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## Dioxin cleanup over 43,000 m<sup>2</sup> of soil in Da Nang International Airport ([Link to original VNExpress article](#))

**Testing results of soil samples taken from Da Nang International Airport implemented by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Vietnam Ministry of National Defense showed that soil and sediments there have been cleaned up of dioxin.**

On May 3rd, the US Ambassador to Vietnam Ted Osius and Vietnam Deputy Defence Minister Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Chi Vinh, announced the successful cleaning up of dioxin-contaminated soil in Da Nang Airport within the framework of the project managed by the Vietnamese Defence Ministry and USAID. Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam attended the event.

Results of the testing of samples taken from about 43,000 m<sup>3</sup> of treated soil and sediments (in phase 1 of the project) showed that the treatment meets the goal of cleaning up dioxin in soil. The entire area of soil and sediments was then received by the Government of Vietnam and used for runways and parking areas for new airplanes by the Airports Corporation of Vietnam in a project to expand the Da Nang International Airport for APEC 2017.



*Zone for dioxin treatment in Da Nang airport*



*Zone dioxin in Danang International Airport.  
Photo: Nguyen Dong.*

According to the US Ambassador, the Da Nang airport remediation project is a symbol of the two countries being honest about the past, solving the remaining problems and turning a disagreement into a content of cooperation.

The Da Nang airport remediation project started in August 2012. The contractor built up a large hole, which is sealed lined. Soil was then placed in the hole and covered with reinforced concrete for thermo heating. The heating bars operate at 750 - 800 degree Celsius, which allowed the hole to be heated at 225 degree Celsius. The toxic gas escaped through a closed pipe where it's filtered by water before going out to the environment, leaving the contaminated soil clean.

At the end of this year, the Vietnamese Defense Ministry and USAID will start phase 2 of the project, to treat additional 45,000 m<sup>3</sup> of dioxin-contaminated soil and sediments in Da Nang International Airport.