

RESEARCH ON CAPABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY IN RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS IN LAO CAI

**Nguyen Manh Khai, Vu Dinh Tuan,
Le Thi Thu Thanh, Bui Thi Hue**

Summary

Lao Cai is a mountainous province in the northwest region of Vietnam where ethnic groups Phu La, Ha Nhi, Pa Di, Giay, Dao, Mong and Tay reside. Exploitation of forests in combination with effects of climate change have intensified local environmental incidents. The results of a survey on 250 local people and 50 officers in Lao Cai show that majority (60-82%) are well aware of mudflow, landslide and climate change. However, only 22% of respondents received warning on environmental incident. The capacity to prevent harms of environmental incidents is not high as just 40% had plan to response in case of environmental incidents. People have underestimated danger of wildfire, hail and coldness. Although 42% of respondents satisfied with support and compensation policy from government agencies, 18% expect a better policy. Therefore, it is imperative to assess local policy on preparation and mitigation over environmental incidents in the future.

Keywords: *Environmental incidents, mudflow, landslides, wildfires, hail, cold.*