

*Natural Resources and Environment*

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### **Workshop on management of mining of minerals in Hoa Binh Province**

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(TN&MT) – On 15/5, the Department of Natural Resources & Environment of Hoa Binh province cooperated with the Institute of Automation and Environment, the German Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development to organize the “International Final Workshop on the mission *Management of Mineral Resource Extraction in Hoa Binh Province - a Contribution to Sustainable Development in Vietnam*”. Among the participants were Mr. Bui Van Khanh, the Vice-Chairman of the provincial People’s Committee, Prof. Dr. Pham Ngoc Ho, the Institute of Automation and Environment, and Prof. Dr. Bernhard Müller, Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development from Germany, as well as representatives from provincial Departments, competent sectors, the government of Luong Son district, and from organizations, enterprises from Luong Son district.

(foto from the workshop)

After three years of implementation of the project *Management of Mineral Resource Extraction in Hoa Binh Province - a Contribution to Sustainable Development in Vietnam (MAREX)*, a lot of positive results have been achieved. In the project, the stakeholders collaborated tightly within Luong Son district at the production sites of the Quang Long company (basalt mining), Hop Tien company (limestone mining), and the Trung Son Cement Factory (mining of aggregates for cement production) in order to apply IT to develop a software which evaluate the environment quality including air, water, soil which is supportive to managing works complying to the objective of socio-economic development and sustainable environment protection. The project contains 4 main contents (4 modules), according to the mission proposal as written in the Vietnamese-German resolution letter as approved by the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology and the German Ministry of Research and Education, and Luong Son district was chosen as the representative case study. One report focus on the methods to design the software to evaluate soil environment quality, and applied to extract data on the environmental quality of the specific mines of Luong Son district. These extracted information was transferred to the companies and the public of localities as a means to support the works on to manage, control, and warnings about environmental pollution. Hoa Binh is a province with high potential towards the exploitation of natural resources and minerals. Up to 94 projects have got the mining license. 70 projects of these are currently in operation, or in the phase of building the basic mine infrastructure, and mainly exploiting minerals for use as building material.

The workshop received many opinions, with concerns about the reality of mining of construction aggregates, and the necessity to apply solutions for environmental protection as well sustainable development. During the workshop, the Vice-Chairman Mr. Bui Van Khanh highly appreciated the collaboration of stakeholders, the practicality of the workshop, with the conclusion that the MAREX project will help the province to realize unified solutions on mechanism and policies, from management of master plans, to managing the controlling, investment in research, applying technology as a self-control to minimize negative environmental impacts, and ensure the sustainability of mineral mining and of environmental protection which will contribute to the objective of sustainable development of Hoa Binh and Vietnam.

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