

Landmines, Cluster Munition, Agent Orange



As member of the action group landmine.de (German section of the international campaign) SODI claims for:

- worldwide ban of all landmines and weapons which have the same impact on civilians, e.g. cluster munitions
- transparency of all research projects and exports, military deployment plans and stockpiles of landmines and other weapons with the same impact as landmines
- destruction of all existing landmines and weapons with the same impact as landmines
- redirection of funding for research and development of these weapons in favour of rehabilitation and compensation for the victims
- support for landmine and UXO clearance and victim assistance

Compensation and Justice!

By collecting signatures SODI aims to support the Vietnamese Agent Orange victims' appeal to the US Supreme Court against 36 US chemical companies. This is a claim for compensation to be paid by the producers of the vicious herbicide as it already happened in favour of affected US soldiers. SODI demands from the US administration to admit its responsibility for the deployment of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. Help to achieve justice - sign on www.sodi.de!

Solidarity Service international (SODI)
Support us!
Donation account: 10 20 100, Bank fuer
Sozialwirtschaft, Bank code: 100 205 00
BIC: BFSWDE33BER
IBAN: De33100205000001020100

Key words:
Latitude 17 (for development projects)
Agent Orange (for victim assistance)

Since 1992, SODI has been annually awarded the DZI Seal-of-Approval by the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI). The seal attests truthful, respectable fundraising methods and verifiable, prudent deployment of funds.

Assistance to Self-Help

Solidarity Service international (SODI) is a non-governmental organisation, realizing self-help development projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America and humanitarian relief work in Eastern Europe. Since 1990, SODI has implemented more than 800 projects with over 50 million Euro of funding volume. In Germany SODI is engaged in development policy education as well as in networks and campaigns against neoliberal globalisation.

Financing: private monetary donations and contributions in kind, membership fees, private and public funding

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SODI!

Deutsches
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für soziale
Fragen/DZI



DZI Spenden-Siegel:
Geprüft+Empfohlen

Overcoming the legacy of war in Vietnam Reconstruction at latitude 17°



SODI!

Solidarity Service international

Support a global ban on landmines and cluster munitions!

The dark shades of war

...are still clouding millions of people in Vietnam. In Quang Tri Province, situated at the former demarcation line between North and South Vietnam and one of the war's main battlefields, about 7,000 people have been killed or injured in accidents with landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) since the war has ended in 1975.



15,451 victims of the herbicide Agent Orange have been recorded, 2,290 of them already died of the intoxication. This legacy of war hinders reconstruction and development in Vietnam until today. People need our solidarity on their path to overcome poverty and our assistance towards self-help.

SODI operating at latitude 17°

SODI has been realising a programme linking humanitarian landmine and UXO clearance with reconstruction and development activities in Quang Tri Province since 1998, and since 2006 also in the neighbouring province Thua Thien Hue. The German Foreign Office has been funding the mine and UXO clearance activities from the beginning. Donations to SODI, multiplied by funding from the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, the Government of Brandenburg, the Senate of Berlin and the North-South-Bridge Foundation have supported hundreds of people to sustainably overcome poverty.

Clearance: Getting rid of land mines, bombs and granates!

Humanitarian mine and UXO clearance is a precondition for allowing people to use the urgently needed land without danger. German experts, contracted by SODI, have trained Vietnames mine and UXO clearance staff. Since 2006 the implementation of all clearance activities is under the responsibility of qualified Vietnamese staff.



Risk Education

In Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue mine and UXO contaminated land is being cleared by two area clearance teams. Mobile teams destroy unexploded ordnance reported by the population in rapid response missions. By conducting UXO and mine risk education for the local people the mobile teams contribute to the prevention of accidents. By the end of 2008 a total area of 1,062 hectares had been cleared, 88,686 explosive items of all kind had been destroyed. More than 108,000 people, primarily school children, have participated in risk education activities.



Reconstruction: Villages of Peace and Solidarity

In Quang Tri the reconstruction of the villages Phuong Coi, Tan Dinh/Ai Tu and Con Trung, which had been destroyed during the war, was a major step for 219 families to overcome poverty. In further communities kindergartens, primary schools and a health centre have been built. This experience is now also used in Thua Thien Hue: In Huong Ho the new settlement "Lim" is emerging on formerly UXO contaminated land. Roads, water and power supply, a kindergarten, a primary school and a village club are being established. 60 poor families will be provided with land for settlement and agricultural use. They receive financial support for the construction of houses. To support income-generation start-up financing for fruit and vegetable cultivation is granted. Micro-credit programmes encourage livestock breeding.



Supporting the Victims

With the support of SODI 320 families with landmine/UXO and Agent Orange victims will live in houses with solid roofs and strong foundations. So far they have been living in huts which cannot stand the recurring taiphoons. With micro-credits for livestock breeding the economic background of these families will be strengthened. Special trainings impart the necessary knowledge.