

SOIL CONTAMINATION AT A GLANCE

From the Legal Perspective

Definitions of Soil contamination

... is the increase in the content of substances and compounds compared to allowable legal limits defined by Vietnamese standards (TCVN) and Vietnamese regulations (QCVN).
(Definition after 35/2014/TT-BTNMT)

Contaminated land is an area of land with pollutants that exceed the levels allowed by the Environmental Technical Regulations School, which adversely affects the environment and public health.
(Definition after 72/020/QH14)

... is the occurrence of contaminants in soil above a certain level making it a chemical degradation. This in effect causes partial or total loss of soil functions. (...) A contaminated soil has exceeded its capacity for natural attenuation for one or more substances, and consequently passes from acting as a protector to cause adverse effects to the water system, the atmosphere, and organisms.
(Definition by the European Soil Data Center (ESDAC))

How Does it Relate to this Exhibition?

Since 2016, the Department of Natural Environment and Resources of the Province of Bac Ninh has been collaborating with partners from Germany on a series of projects aimed at systematically addressing soil contamination through knowledge transfer and capacity building.

This exhibition aims to raise awareness of soil contamination issues and demonstrate potential solutions for soil remediation and prevention.

All the posters always address a global perspective on specific topics of soil contamination and then exemplarily demonstrate the local means by real-world examples from Bắc Ninh province that have been addressed during the series of projects.

Sources

- FAO and UNEP (2021). *Global assessment of soil pollution: Report*. Rome.
<https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4894en>

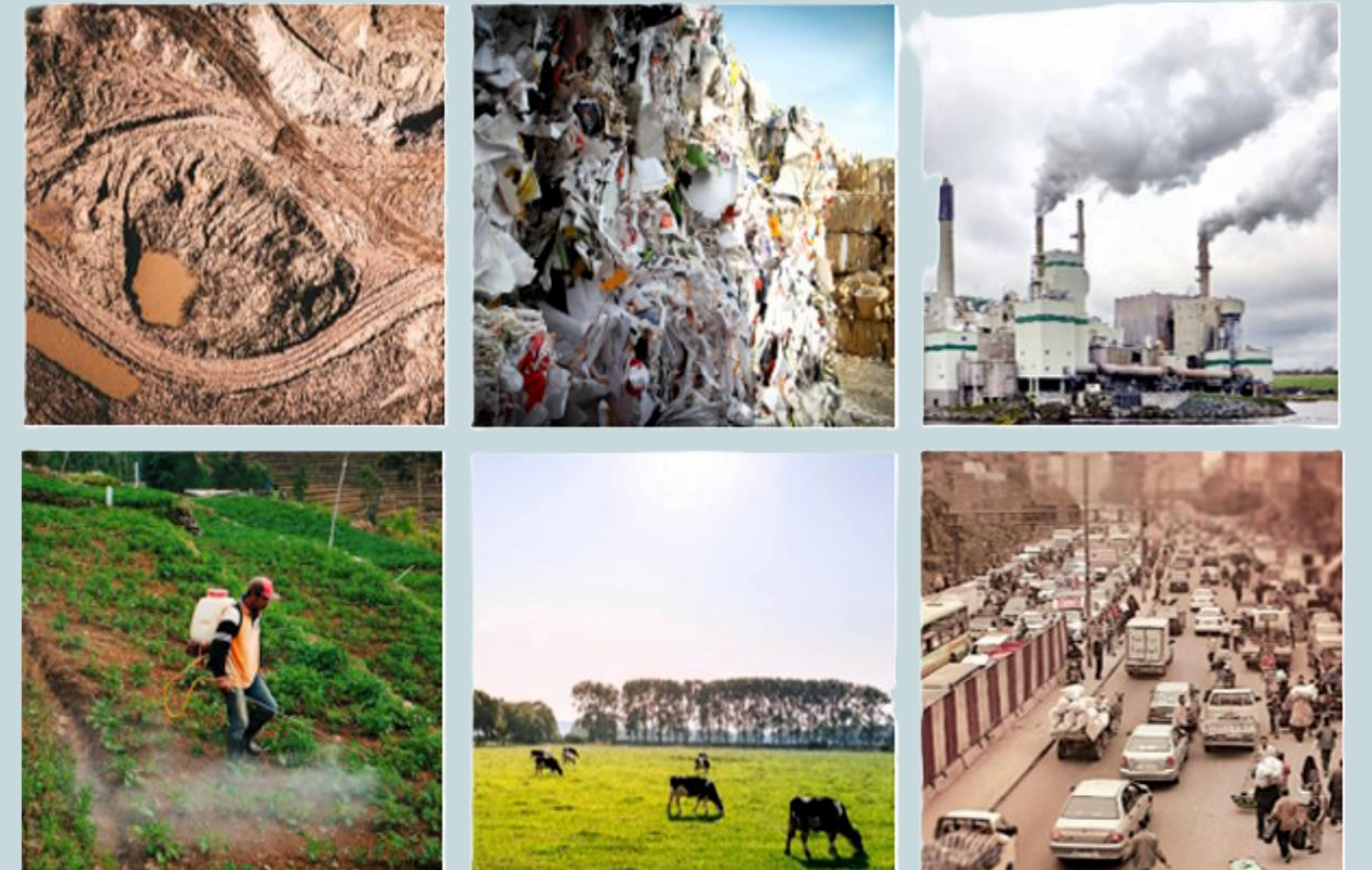
What it Means in Practice

Soil contamination has different sources

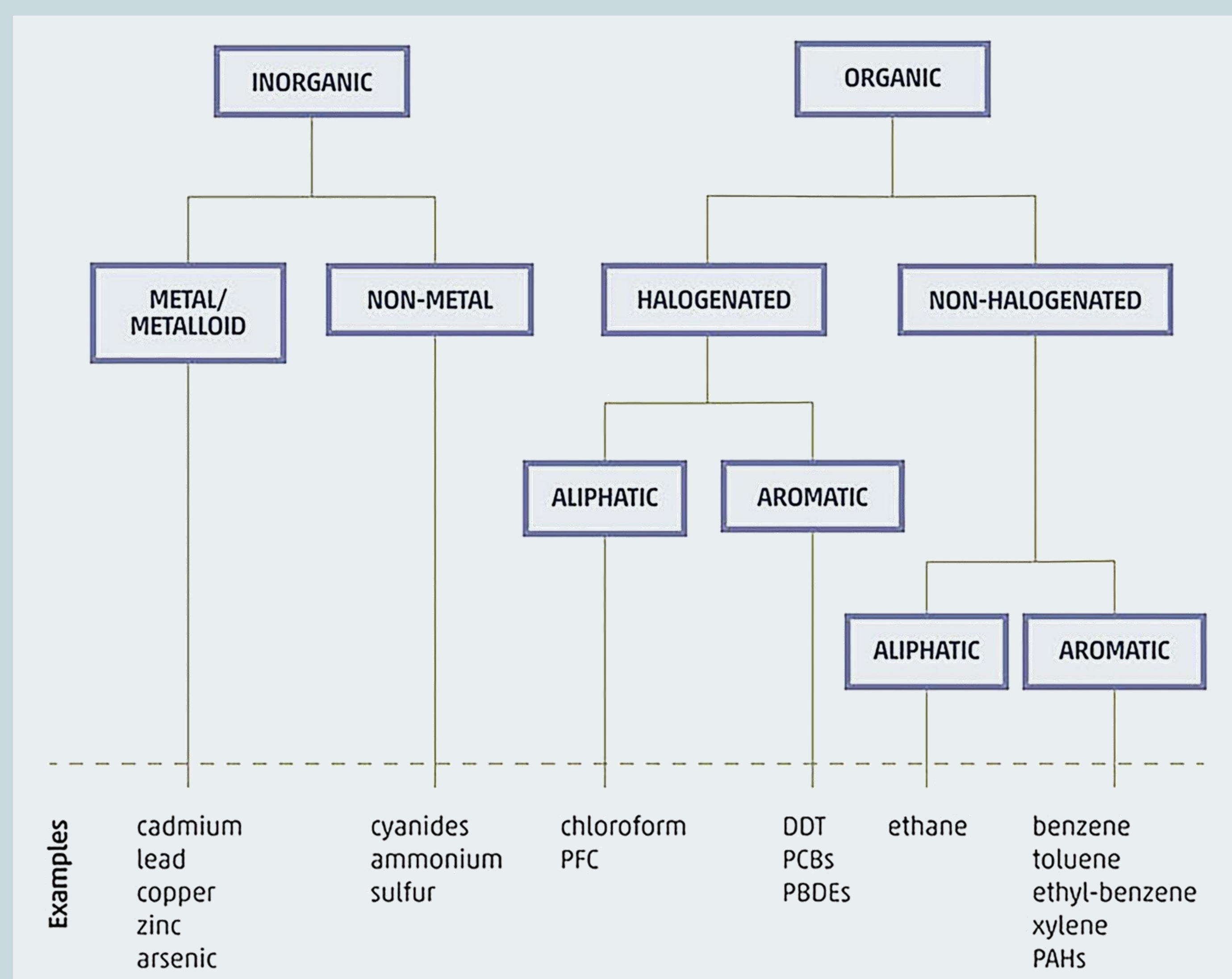
Natural Sources of Soil Contamination



Anthropogenic Sources of Soil Contamination



Regardless of the source, the main pollutants in soils can be systematically categorised into following categories:



Categories of chemicals that act as environmental contaminants according to the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

Source: FAO and UNEP (2021).

Soil Contamination is a Global Problem



The Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health developed this pollution map to raise global awareness of soil pollution, end the neglect of pollution-related diseases, and mobilisation of resources and political will are needed to tackle pollution effectively.

Source: <https://www.pollution.org/>



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