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Data Article

Dataset for the assessment of selected POP's pollution and effectiveness of environmental policies in the Bắc Giang Province and Cầu River (Northern Vietnam)



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ABSTRACT

This data article presents the datasets obtained during the years 2011–2012 in the Provinces of Bắc Giang and Bắc Ninh (Northern Vietnam) in the framework of an International Cooperation project aimed at the restoration and preservation of natural resources together with the improvement of life conditions of the local population. All information relative to sampling strategy, location and description of the studied sites are reported, together with analytical data (*i.e.* grain size, Total Organic Carbon, Organic Nitrogen, C/N ratio, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, PolyChlorinated Biphenyls, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, PolyBrominated Diphenyls Ethers, PolyChlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Furans, OrganoChlorine Pesticides, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons). In addition, maximum admitted levels, quality standards and emission limits set by the Vietnamese environmental regulations are reported in comparison

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to Italian ones for the following parameters and environmental compartments: noise, soils, air, drinking and groundwaters, sediments. Interpretation of this dataset is fully discussed in Giuliani et al. (2019) [1].

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Specifications Table

Subject area	16. Environmental Science
More specific subject area	16.3 Environmental Chemistry 16.8 Management, Monitoring, Policy and Law
Type of data	Tables, text file, figures
How data was acquired	Mechanical sieving, Fisons NA2000 Elemental Analyzer, Agilent Technologies 7890A Gas Chromatograph coupled with Agilent Technologies 5975C quadrupole Mass Spectrometer, Agilent Technologies 6890 Series Gas Chromatograph coupled with Thermo Finnigan MAT 95 XP double-focusing High-Resolution Mass Spectrometer, Thermo Scientific DSQ™ II Series single quadrupole GC-MS, National Technical Regulations of Vietnam, Italian Legislative Decrees and Decrees of the Italian Prime Minister
Data format	Raw
Experimental factors	Soils and sediments were collected by grab or manually, kept frozen until the arrival at the laboratory, freeze-dried and then homogenized before the analysis
Experimental features	Samples were separated in different aliquots and subjected to the analytical investigations described in Giuliani et al. (2019) "When Research meets NGOs: the GVC-UCODEP project in the Bắc Giang Province and Cầu River (Northern Vietnam) and its feedback on national monitoring programs" [1]
Data source location	Bắc Giang and Bắc Ninh Provinces (Northern Vietnam): 21° 07' – 21° 18' Lat. N, 105° 55' – 106° 02' Long. E
Data accessibility	All data are presented in the paper
Related research article	This data article is submitted as a companion paper to the research article by Giuliani et al. (2019) "When Research meets NGOs: the GVC-UCODEP project in the Bắc Giang Province and Cầu River (Northern Vietnam) and its feedback on national monitoring programs", <i>Environmental Science & Policy</i> , 101, 279–290

Value of the Data

- This dataset is useful because the Bắc Giang Province is one of the areas most affected by the consequences of rapid population growth and not completely controlled development of Vietnam.
- Local populations will greatly benefit from these datasets as they evidenced the presence of specific pollution/law issues that need to be better addressed.
- The methodological approach presented could be used for further insights and development of experiments, inspiring similar actions in other fast-growing countries.
- As additional value, the project's results have evidenced the potential for a positive and effective collaboration between research, local institutions and NGOs.

1. Data description

This data article presents the list of the samples (with coordinates and description, [Table 1](#)) studied in the framework of the International Cooperation GVC-UCODEP project "Promotion of environmental

Table 1

List of the studied samples with coordinates and description. Geographical location is presented in [1].

Sample	Lat. N	Long. E	Description
1	21° 14.755'	106° 06.194'	Soil from a puddle
2	21° 14.750'	106° 06.172'	Sediment from a drainage basin
3	21° 12.729'	106° 02.150'	Soil from a puddle close to the C�au river
4	21° 12.729'	106° 02.150'	Sediment from the C�au River
5	21° 14.627'	106° 02.294'	Sediment retrieved from a family well
6	21° 13.399'	106° 02.181'	Sediment from rice fields close to a water purifier
7	21° 14.286'	106° 02.395'	Sediment from a pond
8	21° 11.027'	106° 10.920'	Sediment retrieved from a family well
9	21° 10.999'	106° 10.217'	Sediment from the C�au River
10	21° 11.110'	106° 10.261'	Soil from a field close to brick factories
11	21° 15.098'	106° 06.287'	Sediment retrieved from a family well
12	21° 09.981'	106° 14.118'	Soil from the C�au River banks
13	21° 10.238'	106° 13.941'	Sediment retrieved from a family well
14	21° 11.100'	106° 14.461'	Sediment retrieved from the bridge in a river basin
15	21° 10.350'	106° 15.293'	Sediment from the C�au River
16	21° 10.325'	106° 15.304'	Soil from a flooding field
17	21° 10.384'	106° 15.440'	Sediment retrieved from a family well
18	21° 10.999'	106° 15.393'	Soil from a rice field
19	21° 12.173'	106° 06.194'	Exposed sediment from the C�au River banks
20	21° 12.247'	106° 06.780'	Sediments close to the pumping stations of the C�au River hydraulic system
21	21° 12.681'	106° 12.681'	Sediments close to the pumping stations of the C�au River hydraulic system
22	21° 12.681'	106° 02.504'	Sediments from the C�au River, east of the V�an Ha peninsula
23	21° 12.681'	106° 02.504'	Sediments from the C�au River, east of the V�an Ha peninsula
24	21° 14.501'	106° 10.512'	Sediment from the discharge of a paper factory (collected from the bridge)
25	21° 14.387'	106° 13.270'	Sediment from the discharge of a paper factory (collected in a pond)
26	21° 14.866'	106° 10.200'	Sediment from a collector canal of the industrial zone
27	21° 07.219'	105° 55.908'	Sediment from the Ng�u Huy�en Kh�e River close to a village devoted to metal manufacturing
28	21° 10.423'	106° 02.150'	Sediment from the Ng�u Huy�en Kh�e River close to a village devoted to paper production/manufacturing
29	21° 16.670'	106° 11.125'	Sediment from the Th�uong River upstream of B�ac Giang City
30	21° 18.002'	106° 11.736'	Sediment from the Th�uong River downstream of B�ac Giang City



Fig. 1. Pictures of A) sampling operations (from left to right: grab sampling from a bridge, sample collection, and manual sampling), and B) sampling areas (from left to right: pumping station of the C au River hydraulic system in Quang Ch au, exposed sediment from the C au River banks in Quang Ch au, collector canal of the Song Kh e - N oi Ho ang industrial zone).

Table 2

Grain size composition (as % of fines and sand), Total Organic Carbon (TOC; %), Organic Nitrogen (ON; %), C/N ratio and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰) in the studied sites. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

	Site													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Fines	84	53	72	92	44	88	85	72	75	79	62	61	29	62
Sand	16	47	28	8	56	12	15	28	25	21	38	39	71	38
TOC	8.1	0.62	1.9	2.5	0.79	1.5	4.5	n.d.	0.83	0.70	2.2	1.4	2.0	1.7
ON	0.79	0.076	0.19	0.22	0.087	0.16	0.58	n.d.	0.081	0.0735	0.25	0.13	0.21	0.14
C/N	12	11	13	14	12	12	8.9	n.d.	12	15	11	13	11	15
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	-25.3	-24.9	-26.8	-26.8	-27.2	-23.9	-23.6	n.d.	-25.8	-21.6	-26.8	-20.0	-26.6	-26.5

n.d. = not determined.

Table 3

List of the ^{13}C -labeled compounds used as internal quantification standards for PolyChlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), PolyBrominated Diphenyls Ethers (PBDEs) and PolyChlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Furans (PCDD/Fs), and surrogate compound used as internal quantification standards for OrganoChlorine Pesticides (OCPs) and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPHs) $\text{C}_{>12}$. Further details are provided in [1].

^{13}C PCBs	PCB-3; PCB-15; PCB-28; PCB-52; PCB-77; PCB-81; PCB-105; PCB-114; PCB-118; PCB-123; PCB-126; PCB-153; PCB-156; PCB-157; PCB-167; PCB-169; PCB-180; PCB-189; PCB-194; PCB-208; PCB-209
^{13}C PAHs	Acenaphthylene; Benzo [a]pyrene; Phenanthrene
^{13}C PBDEs	BDE-28; BDE-47; BDE-99; BDE-100; BDE-153; BDE-154; BDE-183; BDE-209
^{13}C PCDD/Fs	2,3,7,8-TCDD; 2,3,7,8-TCDF; 1,2,3,7,8-PeCDD; 1,2,3,7,8-PeCDF; 2,3,4,7,8-PeCDF; 1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD; 1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD; 1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDF; 1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF; 1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDF; 2,3,4,6,7,8-HxCDF; 1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD; 1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDF; 1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpCDF; OCDD
OCPs	Pentachloronitrobenzene
TPHs $\text{C}_{>12}$	5 α -Androstane

protection in the Việt Yên, Yên Dũng and Hiệp Hòa districts in the Bắc Giang Province, Vietnam", together with a collection of pictures representing sampling operations and areas (Fig. 1). Raw data of grain size, Total Organic Carbon (TOC), Organic Nitrogen (ON), C/N ratio, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ are presented in Table 2. Table 3 lists the ^{13}C -labeled or surrogate compounds used as internal quantification standards for the measurements of POPs. Tables 4–9 report data relative to each specific class of POPs: Table 4 for PolyChlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Table 5 for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), Table 6 for PolyBrominated Diphenyls Ethers (PBDEs), Table 7 for PolyChlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Furans (PCDD/Fs), Table 8 for OrganoChlorine Pesticides (OCPs), and Table 9 for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPHs). Total PAH concentrations are also normalized for a TOC % content of 1 [2]. Total PCDD/F concentrations are expressed also as pg g^{-1} I-TEQ (International Toxic Equivalent), calculated using the International Toxicity Equivalence Factors (I-TEFs) defined by Van den Berg *et al.* [3]. As part of the project's strategy, enforced Vietnamese regulations were studied to check their effectiveness in protecting the population and the environment. For this reason, maximum admitted levels, quality standards and emission limits set by the Vietnamese environmental regulations relative to noise (maximum admitted levels in Table 10), soils (quality standards in Table 11), air (quality standards in Table 12, emission limits in Table 13), drinking and groundwaters (quality standards in Table 14), and sediments (quality standards in Table 15) are reported in comparison to Italian ones.

2. Experimental design, materials, and methods

Sampling campaigns were realized in 2011 and 2012 and some stations of the 2011 survey were sampled again in 2012 in order to perform the analyses for PCDD/Fs (Table 7).

Soil and sediment samples were taken at rivers, rice fields, sewages, collector canals, pounds, puddles and family wells (Table 1) in the Provinces of Bắc Giang and Bắc Ninh (Northern Vietnam). The

Site															
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
88	37	0.98	51	70	81	99	63	59	32	94	88	41	31	53	82
12	63	99	49	30	19	1	37	41	68	6	12	59	69	47	18
1.9	0.66	0.079	1.5	2.3	1.2	1.3	1.6	n.d.	17	2.8	1.1	0.85	16	1.3	13
0.15	0.031	0.011	0.14	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.31	0.60	0.19	0.12	0.11	0.78	0.13	0.22
16	38	20	13	28	14	12	34	n.d.	36	20	11	10	25	13	64
-24.8	-27.0	-25.4	-24.4	-23.8	-23.3	-26.9	-26.1	n.d.	-24.3	-26.1	-23.4	-24.0	-21.4	-24.8	-23.2

2011 sampling campaign was focused on the identification of contaminant levels in areas not influenced by direct sources. On the contrary, the second sampling campaign in 2012 was focused on those areas where inputs from industrial, urban and specific manufacturing activities were identified.

Samples were taken by grab sampling or *via* manual collection (Fig. 1). They were kept frozen until the arrival at the laboratory, and then freeze-dried and homogenized before the analysis.

Grain size analyses were carried out by wet mechanical sieving at 63 μm to separate sands from fine particles, after a pre-treatment with H_2O_2 . TOC, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, and ON were determined with an Elemental Analyzer after carbonate elimination by acidification.

PCBs, PAHs, and PBDEs were determined with the same sample preparation protocol [1]. Automated instruments were used for analytes extraction and sample clean-up. After extraction and before clean-up, samples and blanks were spiked with a known amount of ^{13}C -labeled compounds mixtures (Table 3). Instrumental determinations were carried out with a quadrupole mass spectrometer (MS) operating in electron impact mode (EI, 70 eV), coupled with a gas chromatograph (GC). Acquisition was performed in Selected Ion Monitoring (SIM) mode. Quantification was performed using internal standards and the isotopic dilution technique. Results were corrected using the instrumental response factors and calculated on a dry weight basis (Tables 4–6). Precision was estimated as repeatability and the Relative Standard Deviation (RSD) was always below 10% for total PCBs, PAHs, and PBDEs. Accuracy was estimated through repeated analyses of Standard Reference Material (SRM) 1941b from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST; PAHs, PCBs) and SRM SQC072 from RTC (PBDEs, PCBs). Results were always within the certified/reference analytical uncertainty.

PCDD/Fs were analyzed only in samples that presented either the highest concentrations of other POPs or peculiar environmental conditions. The analysis was performed through automated extraction and clean-up systems [1]. Quantification was finalized using internal standards and the isotopic dilution technique (Table 3) with a gas chromatograph coupled to a High-Resolution mass spectrometer operating in EI mode (45 eV; $R \geq 10,000$). Results were corrected using the instrumental response factors and calculated on a dry weight basis (Table 7). RSD was always below 10% for total PCDD/Fs. Accuracy was estimated through repeated analyses of SRM DX-1 from the National Water Research Institute. Results were always within the certified/reference analytical uncertainty.

Samples of the 2011 campaign were analyzed also for 20 OCPs (Table 8). Analyses were performed with GC–MS instruments in SIM mode [1]. Quantification was carried out *via* calibration curve, using an internal standard (Table 3), and calculated on a dry weight basis. RSD was always below 10% for total OCPs. Accuracy was estimated through repeated analyses of SRM 1941b from the NIST. Results were always within the certified/reference analytical uncertainty.

Samples of the 2012 campaign were analyzed also for TPHs (Table 9), with the same GC–MS system used for the OCP analyses. Quantification was carried out with an internal standard (Table 3). Acquisition was performed in SIM mode and results are reported on a dry weight basis. RSD was always below 10% for total TPHs. In absence of a SRM to check the recovery of TPHs, a clear marine sediment was spiked with a Diesel Range Organics (DRO) mixture and analyzed. Results showed a recovery percentage from 92 to 101.

Table 5

Concentrations (in ng g⁻¹) of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) as single compounds and total in the studied sites. The high level of Total Organic Carbon and the overall composition of site 28, hampered the reliable analyses of PAHs that were therefore not carried out. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

PAHs	Site																													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	30	
Acenaphthylene	1.8	0.38	5.7	4.2	0.86	2.6	1.2	1.0	0.49	0.39	56	1.2	3.9	0.72	0.91	0.23	0.18	0.44	0.84	0.012	<d.l.	1.5	1.8	4.9	0.048	<d.l.	0.34	0.90	4.8	
Acenaphthene	4.8	2.0	4.2	5.0	1.9	2.4	3.2	2.2	2.2	16	6.5	15	12	2.2	12	5.9	0.82	1.6	0.91	0.72	0.89	<d.l.	<d.l.	2.4	1.3	0.19	2.8	2.2	0.33	
Fluorene	33	8.7	22	24	8.6	11	26	13	5.1	8.0	23	11	19	7.1	14	8.1	2.0	8.8	2.4	1.7	7.2	2.8	1.3	12	1.9	<d.l.	2.1	10	23	
Phenanthrene	128	50	95	95	78	71	114	76	23	73	94	69	107	25	74	45	14	51	21	21	58	39	26	68	24	11	278	100	116	
Anthracene	5.3	0.60	13	11	<d.l.	2.1	<d.l.	1.8	<d.l.	<d.l.	23	1.5	11	1.0	3.7	0.38	0.16	0.41	2.4	0.41	2.4	3.8	2.4	7.5	0.86	<d.l.	1.0	10	7.8	
Fluoranthene	83	14	106	133	49	66	38	34	8.4	7.4	606	34	156	13	47	11	2.9	12	20	9.6	27	44	30	23	21	5.4	17	46	22	
Pyrene	76	13	71	100	49	47	31	33	8.6	6.8	771	21	194	11	32	7.8	4.7	8.4	16	7.8	23	34	25	18	14	3.5	14	53	24	
Benz[<i>a</i>]anthracene	40	4.1	76	76	20	41	12	21	2.4	0.19	327	13	167	5.7	16	2.0	0.24	2.7	7.4	2.9	4.4	20	23	1.8	3.1	0.33	5.2	22	4.3	
Chrysene	58	6.8	121	91	83	45	21	26	4.4	1.0	408	21	178	9.3	23	3.8	1.0	4.9	13	5.1	9.2	32	32	6.5	6.1	2.3	10	32	15	
Benzo[<i>b</i>]fluoranthene	47	4.8	84	66	55	33	22	21	2.8	0.37	374	14	154	5.6	16	1.4	0.23	3.0	8.8	2.9	9.0	25	17	4.1	6.6	1.2	6.8	18	7.0	
Benzo[<i>k</i>]fluoranthene	20	2.0	38	30	7.2	16	8.2	10	0.80	0.049	173	5.5	70	2.4	6.7	0.42	0.080	1.1	3.2	1.0	2.4	9.6	7.5	0.45	1.4	0.22	2.0	7.9	1.5	
Benzo[<i>a</i>]pyrene	38	3.6	53	48	7.3	25	15	23	2.2	0.99	281	9.1	197	5.8	11	1.3	0.79	2.8	5.7	2.9	3.4	16	13	1.6	2.1	1.2	3.8	16	3.5	
Benzo[<i>ghi</i>]perylene	54	4.4	554	52	22	24	26	33	1.9	0.14	387	10	254	6.4	13	0.89	0.35	2.4	4.9	2.0	3.9	13	9.6	0.69	2.9	0.50	3.8	20	3.9	
Indeno[1,2,3- <i>cd</i>]pyrene	54	5.4	44	45	25	20	27	30	2.7	0.38	347	8.6	227	6.8	12	1.2	0.84	2.7	4.1	2.0	3.6	11	7.9	0.47	2.4	0.93	3.3	23	5.5	
Dibenz[<i>a,h</i>]anthracene	7.4	0.70	15	13	4.1	5.8	3.9	3.3	0.31	0.019	71	2.6	26	0.95	2.8	0.18	0.043	0.47	1.3	0.38	0.78	3.3	2.6	0.31	0.57	0.10	0.79	3.8	1.6	
Σ ₁₅ PAHs	651	121	804	793	410	412	348	329	65	115	3949	237	1777	103	284	90	28	103	113	60	154	255	199	152	88	27	100	365	240	
1% TOC normalized total ^a	80	195	423	317	519	275	77	396	93	52	2821	119	1045	54	430	1139	19	13	49	50	118	159	8	9	31	25	118	281	185	

<d.l. = Lower than Detection Limit.

^a Total PAH concentration normalized for a Total Organic Carbon (TOC) % content of 1 [2].

Table 6

Concentrations (in pg g^{-1}) of PolyBrominated Diphenyls Ethers (PBDEs) as single congeners and total in the studied sites. The high level of Total Organic Carbon and the overall composition of site 28, hampered the reliable analyses of PBDEs that were therefore not carried out. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

PBDEs	# Br	Site																													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	30	
BDE-17	3	167	67	81	96	68	81	109	97	20	79	121	68	109	<d.l.	64	66	51	70	8.1	9.8	34	23	22	21	19	9.1	10	25	13	
BDE-28	3	387	156	211	245	166	199	292	236	51	209	312	163	313	<d.l.	173	157	122	168	36	30	77	67	66	54	56	28	33	67	56	
BDE-71	4	33	8.0	12	<d.l.	6.5	10	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	13	13	6.4	11	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	16	13	18	17	40	23	25	22	30	16	18	17	9.6	
BDE-47	4	22,020	4497	5693	4751	4291	6733	8600	4862	1350	6300	8611	5711	12,131	648	3353	5939	10,392	5082	1057	820	2206	1064	1119	1077	2310	948	1047	1322	1913	
BDE-66	4	199	22	27	37	29	32	52	25	6.9	39	76	35	103	5.9	24	38	86	37	8.9	5.9	15	3.5	9.7	6.3	10	1.1	8.1	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-100	5	4090	248	316	175	162	459	342	287	<d.l.	375	605	304	1213	<d.l.	267	727	2029	477	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	54	81	
BDE-99	5	28,335	1007	1884	968	746	2438	1679	1921	<d.l.	1973	2900	1384	6400	<d.l.	1510	4191	13,297	2747	419	110	482	142	173	120	338	181	122	<d.l.	8.2	
BDE-85	5	439	1025	<d.l.	380	<d.l.	42	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	55	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	207	<d.l.	26	58	27	66	75	324	44	122	80	<d.l.	0.20		
BDE-154	6	328	11	21	19	10	19	36	20	<d.l.	13	57	6.6	62	9.0	23	41	136	31	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-153	6	403	<d.l.	35	28	13	56	52	46	<d.l.	14	16	60	54	64	35	38	116	75	6.5	1.6	19	2.4	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-138	6	50	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	8.0	9.9	<d.l.	<d.l.	71	7.7	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-183	7	190	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	82	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-190	7	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
BDE-209	10	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	
Σ_{14} PBDEs (ng g^{-1})		57	7.0	8.3	6.7	5.6	10	11	7.5	1.4	9.0	13	7.7	21	0.7	5.4	11	27	8.7	1.6	1.1	2.9	1.4	1.5	1.7	2.8	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.1	

<d.l. = Lower than Detection Limit.

Table 7

Concentrations (in pg g^{-1}) of PolyChlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Furans (PCDD/Fs) as single congeners and total in the studied sites. Concentrations are expressed also as pg g^{-1} I-TEQ (International Toxic Equivalent). Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

PCDD/Fs	Site				
	1	4	7	11	13
2,3,7,8-TCDD	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDD	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	0.36	<d.l.
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD	<d.l.	<d.l.	0.87	<d.l.	<d.l.
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	0.82	<d.l.
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDD	1.1	1.2	<d.l.	0.16	1.2
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD	12	8.8	9.1	7.5	6.4
OCDD	352	302	230	142	170
2,3,7,8-TCDF	0.079	1.2	1.7	3.1	<d.l.
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDF	<d.l.	0.085	0.016	0.68	<d.l.
2,3,4,7,8-PeCDF	0.63	0.080	1.1	0.69	<d.l.
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDF	<d.l.	1.6	4.4	<d.l.	<d.l.
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF	0.16	0.63	1.8	1.5	<d.l.
2,3,4,6,7,8-HxCDF	<d.l.	0.38	0.82	0.66	<d.l.
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDF	<d.l.	<d.l.	0.81	<d.l.	<d.l.
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDF	0.80	4.4	3.5	3.9	<d.l.
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpCDF	0.23	<d.l.	3.2	1.3	<d.l.
OCDF	<d.l.	0.91	4.0	2.1	<d.l.
Σ_{17} PCDD/Fs	367	321	261	165	178
I-TEQ ^a	0.56	0.75	1.6	1.4	0.24

<d.l. = Lower than Detection Limit.

^a Calculated using the International Toxicity Equivalence Factors (I-TEFs) defined by Van den Berg *et al.* [3].

Table 8

Concentrations (in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) of OrganoChlorine Pesticides (OCPs) analyzed in the studied sites. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

OCPs	Site																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4,4'-DDT	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
4,4'-DDE	<d.l.	4.4	<d.l.	3.1	<d.l.	<d.l.	1.4	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	3.2	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
4,4'-DDD	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Hexachlorocyclohexane α (α -HCH)	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Hexachlorocyclohexane β (β -HCH)	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Hexachlorocyclohexane γ (γ -HCH)	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Heptachlor	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Heptachlor <i>exo</i> -epoxide	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Endrin	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Endrin aldehyde	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
α -Endosulfan	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
β -Endosulfan	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Endosulfan sulfate	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Aldrin	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Dieldrin	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Methoxychlor	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Pretlchlor	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Fenclorim	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Trichlorophenol	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.
Pentachloronitrobenzene	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.	<d.l.

<d.l. = Lower than Detection Limit.

Table 9

Concentrations (in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPHs) as single compounds and total in the studied sites. The high level of Total Organic Carbon and the overall composition of site 28, hampered the reliable analyses of TPHs that were therefore not carried out. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

TPHs $C_{>12}$	Site											
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	30	
C ₁₂	0.25	0.43	0.33	0.24	0.27	0.59	1.2	3.3	1.7	2.1	2.2	
C ₁₃	0.26	0.34	0.42	2.5	0.29	1.0	1.2	0.99	0.85	0.75	1.6	
C ₁₄	0.31	0.30	0.50	1.1	0.43	2.0	1.2	0.91	0.60	0.84	1.9	
C ₁₅	0.47	0.34	0.54	0.89	0.49	2.2	0.91	0.75	0.53	0.72	1.5	
C ₁₆	0.68	0.54	0.91	1.9	0.77	3.9	1.7	1.2	0.74	0.99	1.7	
C ₁₇	1.6	0.80	1.4	1.6	1.1	6.1	2.1	1.3	0.95	1.5	2.7	
C ₁₈	1.4	1.2	1.7	2.1	1.3	4.6	2.6	1.8	1.3	2.2	3.2	
C ₁₉	0.57	0.95	0.77	0.72	1.0	1.8	1.2	0.88	0.62	1.0	1.8	
C ₂₀	0.93	0.90	1.0	1.4	0.88	2.3	1.6	1.4	0.82	1.8	1.8	
C ₂₁	0.37	0.37	0.50	0.39	0.40	1.1	0.97	0.58	0.48	1.1	0.81	
C ₂₂	0.81	0.85	0.98	1.0	0.85	1.4	1.6	1.3	0.77	1.4	1.2	
C ₂₃	0.44	0.41	0.82	0.42	0.51	1.2	1.5	0.76	0.73	1.2	0.91	
C ₂₄	0.83	0.74	1.1	0.78	0.87	1.4	1.7	1.2	0.90	1.3	1.4	
C ₂₅	0.54	0.55	1.2	0.56	0.66	1.9	1.8	0.93	0.78	1.3	1.0	
C ₂₆	0.48	0.41	0.90	0.53	0.61	0.71	1.3	1.0	0.73	1.1	0.87	
C ₂₇	0.67	0.60	1.8	0.87	1.1	0.91	2.6	0.96	0.85	1.2	1.1	
C ₂₈	0.51	0.40	1.2	0.60	0.64	0.80	1.7	0.96	0.84	1.0	1.0	
C ₂₉	0.95	0.82	2.9	1.6	2.0	1.1	4.1	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.5	
C ₃₀	0.53	0.43	1.5	0.76	0.87	0.71	1.9	0.93	0.83	0.98	0.99	
C ₃₁	1.2	0.81	4.0	2.5	3.2	0.91	4.3	1.2	1.1	1.8	1.5	
C ₃₂	0.48	0.38	1.2	0.64	0.71	0.47	1.7	0.89	0.80	0.94	0.93	
C ₃₃	1.3	0.79	3.1	2.0	1.9	6.9	4.2	1.4	1.2	1.7	1.6	
C ₃₄	0.47	0.46	1.0	0.63	0.49	0.57	1.7	0.84	0.81	1.0	1.1	
C ₃₅	0.82	0.57	1.5	1.0	0.72	10	2.7	1.2	0.93	1.2	1.3	
Σ_{24} TPHs	17	14	31	27	22	55	47	28	21	31	36	

Table 10

Maximum admitted noise levels (dB) during daytime (6 a.m.–9 p.m.) set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding standards defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Area	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
Residential	70	50
Protected	55	45

^a National Technical Regulation of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVN 26:2010.

^b Decree of the Prime Minister (*Decreto del Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri*) DPCM 14/11/97.

Table 11

Quality standards (in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) for metals and pesticides in soils set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding standards defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Parameter	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
As	12	20
Cd	2	2
Cu	50	120
Pb	70	100
Zn	200	150
Atrazine	0.1	0.01
Benthiocarb	0.1	
Cypermethrin	0.1	
Cartap	0.05	
Dalapon	0.1	
Diazinon	0.05	
Dimethoate	0.05	
Fenobucarb	0.05	
Fenoxaprop-ethyl	0.1	
Fenvalerate	0.05	
Isoprothiolane	0.05	
Metolachlor	0.1	
MPCA ^c	0.1	
Pretilachlor	0.1	
Simazine	0.1	
Trichlorfon	0.05	
2,4-D	0.1	0.01
Aldrin	0.01	0.01
Captan	0.01	
Captafol	0.01	
Chlordimeform	0.01	
Chlordane	0.01	0.01
DDT	0.01	0.01
Dieldrin	0.01	0.01
Endosulfan	0.01	
Endrin	0.01	0.01
Heptachlor	0.01	
Hexachlorobenzene	0.01	0.05
Isobenzen	0.01	
Isodrin	0.01	
Lindane	0.01	0.01
Methamidophos	0.01	
Monocrotophos	0.01	
Methyl Parathion	0.01	
Na-pentachlorophenolate-monohydrate	0.01	
Parathion Ethyl	0.01	
Pentachlorophenol	0.01	0.01
Phosphamidon	0.01	
Polychlorocamphene	0.01	

^a National Technical Regulations of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVNs 03:2008 and 15:2008.

^b Column A, Table 1, Annex 5, Title V, Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 152/2006.

^c 2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid.

Table 12

Quality standards (in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) for inorganic and organic compounds in the atmosphere as hourly average (if not differently expressed) set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding standards defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Parameter	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
As	0.03	0.006 ⁱ
AsH ₃	0.3	
HCl	60 ^f	
HNO ₃	400	
H ₂ SO ₄	300	
Silica dust	150	
SO ₂	125 ^f	125 ^f
CO	5000 ^f	10,000 ^f
NO _x	100 ^f	200
O ₃	80 ^f	120 ^f
TSP ^c	200 ^f	
PM 10 ^d	150 ^f	50 ^f
Chrysotile ^e	1 ^g	100,000 ^k
Cd	0.4	0.005 ⁱ
Cl ₂	100	
Cr ⁶⁺	0.007	
HF	20	
HCN	10	
Mn/MnO ₂	10	
Ni	1 ^f	0.02 ^j
Hg	0.3 ^f	
Pb	1.5 ^f	0.5 ^h
Acrolein	50	
Acrylonitrile	45 ^f	
Aniline	50	
Acrylic acid	54 ^h	
Benzene	22	5 ^h
Benizidine	n.d. ⁱ	
Chloroform	16 ^f	
Hydrocarbons	5000	
Formaldehyde	20	
Naphthalene	120 ^f	0.001 ^l
Phenols	10	
Tetrachloroethylene	100 ^f	
Vinyl chloride	26 ^f	7770 ^m

^a National Technical Regulations of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVNs 05:2009 and 06:2009.

^b Legislative Decrees D.Lgs. 66/2000, 257/2006 and 155/2010.

^c Total Suspended Particles.

^d Particulate Matter.

^e Expressed in fiber m^{-3} .

^f Daily average.

^g Absolute value.

^h Annual average.

ⁱ Not Detectable.

^j Target annual average measured in PM 10.

^k Limit for exposed workers, as Asbestos.

^l Target annual average of Benzo[a]pyrene measured in PM 10.

^m Limit for exposed workers.

Table 13

Emission limits in air (in mg Nm⁻³) for dust, inorganic and organic compounds set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding limits defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Parameter	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
Dust	200	50
Silica dust	50	5 ^c
NH ₄ ⁺	50	250
Sb	10	5
As	10	1
Cd	5	0.1
Pb	5	5
CO	1000	350 ^f
Cl ⁻	10	5
Cu	10	5
Zn	30	
HCl	50	30
HF	20	5
H ₂ S	7.5	5
SO ₂	500	500
NO ₂	850	500
NO ₂ ^c	1000	500
H ₂ SO ₄	50	
HNO ₃	500	
1,1,2,2-Tetrabromoethane	14	
Acetaldehyde	270	20
Acrolein	2.5	
Amyl acetate	525	300
Aniline	19	20
Benzidine	n.d. ^d	1
Benzene	5	5
Benzyl chloride	5	20
1,3-Butadiene	2200	5
n-Butyl acetate	950	300
Butylamine	15	20
Cresols	22	20
Chlorobenzene	350	150
Chloroform	240	20
2-Chloro-1,3-butadiene	90	150
Trichloro-nitromethane	0.7	5
Cyclohexane	1300	600
Cyclohexanol	410	
Cyclohexanone	400	150
Cyclohexene	1350	600
Diethylamine	75	20
Dibromodifluoromethane	860	600 ^g
o-Dichlorobenzene	300	150
1,1-Dichloroethane	400	150
1,2-Dichloroethylene	790	20
1,4-Dioxane	360	5
Dimethylaniline	25	20 ^h
2-Chloroethyl ether	90	20
Dimethylformamide	60	150
Dimethyl sulfate	0.5	1
Dimethylhydrazine	1	5
Dinitrobenzene	1	5
Ethyl acetate	1400	600
Ethylamine	45	20
Ethylbenzene	870	150
Bromoethane	890	5 ⁱ

(continued on next page)

Table 13 (continued)

Parameter	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
Ethylenediamine	30	20 ^j
1,2-Dibromoethane	190	5
Ethyl acrylate	100	5
2-Chloroethanol	16	
Ethylene oxide	20	5
Diethyl ether	1200	600
Chloroethane	2600	150 ^k
Tetraethyl orthosilicate	850	
Ethanolamine	45	20
Furfural	20	20
Formaldehyde	20	20
Furfuryl alcohol	120	
Trichlorofluoromethane	5600	600
<i>n</i> -Heptane	2000	600
<i>n</i> -Hexane	450	150
Isopropylamine	12	20
<i>n</i> -Butanol	360	150
Methyl mercaptan	15	5 ^l
Methyl acetate	610	300
Methyl acrylate	35	5
Methanol	260	150
Methylacetylene	1650	600
Methyl bromide	80	20
Methylcyclohexane	2000	600
Methylcyclohexanol	470	
Methylcyclohexanone	460	150
Methyl chloride	210	20
Methylene chloride	1750	20
Methyl Chloroform	2700	150
<i>n</i> -Methylaniline	9	20
Methanolamine	31	
Naphthalene	150	150
Nitrobenzene	5	5 ^m
Nitroethane	310	20
Nitroglycerin	5	5
Nitromethane	250	20
2-Nitropropane	1800	5
Nitrotoluene	30	20
2-Pentanone	700	150 ⁿ
Phenol	19	20
Phenylhydrazine	22	5 ^o
<i>n</i> -Propanol	980	300
<i>n</i> -Propyl acetate	840	300
1,2-Dichloropropane	350	150
Propylene oxide	240	5 ^p
Pyridine	30	20
Pyrene	15	0.1 ^q
<i>p</i> -Benzoquinone	0.4	
Styrene	100	150
Tetrahydrofuran	590	150
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	35	20
Tetrachloroethylene	670	20
Tetrachloromethane	65	20 ^r
Tetranitromethane	8	20
Toluene	750	300
<i>o</i> -Toluidine	22	20 ^s
Toluene 2,4-diisocyanate	0.7	5
Triethylamine	100	20
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	1080	600 ^t

Table 13 (continued)

Parameter	Vietnam ^a	Italy ^b
Trichloroethylene	110	20
Xylene	870	300
Xylidine	50	20 ^h
Vinyl chloride	20	5
Vinyltoluene	480	150

^a National Technical Regulations of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVNs 19:2009 and 20:2009.

^b Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 152/2006.

^c From chemical plants.

^d Not Detectable.

^e Expressed as SiO₂.

^f For combustion plants with nominal installed thermal power between 1.5 and 3 MW.

^g Expressed as 1,2-Dibromo-1,1-difluoroethane.

^h Expressed as Methylaniline.

ⁱ Expressed as 1,2-Dibromoethane.

^j Expressed as Ethylamine.

^k Expressed as Dichloroethane.

^l Expressed as Ethyl mercaptan.

^m Expressed as Dinitrobenzene.

ⁿ Expressed as Dipropyl ketone.

^o Expressed as Hydrazine.

^p Expressed as Ethylene oxide.

^q Expressed as Benzo[a]pyrene.

^r Expressed as Tetrachloroethane.

^s Expressed as *m, p*-Toluidine.

^t Expressed as Trichloromethane.

Table 14

Quality standards in drinking and groundwaters set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding standards defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Parameter	Unit	Drinking waters		Groundwaters	
		Vietnam ^a	Italy	Vietnam ^b	Italy ⁿ
Color	TCU ^f	15	Acceptable ^j		
Odor and taste		None	Acceptable ^j		
Turbidity	NTU ^g	2	1 ^j		
pH		6.5–8.5	6.5–8.5 ^k	5.5–8.5	
Hardness	mg L ⁻¹	300	100–500 ^j	500	
Total suspended solids	mg L ⁻¹	1000	25 ^k	1500	
Al	mg L ⁻¹	0.2	0.2 ^j		0.2
NH ₄ ⁺	mg L ⁻¹	3	0.5 ^j	0.1	
Sb	mg L ⁻¹	0.005	0.005 ^j		0.005
As	mg L ⁻¹	0.01	0.01 ^j	0.05	0.01
Ba	mg L ⁻¹	0.7	0.1 ^k		
B	mg L ⁻¹	0.3	1 ^j		1
Cd	mg L ⁻¹	0.003	0.001 ^k	0.005	0.005
Cl ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	250–300	200 ^k	250	
Cr ³⁺	mg L ⁻¹	0.05 ^j	0.05 ^j		
Cr ⁶⁺	mg L ⁻¹			0.05	0.005
Cu	mg L ⁻¹	1	0.02 ^k	1	1
CN ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	0.07	0.05 ^j	0.01	0.05
F ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	1.5	0.7–1 ^j	1	1.5
H ₂ S	mg L ⁻¹	0.05			
Fe	mg L ⁻¹	0.3	0.1 ^k	5	0.2
Pb	mg L ⁻¹	0.01	0.01 ^j	0.01	0.01
Mn	mg L ⁻¹	0.3	0.05 ^j	0.5	0.05
Hg	mg L ⁻¹	0.001	0.0005 ^k	0.001	0.001
Mo	mg L ⁻¹	0.07			
Ni	mg L ⁻¹	0.02	0.02 ^j		0.02

(continued on next page)

Table 14 (continued)

Parameter	Unit	Drinking waters		Groundwaters	
		Vietnam ^a	Italy	Vietnam ^b	Italy ⁿ
NO ₂ ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	3	0.5 ^j	1	0.5
NO ₃ ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	50	25 ^k	15	
Se	mg L ⁻¹	0.01	0.01 ^j	0.01	0.01
Na	mg L ⁻¹	200	200 ^l		
SO ₄ ²⁻	mg L ⁻¹	250	150 ^k	400	250
Zn	mg L ⁻¹	3	0.5 ^k	3	3
MnO ₄ ⁻	mg L ⁻¹	2			
COD ^f	mg L ⁻¹			4	
Carbon tetrachloride	µg L ⁻¹	2			
Dichloromethane	µg L ⁻¹	20			
1,2-Dichloroethane	µg L ⁻¹	30	3 ⁱ		3
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg L ⁻¹	2000			0.2
Vinyl chloride	µg L ⁻¹	5	0.5 ^j		0.5
1,2-Dichloroethene	µg L ⁻¹	50			60
Trichloroethylene	µg L ⁻¹	70	10 ^l		1.5
Tetrachloroethylene	µg L ⁻¹	40			1.1
Phenols	mg L ⁻¹	0.001		0.001	
Benzene	µg L ⁻¹	10	1		1
Toluene	µg L ⁻¹	700			15
Xylenes	µg L ⁻¹	500			10
Ethylbenzene	µg L ⁻¹	300			50
Styrene	µg L ⁻¹	20			25
Benzo[a]pyrene	µg L ⁻¹	0.7	0.01 ^j		0.01
Monochlorobenzene	µg L ⁻¹	300			40
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	µg L ⁻¹	1000			270
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	µg L ⁻¹	300			0.5
Trichlorobenzene	µg L ⁻¹	20			190
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	µg L ⁻¹	80			
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	µg L ⁻¹	8			
Acrylamide	µg L ⁻¹	0.5	0.1 ^j		0.1
Epichlorohydrin	µg L ⁻¹	0.4			
Hexachlorobutadiene	µg L ⁻¹	0.6			0.15
Aldrin + Dieldrin	µg L ⁻¹	0.03	0.06 ^j		0.06
Heptachlor + H. epoxide	µg L ⁻¹	0.03	0.06 ^j		
Alachlor	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		0.1
Aldicarb	µg L ⁻¹	10	0.1 ^j		
Atrazine	µg L ⁻¹	2	0.1 ^j		0.3
Bentazon	µg L ⁻¹	30	0.1 ^j		
Carbofuran	µg L ⁻¹	5	0.1 ^j		
Chlordane	µg L ⁻¹	0.2	0.1 ^j		0.1
Chlortoluron	µg L ⁻¹	30	0.1 ^j		
DDT	µg L ⁻¹	2	0.1 ^j		0.1
1,2-Dibromo-3- chloropropane	µg L ⁻¹	1	0.1 ^j		
2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	µg L ⁻¹	30	0.1 ^j		
1,2-Dichloropropane	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
1,3-Dichloropropene	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Hexachlorobenzene	µg L ⁻¹	1	0.1 ^j		0.01
Isoproturon	µg L ⁻¹	9	0.1 ^j		
Lindane	µg L ⁻¹	2	0.1 ^j		0.1
MCPA ^d	µg L ⁻¹	2	0.1 ^j		
Methoxychlor	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Metolachlor	µg L ⁻¹	10	0.1 ^j		
Molinate	µg L ⁻¹	6	0.1 ^j		
Pendimetalin	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Pentachlorophenol	µg L ⁻¹	9	0.1 ^j		
Permethrin	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Propanil	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Simazine	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
Trifluralin	µg L ⁻¹	20	0.1 ^j		
2,4-DB ^e	µg L ⁻¹	90	0.1 ^j		

Table 14 (continued)

Parameter	Unit	Drinking waters		Groundwaters	
		Vietnam ^a	Italy	Vietnam ^b	Italy ⁿ
Dichlorprop	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	100	0.1 ^j		
Fenoprop	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	9	0.1 ^j		
Mecoprop	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	10	0.1 ^j		
2,4,5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	9	0.1 ^j		
Monochloramine	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	3			
Chlorine residues	mg L^{-1}	0.3–0.5			
Bromate	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	25	10 ^j		
Chlorite	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	200	200 ^j		
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	200			
Formaldehyde	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	900			
Bromoform	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	100			
Dibromochloromethane	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	100	100 ^{i,m}		0.13
Bromodichloromethane	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	60			0.17
Chloroform	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	200			
Dichloroacetic acid	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	50			
Trichloroacetic acid	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	100			
Trichloroacetaldehyde	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	10			
Dichloroacetonitrile	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	90			
Dibromoacetonitrile	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	100			
Trichloroacetonitrile	$\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$	1			
Total α emission	Bq L^{-1}	0.11		0.1	
Total β emission	Bq L^{-1}	1.11		1	
<i>Escherichia Coli</i>	$\text{MPN}^h 100 \text{ mL}^{-1}$	0	0 ^j	0	
Coliforms	$\text{MPN}^h 100 \text{ mL}^{-1}$	0	0 ^j	3	

^a National Technical Regulation of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVNs 01:2009.

^b National Technical Regulation of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVNs 09:2008.

^c Chemical Oxygen Demand.

^d 2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid.

^e 4-(2,4-Dichlorophenoxy)butyric acid.

^f True Color Unit.

^g Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

^h Most Probable Number.

ⁱ Expressed as total Cr.

^j Annex 1, Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 31/2001.

^k Guide or imperative level in column A1, Table 1/A, Annex 2, Title III, Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 152/2006.

^l Expressed as sum of both compounds.

^m Expressed as sum of the three compounds.

ⁿ Table 2, Annex 5, Title V, Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 152/2006.

Table 15

Quality standards in sediments set by Vietnamese environmental regulations. Corresponding standards defined by the Italian laws are presented for comparison. Interpretation is fully provided in [1].

Parameter	Unit (on dry weight)	Vietnam ^a		Italy ^b
		Freshwater	Saline and brackish water	
As	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	14	41.6	20
Cd	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	3.5	4.2	2
Pb	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	91.3	112	100
Zn	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	315	271	150
Hg	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	0.5	0.7	1
Cr	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	90	160	150
Cu	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	197	108	120
Total Hydrocarbons	$\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$	100	100	60
Chlordane	ng g^{-1}	8.9	4.8	10
DDD	ng g^{-1}	8.5	7.8	10 ^c
DDE	ng g^{-1}	6.8	374	
DDT	ng g^{-1}	4.8	4.8	
Dieldrin	ng g^{-1}	6.7	4.3	10
Endrin	ng g^{-1}	62.4	62.4	10

(continued on next page)

Table 15 (continued)

Parameter	Unit (on dry weight)	Vietnam ^a		Italy ^b
		Freshwater	Saline and brackish water	
Heptachlor epoxide	ng g ⁻¹	2.7	2.7	
Lindane	ng g ⁻¹	1.4	1.0	10
Sum of PCBs	ng g ⁻¹	277	189	60
PCDD/Fs	pg g ^{-1d}	21.5	21.5	10
Acenaphthene	ng g ⁻¹	88.9	88.9	10,000 ^e
Acenaphthylene	ng g ⁻¹	128	128	
Anthracene	ng g ⁻¹	245	245	
Benzo[a]anthracene	ng g ⁻¹	385	693	500
Benzo[a]pyrene	ng g ⁻¹	782	763	100
Chrysene	ng g ⁻¹	862	846	5000
Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene	ng g ⁻¹	135	135	100
Fluoranthene	ng g ⁻¹	2355	1494	
Fluorene	ng g ⁻¹	144	144	
2-Methylnaphthalene	ng g ⁻¹	201	201	
Naphthalene	ng g ⁻¹	391	391	
Phenanthrene	ng g ⁻¹	515	544	
Pyrene	ng g ⁻¹	875	1398	5000

^a National Technical Regulation of Vietnam (*Quy Chuẩn Việt Nam*) QCVN 43:2012.

^b Column A, Table 1, Annex 5, Title V, Legislative Decree (*Decreto Legislativo*) D.Lgs. 152/2006.

^c As sum of DDD, DDT, and DDE.

^d As TEQs [3].

^e As sum of Benzo[a]anthracene, Benzo[a]pyrene, Benzo[b]fluoranthene, Benzo[k]fluoranthene, Benzo[g,h,i]perylene, Chrysene, Dibenzo[a,e]pyrene, Dibenzo[a,l]pyrene, Dibenzo[a,i]pyrene, Dibenzo[a,h]pyrene, Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene, Indeno[1,2,3-cd]perylene and Pyrene.

Quality standards and emission limits set by Vietnamese regulations have been compared with Italian ones (updated to October 2012; Tables 10–15). This choice was motivated by the fact that Italy has a longer history of industrial and economic development than Vietnam and has already faced environmental and health risks that Vietnam is presently requested to manage.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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