnamese people every day, to sponsor clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance, provide assistance to landmine survivors, provide Mine Risk Education, host citizen diplomacy tree planting programs for friendship building and environmental restoration, and construct schools, libraries and domestic violence shelters, in remote areas of Quang Tri Province.

PeaceTrees' work is made possible through longstanding relationships of friendship and cooperation with the Vietnamese people, including the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations, Vietnam USA Society and Peoples' Aid Coordinating Committee.

In Quang Tri Province, we work with the Quang Tri Province People's Committee in our humanitarian demining program; and partner with the Women's Union in micro credit lending, building schools and libraries and developing sustainable agricultural programs.

Golden West Humanitarian Foundation provides continuing education and training for PeaceTrees humanitarian demining team members.

The vision of PeaceTrees Vietnam is to create a safe and healthy future for the children and families of Central Vietnam. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to work alongside the Vietnamese people every day to help bring this vision closer to reality.

Sincerely,

Jerilyn Brusseau
Co-Founder

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Executive Director

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