

Working together to mitigate marine plastic debris.



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PLASTIC SMARTCITIES



# PLASTIC PROGRAM NEWS

Issue 10 - Q4/2022





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# COMMUNICATIONS

(BMU)

# Project Annual Meeting

Activity code: 1.1.3.1\_2022



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The Project “Mitigating marine plastic debris in Viet Nam” was approved in 2020 and is currently being implemented in ten areas across nine provinces/cities. The Project’s involvement in the development of guidelines and the implementation of policy priorities regarding capacity building, communication campaigns, awareness raising, and behavior change has yielded several important outcomes. These outcomes are in line with the National

action plan for marine plastic debris management, which was published in Decision No. 1746/QĐ-TTg dated December 4, 2019 and Decision No. 1407/QĐ-TTg dated August 16, 2021 on the approval of Viet Nam’s active participation in the development of the Global Treaty on ocean plastic pollution. On October 25, 2022, the Project Annual Meeting was held in a hybrid format and well-attended with 80 delegates from state agencies and participating provinces/cities. This offered the opportunity to encourage direct communication, which strengthened collaboration efforts and accelerated project progress. During the discussion panel, delegates shared their thoughts on how to wrap up the Project’s activities from the previous year, reached an agreement on the next-year plan as well as recommended measures to increase project efficiency.

## Survey on the project communication effectiveness in 2022

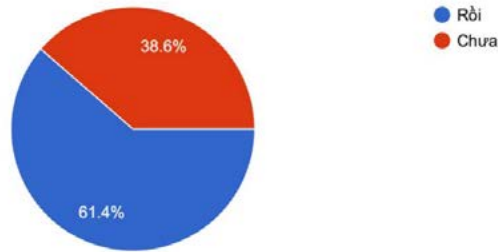
Activity code: 1.2.4.1\_2022

A survey was conducted to evaluate the communication effectiveness of the Project “Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris in Viet Nam” from January 2022 to the end of October 2022. The survey spanned November and December 2022 in two forms: an online survey with more than 200 respondents, and a group discussion

with 35 participants aged 18-35 (both male and female). The survey indicated that the Project’s messages were widely known and understood. The communication messages were persuasive, but they could be more effective if they were repeated more frequently and included a more direct call to action. The communication



Bạn đã từng nghe đến thông điệp 4T liên quan đến các vấn đề rác thải hay chưa?  
207 responses



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products developed for the Project were well received, particularly those introduced during the 31<sup>st</sup> Southeast Asian Games held in Viet Nam. Among the online group, 61.4% were aware of the 4T, and 89% found the messages persuasive in their call to reduce plastic waste (of which 48.4% believed that repeat exposure would

increase the messages' impact). While the survey results still have significant limits in terms of representativeness, they do show that the Project's communication campaigns in 2022 were successful in the pursuit of its goal of enhancing the role and power of plastic consumers.

## Communication program “Thousand years of plastic waste”

Activity code: 1.2.2.5\_2022

On November 5, 2022, the Project cooperated with the Institute of Strategy, Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE) to organize a communication program “Thousand years of plastic waste” at Big C Thang Long. The program united installation art and dance performance to recreate the unreasonable consumption of single-use plastic products that could harm people and the environment. Land Monster, Water Monster, and Air Monster on stage look both scary and sad, dramatizing effectively the consequences of the inherited habits of single-use plastic consumption. Once the wrath of these



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monsters was roused, Mother Nature herself made an appearance. Her grace and mercy calmed the monsters and bring back the green and peacefulness that the Earth had yearned for. Another aim of this program was to recognize the efforts of businesses in the Plastic Alliance – a group of retailers that pledge to reduce the use of plastic bags. For retailers joining the alliance, it means jointly implementing activities to reduce plastic bags and single-use plastic

products, such as: stopping giving out non-biodegradable plastic bags, stocking goods sold in environmentally friendly packaging, and setting up promotions to encourage customers to phase out plastic consumption. The Project is working with the Alliance and stakeholders to support these activities, raise awareness about the plastic crisis among consumers, and promote sustainable business and consumption practices, particularly during the end-of-year peak season.

## Communication activities in the press

Activity code: 1.1.2.2\_2022 & 1.2.1.1\_2022

### Sống Xanh



#### Kêu gọi hành động, đưa ra hiệp ước chấm dứt ô nhiễm nhựa 👉 1

Việc đàm phán một hiệp ước mới về ô nhiễm nhựa tạo cơ hội duy nhất để mở ra những thay đổi mang tính hệ thống trong nền kinh tế nhựa toàn cầu.

© VTC News



Nâng cao ý thức bảo vệ môi trường cho công nhân: Khi doanh nghiệp cùng vào cuộc



Giảm ô nhiễm nhựa – không thể trì hoãn

In Q4 2022, the Project continued to leverage the press to promote EPR deployment and green usage by raising public awareness about the law and encouraging a change in the behavior

of businesses and consumers. The Project supported VTC News to launch a new column called “Green Life” on their website. The new column is devoted to news about green life: the ongoing

trend, practical tips for reducing plastic waste, and inspiring stories about local communities, groups, unions, etc. that have adopted green lifestyles. (For more information: <https://vtc.vn/song-xanh-266.html>). Also, as the first session of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution took place in November and December 2022, the Project saw the need to step up the communication activities. The focus was Viet Nam's contribution to plastic reduction and the preparation of the Project's Management Board in the last year for the negotiation process. The Project also partnered with Natural Resources and Environment News and Humanitarian Magazine to release a series on Viet Nam's activities to implement

Decision No. 1407/QĐ-TTg dated August 16, 2021 by the Prime Minister on the approval of Viet Nam's active participation in the development of the Global Plastics Treaty; on the practical activities of all levels of governments and volunteers to phase out plastic pollution; on Viet Nam's policy for reducing marine pollution and advocating an internationally legally binding instrument: "The Prospects of a Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution". Stories about the success of the participating areas and the Project's support to the governments in policy development were also published in the Natural Resources and Environment News, recognizing the Project's dedication to collaborative efforts for a plastic-free ocean in Viet Nam.

## Workshop "Stakeholder consultation on the internationally binding instrument to end plastic pollution"

**Activity code: 1.1.6.3\_2022**

In order to capitalize on the attraction generated by part two of the 25th Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM25-2) of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia – COBSEA in Hanoi, Viet Nam from October 10-14, 2022 (and the 4th Meeting of the COBSEA Working Group on Marine Litter on October 10-11, 2022), the Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI) decided to organize workshop "Stakeholder consultation on the internationally binding instrument to end plastic pollution" on the

sidelines of IGM25-2 on October 11, 2022. The workshop was intended for state agencies, local authorities, and particularly businesses in the plastics industry to share their perspectives on an internationally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, as required by Resolution No. 5/14. It aimed at preparing Viet Nam for its participation in the first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-1) in Uruguay and outlining the roadmap to ensure that

Decision No. 1407/QĐ-TTg follows the Resolution and the negotiation process of the INC. 80 delegates attended the workshop (in person and online) were presented with the outcomes of the OWEG meeting in Dakar, the rules of procedure governing the INC's work

and decision-making and the agenda for the upcoming INC1. Following the introduction, delegates addressed the preparation for the UNEA-5 Resolution negotiation and implementation process, the work plan of Decision No. 1407/QĐ-TTg, and INC1's agenda.

## Technical meeting “Information sharing and marine debris database development to support Viet Nam’s participation in the negotiation for Global Plastics Treaty”

Activity code: 1.1.6.3\_2022

**T**echnical meeting “Information sharing and marine debris database development to support Viet Nam’s participation in the negotiation for Global Plastics Treaty”

As the first session of UN negotiations for a Global Plastics Treaty to end plastic pollution concluded in Uruguay on December 2, 2022, the Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI) decided to partner with the Project to organize a technical meeting “Information

sharing and Marine debris database development to support Viet Nam’s participation in the negotiation for Global Plastics Treaty” on December 14, 2022 in Hanoi. The meeting delved into the summary report of INC1 whose aim was to develop an internationally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, as well as the updates on the latest WWF report “Towards a Treaty to End Plastic Pollution: Global rules to solve a global problem”.

## Courses on marine plastic debris management at Hue University and Hanoi National University

Activity code: 1.3.2.2\_2022 & 1.3.2.3\_2022

Following the findings of the “Educational scheme on marine plastic debris management at the university level”, course content on marine plastic debris management has been finalized and

integrated into the undergraduate and graduate curricula at the University of Science – Hue University and Viet Nam National University, Hanoi since 2022. At Hue University, the Project



implemented numerous communication activities designed to provide students with information on marine plastic debris. The Project also contributed to the instructional materials for the course “Integrated coastal zone management” intended for Environmental Science majors at the University of Science, and the course “Introduction to Environmental Education” intended for non-majors. More communication activities will be carried out in the coming time. Meanwhile, at Viet Nam National University, Hanoi, the Project helped build a column specialized in marine plastic debris on the website of the Center for the Law of the Sea and International Maritime Law (SIMLAW), University of Law, Viet Nam National University, Hanoi ([www.simlawcenter.com](http://www.simlawcenter.com)) in order to diversify learning resources for students. Another good news was Viet Nam National University,



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Hanoi gave the green light to the inclusion of topics on marine plastic debris in two courses, namely “International Law” and “International Environment”, at the University of Law. Beginning in Q1 2023, “Administrative Law” would become the third course covering these topics. The Project also hosted various contests to encourage students to incorporate green habits into their daily life, avoid single-use plastics and use environmentally-friendly alternatives.

## Action plan to reduce plastic at Tan An High School for the Gifted, Long An province

Activity code: 1.3.3.1\_2022



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The Project “Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris in Viet Nam” was initiated to address the root causes of plastic pollution. Developing and implementing communication campaigns aimed at reducing plastic use is a central focus, and this includes efforts in Tan An city, Long An province. In Q4 2022, the Project worked with Tan An High School for the Gifted, school administrators and environmental clubs to design plastic-free

programs that emphasize waste sorting and plastics reduction practices through awareness-raising and capacity-building activities, communication campaigns and contests, and extracurricular programs. With collaboration with partners, the Project provided a variety of supports, including organizing an awareness-raising

and capacity-building training session on waste sorting and plastic reduction practices, conducting waste audits and providing tailored recommendations/solutions, running communication activities targeting teachers and students, as well as providing 175 trash bins.

## Organizing extracurricular activities regarding plastic waste and providing trash bins to 15 schools in Da Nang city

Activity code: 1.3.3.1\_2022

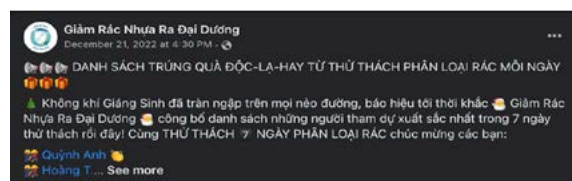
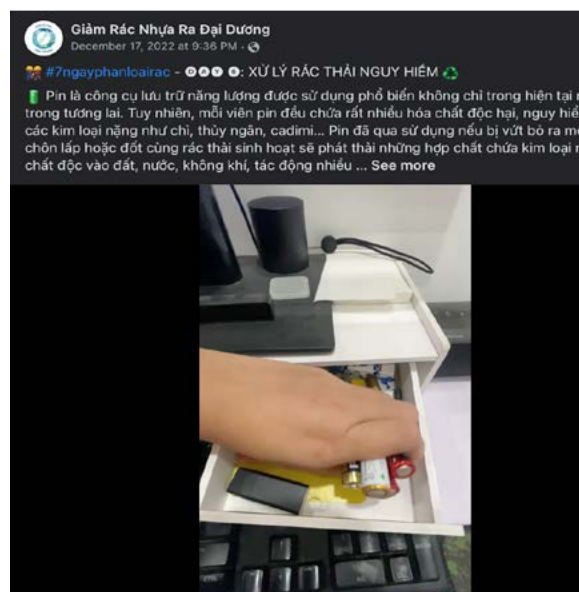
In order to raise awareness about plastic waste pollution, and increase schools' engagement in protecting the environment, the Project cooperated with Thanh Khe district, Da Nang city, and the Viet Nam Association for Conservation of Nature and Environment (VACNE) to organize various extracurricular activities at 15 schools in December 2022. Although the weather was not in their favor, 1830 teachers and students still went all out at the event. There were 30 recycling bins given out, along with hundreds of educational resources. The Project not only arranged training activities and provided guidelines on waste collection, sorting, recycling, and treatment to realize the goals of eliminating environmental pollution, and protecting human health and the ecological environment, but also helped schools put newly-learned knowledge into action by supporting the waste collection and sorting activities at school. More than 156 kg of recyclable waste (plastics, paper, and metal) were collected.



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## “Waste sorting challenge” on the Project’s fan page

Activity code: 1.1.2.1\_2022



In February 2021, the Project started a fan page on Facebook called “Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris in Viet Nam” and instantly attracted people who recognize the urgency of marine pollution and seek out ways to make a difference. From February 2021 to October 2022, the fan page had a total of 11,179 followers and 10,599 likes. In December 2022, the Project run a campaign called “Waste sorting challenge” on the fanpage, aiming at introducing the proper ways to sort waste at source. This challenge involved

sorting waste for 7 days in a row and posting photos or videos with the hashtag #7ngayphanloairac and descriptive captions (e.g., sort waste at home; sort waste at work, at schools; recycle and reuse sorted waste; make fertilizer and animal feed from waste; handle hazardous waste such as batteries, medical waste; get friends, families, and neighbors join the challenge). The campaign garnered 127 posts and drove over 50,000 views, indicating an initial shift in consumer mindset and behavior.

## Developing a data system for the annual national report on marine plastic debris

Activity code: 1.2.2.4\_2022

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), through Global Environmental Data Strategy, has emphasized the

importance of collecting, storing, processing, aggregating, and analyzing environmental data, particularly data

on plastic waste, and the employment of digital advancement in national and international efforts. In keeping with the UNEP's vision, the Project pursues the development of a database on marine plastic debris in Viet Nam. In 2022, in addition to supporting the management and operation of the database, the Project started to develop a data system that helps inform national reports on marine plastic debris. The national report is a timely and useful source of information for the management and protection of the marine and island environment, driving the goals of preventing, controlling, and reducing marine pollution, leading the region on the journey of reducing marine plastic debris (as requested by Resolution No. 36-NQ/TW dated October 22, 2018) and keeping up with international moves. Among the completed tasks are:

- Surveying and proposing the structure of data to be displayed in the National report on the current status of marine plastic debris.
- Exploring the current marine debris monitoring database and determining how to migrate data from stakeholders to Viet Nam's own database. Analyzing the collected information and proposing

procedures for migrating and connecting different databases on marine plastic debris.

- Developing a data collection plan employing both local and foreign bodies; the implementation time, implementation agenda, governing body, coordinating bodies, and particularly providers of marine debris data (including a detailed description of the data structure), need to be clearly determined.

In 2023, the activities to be followed and completed include:

- Build and deploy a software system to serve the reality of data communication and processing on a digital platform, helping to improve the efficiency and benefits of deploying and operating a database platform, including a set of API Interfaces and a system capable of processing big data about ocean plastic waste on a digital platform.
- Build a visual data representation software system (Dashboard) that allows displaying multi-dimensional data based on recommendations on the data to be shown in the national report on the current state of ocean plastic waste .

## Website updates with many new features

**Activity code: 1.1.2.3\_2022**

Since October 2020, the Project has operated a portal called [www.giamracnhua.vn](http://www.giamracnhua.vn) to share information about its activities, which include

communication campaigns, business advocacy, education, and press relations, etc. In Q4 2022, the Project upgraded the website to add a more modern vibe to the



user interface. The latest news from the Project's fan page now can be promptly posted on the website. The articles from the "Green Living" column of VTC News, and plastics-related columns of Natural Resources and Environment News can also be fed directly to the news section of the website. A new section, Success story, was launched to feature the solutions,

initiatives, and lessons learned from the implementation of the Project in 10 participating areas, thereby helping inform Viet Nam's policies for reducing plastic waste and becoming a source of inspiration for other provinces/cities. For more information: <https://giamracnhua.vn/bai-hoc-thanh-cong/>

## The Press Award Ceremony on "Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris"

Activity code: 1.1.5.2\_2022

On 25 October 2022, The Project with the Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Island (VASI), WWF-Viet Nam, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), VTC News have organized the Award Ceremony of Press Award on Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris. This award honoured reporters/journalists with achievements in marine environmental protection and includes an ASEAN photo contest.

The Press Award on "Mitigating Marine Plastic Debris" is held annually from 2021, with the aim of promoting information to raise awareness on current alarming environmental problem with an emphasis on ocean plastic pollution. This is in recognition and encouragement for entrants who have excellent journalistic work to promote information on reducing ocean plastic pollution. Thereby, it helps to emphasize the key role of the press to reduce ocean plastic pollution



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to significantly improve the quality and to increase media coverage on plastic pollution.

This year, the Press Award received 312 submissions by 70 authors from 19 provinces and cities across the country. The Photo Contest received thousands of submissions, in which more than 7,500 photos were submitted by 2,700 authors from countries spanning across Southeast Asia (Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Cambodia) in the pre-selection round.

# Training on “Film making camp - Telling stories by videos”

Activity code: 1.1.8.2\_2021



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In October 2022, the Project cooperated with Phu Quoc Youth Union to organize a training on “Film making camp - Telling stories by videos” to improve the capacity of the Phu Quoc Youth Union as well as 60 students and teachers from 3 high schools in Phu Quoc city. Through the training session, union members were provided with useful knowledge about the current situation of plastic waste in Phu Quoc, the impact of plastic waste. The training course provided for participants with skills to retell plastic reduction and youth movement activities at schools with visual video stories at their school. At the end of the training course, 09 videos have been completed, with creative expression and content with impressive messages about plastic reduction action.



# **POLICY AND EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY**

**(BMU)**

## Sharing at Regional workshop on the management of marine plastic pollution and EPR in Viet Nam

Activity code: 2.2.4.1\_2022

On October 18, 2022, at the invitation of WWF-Germany and Wipro Consumer Care & Lighting (WCCL), the Project representative joined a workshop on circular economy and EPR mechanism as a speaker. This annual workshop by WIPRO Group was held offline in Malaysia in 2022, with representatives of 10 SEA countries joining online. Manufacturers, managers, technicians, and operators in the FMCG & Packaging industries took up many participants. Other WWF offices in the region (WWF-Malaysia,

WWF-Philippines, WWF-China, WWF International) also participated in the event. The Project represented WWF-Viet Nam to provide an overview of plastic waste management and EPR deployment in Viet Nam in recent years, helping other countries and businesses understand Viet Nam's policies, unlock new opportunities for investment and market expansion, and promote globally sustainable production and management.

## Researching on the recycling practices in Viet Nam and identifying solutions to plastic recycling

Activity code: 2.1.3.1\_2022

As a part of the cooperation between the Project and the Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE) in 2022 to guide the implementation of policies and share insights on EPR, a study named "Research and investigation on recycling situation and recommendation on measures to accelerate plastic waste recycling in Viet Nam" was conducted from May to October 2022. The study's objectives were to review and systematize existing policies on plastic recycling; to provide an overview evaluation of existing

recycling technologies in Viet Nam and around the world; to survey 15 businesses in three regions of the North, Central, and South to understand the advantages and disadvantages of recycling sector and develop tailored solutions to promote plastic recycling in Viet Nam. A policy brief based on the study will be finalized and shared with regulators, businesses, and other stakeholders to offer practical perspectives on the process of increasing plastic recycling and facilitating the shift to a circular economy in Viet Nam.



## Determining the standard recycling cost (Fs) for each type of product and packaging

Activity code: 2.1.2.1\_2022



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The study “Support on surveys to determine the cost of product and packaging recycling (Fs) for each type of product and packaging” was the following technical support of the Project to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to deliver its commitment to helping Viet Nam develop the EPR mechanism. The study’s methodology involved desk research and a survey of 18 representative businesses. The collected data was then used to develop a formula for calculating a recycling cost norm (Fs) for the plastics sector. The study findings were discussed with state agencies and

shared with regulators and businesses at related workshops and meetings in order to help the Project evaluate the practicality of its solutions on Fs and EPR. In December, at the consultation workshops of the Department of Legal Affairs in Hanoi (December 15, 2022) and Ho Chi Minh City (December 22, 2022) with the participation of delegates from ministries, local authorities, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, associations, businesses specializing in waste recycling and treatment, manufacturers and importers, the Project’s consultant as well had chance to present the study outcomes. This study was the Project’s first attempt at supporting the development of Decision of the Prime Minister on the recycling cost norm (Fs) for each type of product and packaging. The Project will continue to support the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in the implementation of EPR in Viet Nam.

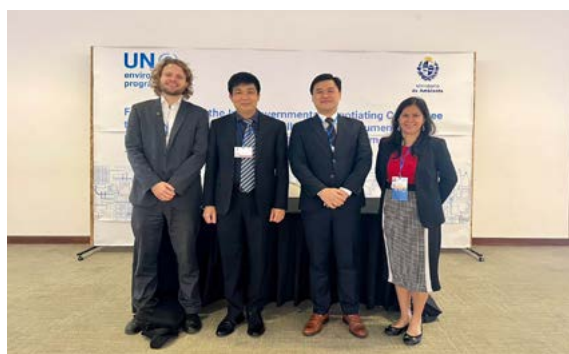
## Supporting the Viet Nameese delegation at the first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-1)

Activity code: 2.3.1.4\_2022\_VASI

The first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for Global Plastics Treaty was held in Uruguay from November

24 to December 2, 2022 (including side events). In order to support the Viet Nameese delegation, the Project shared numerous documents and reports from

WWF-International, including the report “Towards a treaty to end plastic pollution” and other relevant documents, helping the delegation have all the reference information for the negotiation process. The Project funded the business trip of two delegates of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment according to the 2022 work plan. The Project called for the participation of Viet Nameese delegates at the region workshop initiated by WWF-APAC on October 27, 2022 for for like-minded countries to share perspective,



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position before INC-1, as well as provided aggregated information to assist the delegates to have good preparation for the international negotiation process.

## Evaluating the policy impacts of obligations and commitments under the Global Plastics Treaty based on proposed scenarios and options

**Activity code: 2.3.1.2\_2022\_VASI**

Committed to providing technical support to Viet Nam’s preparation for and participation in the negotiation process for the Global Plastics Treaty, the Project guided the study “Assessment of potential policy impacts when Viet Nam participates in the negotiation, signing and implementation of the Global Treaty on Marine Plastic” conducted from September to December 2022. Based on the analysis and evaluation results, the study identified four groups of general policies in respect of the

life cycle of plastics: environment protection, technology, economy, and production & sustainable development; and noted policies that were subject to major impacts and required change and adjustment. The study report is expected to accommodate regulators and policymakers in their consideration of incorporating international regulations into domestic law, given Viet Nam’s participation in the negotiation process and future Global Plastics Treaty.



# PLASTIC SMART CITIES

(BMU)

## Reviewing the model on mobilizing fishermen to bring back waste to the shore

Activity code: 3.3.2.5\_2022

The model of “Raising awareness and mobilizing fishermen to bring back waste to the shore” has been implemented in Bao Ninh commune, Quang Phu commune and Hai Thanh ward, Dong Hoi city from August 2021 to December 2022.

There are 75 environmental communicators have been trained, 60 people equipped with the net sewing techniques and the commitment to bring back waste to the shore of 400 boats. During the implementation of the model, there were 8 training courses to propagate on environment protection and reducing plastic waste, reuse 550 kg of old/broken nets into waste bags and shopping bags. Especially, 800 kg of recyclable waste/month was brought back and collected after fishing, in which plastic waste accounts for 160 kg/month. The fund from selling recyclable waste was used by communes’ women union to support the poor and disadvantages, sponsor orphans, visit fishermen



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who are in distress or illness. With such positive social and environmental implications, the model has gained great support from all the local stakeholders.

On December 13, a workshop was held to review the model’s implementation, achievements, and experiences in Dong Hoi City. The workshop had the participation of management agencies of Quang Binh province, Dong Hoi city, and multi-stakeholders from 3 piloting sites. A lot of practical recommendations to continue maintaining and accelerating the models’ impacts were shared and discussed fruitfully.

## Replicating the model of household-based waste sorting and treatment in the city of Rach Gia

Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2021

Waste is an important resource in its own right. Maximizing the waste collection rate is critical for reducing

pressure on the environment and lowering the share of waste treatment costs in the state budget. In Rach Gia



city, the authorities are working hard to prepare for the city-wide household-based implementation of waste sorting, as mandated by Law on Environmental Protection 2020. In an effort to help, the Project cooperated with Rach Gia Women's Union to pilot the model of waste sorting and treatment at households. By the end of December 2022, 22 communication trainings were organized, instructing more than 600 households in 22 communes/wards on how to waste sorting at home, as well as produce and

use indigenous microorganisms (IMO). The aim of these trainings was to reduce the amount of organic waste sent to the city's collection and treatment system, and the volume of chemicals used. In the areas having low collection rates (such as Phi Tho commune – 15%, Vinh Thong ward – 25%, and Vinh Hiep ward – 65%), capacity-building and awareness-raising for better household-based waste management and treatment will make a meaningful difference.

## Expanding the waste collection route in Rach Gia city

**Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2021**

As the economic and political center of Kien Giang province, Rach Gia city has been working on improving waste collection and environmental protection over the course of many years and achieved a variety of positive results. However, the city still struggles to find ways to increase the waste collection rate at three communes/wards: Phi Tho commune with a rate of 15%, Vinh Thong ward with 25%, and Vinh Hiep ward with 65%. Due to their location in rural/suburban areas with low population densities, narrow roads, and an abundance of canals, these communes/wards pose many significant challenges. In places that have no designated collection sites, burning waste or dumping waste directly into rivers and canals are the most common waste disposal options, and also the most common causes of waste leakage into the environment. In order to



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address this issue, the Project has worked with the Rach Gia city People's Committee to expand the waste collection routes in these areas. In December 2022, after consulting local stakeholders to identify options and collection vehicles/containers that can maneuver through narrow roads, the Project chose to give 18 trash bins (with handles) to the aforementioned three communes/wards. The next steps will be evaluating the effectiveness and developing a broader plan.

## Finalizing the pilot model of water hyacinth treatment in Rach Gia city

Activity code: 3.3.2.3\_2021



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**W**ater hyacinth can be useful, for example as a nutrient supplement for soil and plants. However, a lack of proper utilization practices has made water hyacinth viewed as an environmental issue. In 2022, the Project worked with Kind Arms Co., Ltd. – a social enterprise – to pilot the use of water hyacinth as green manure. The results show that green manure from water hyacinth is an effective resource in agriculture due to its ability to improve

soil porosity and water-holding capacity, as well as to retain soil moisture and protect soil from heat. Water hyacinth can also be fed to livestock and poultry after being incubated with IMO, helping reduce feed costs. However, as harvesting and grinding water hyacinth currently are done manually and on a small scale, products made from water hyacinth easily lose competitiveness with other products and are only suitable for household use.

## Festival “Thanh Khe youth join hands to save the environment”

Activity code: 3.3.2.3\_2021

**T**he festival “Thanh Khe children and youth join hands to save the environment” was held on November 27, 2022 at Park 29/3 by Thanh Khe district Youth Union, Office of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Project. By joining the festival, nearly 400

union members, children, and youth had the opportunity to explore numerous interesting activities, such as drawing pictures about the environment; learning how to collect post-sorted waste; joining an idea contest on solid waste sorting and collection; and more. It was expected



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that the participants would have gained knowledge, increased their awareness, and changed their behaviors in ways that would minimize plastic waste leakage and eliminate the use of disposable plastic products that are harmful to the environment, particularly the marine environment.

## Training on communication skills for key members of the Women's Union of Thanh Khe district, Da Nang city

From November 9-11, 2022, in collaboration with Thanh Khe district Women's Union (WU), the Project organized a training course for key members of WU on communication skills for environmental protection and plastic waste reduction. A total of 171 heads and deputy heads of the WU from 10 wards of Thanh Khe district attended the course. A survey was conducted after the training, which revealed that most trainees were satisfied with the course and wanted additional training so that they could improve their capacity and



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better contribute to protecting the local environment. On this occasion, the Project gifted the WU 300 market mesh bags to emphasize the importance of reducing single-use plastic waste.

## Encouraging fishermen in Thanh Khe district, Da Nang city to commit to reducing plastic waste and bringing waste to shore

**Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2021**

In December 2022, the Office of Natural Resources and Environment and Office of Economics in Thanh Khe district conducted a set of actions to encourage

fishermen in three wards (Thanh Khe Dong, Thanh Khe Tay, and Xuan Ha) to commit to reducing plastic waste and bringing waste ashore. This aimed to





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raise awareness of the fishing community, and encourage fishermen to translate awareness into action by reducing plastic waste generation, collecting waste produced on board, and delivering them back to the land. The 350 fishing vessels made up of 100 offshore vessels (over 6m in length) and 250 inshore vessels (basket boats) have signed the commitments and mounted the rules on the vessels. The

Project also provided necessary items and equipment to help fishermen capture and retain waste on board: - For basket boats: 250 leaf rakes and 250 net bags; - For offshore vessels: 100 net bags; - For coastal areas along Phu Loc river: 08 trash bins (4 twin bins for recycled waste and broken fishing gears, and 4 bins of 240 liters), these bins would be the collection points for the fishermen. The Project also promoted the “Green River” initiative of the Community group for protecting aquatic resources and environment in Thanh Khe district by financing the fuel costs of their 5 vessels which are tasked with collecting waste along Phu Loc River every month.

## Consultation on eco-labels at Han market, Da Nang city

Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2022

As a part of the “Implementation plan on a pilot model of plastic waste reduction at Han market in 2022”, on December 7, 2022, the Project cooperated with the Department of Industry and Trade in Da Nang city to organize a stakeholder consultation workshop in order to receive feedback and finalize the report “Building a set of criteria for ecological stalls at Han market, Da Nang city”. The Department of Industry and Trade concluded the workshop by requesting coordinated units to accelerate the progress of the report and



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inform the Department's decision on the set of criteria for ecological stalls and pilot application of criteria at Han market in Q1 2023. Earlier this year, in November, the Project also worked with the Management Board of Han market to convince 18 small businesses (key group) to commit to participating in the model of "Eco stalls" and reducing single-use plastic bags.

Other supports from the Project in the pilot application of eco-labeling include: helping design and install the signboards (with energy-saving led lights); providing eco-friendly alternatives (large-size mica boxes, cloth bags, paper bags, bamboo baskets) to replace disposable plastic bags; and providing communication products (paper fans).

## Green & Clean Schools and Administration Offices Competition in the mountainous district of A Luoi

Activity code: 3.4.2.1\_2022



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In order to raise the population's awareness regarding reducing plastic waste, protecting the environment, and adopting a green lifestyle, A Luoi district Youth Union and the Project worked together to host a competition called "Green & Clean School and Administration Office" in 2022. To be qualified for the competition, the schools and enterprises/units in A Luoi district had to have a set of solutions going, for example: stopping using single-use plastic bottles in all meetings; collecting and sorting waste

at source; arranging or planting trees/flowers in the offices/schools; putting in place regulations and promoting a wider participation of employees/teachers/students in reducing the use of plastic bags and single-use products; etc. It was imperative that these actions be recorded clearly in the submitted videos and images. 15 agencies and offices, 13 People's Committees of communes/towns, and 28 schools sent applications. The "1 million paper bags", "compost pits", "waste sorting bins", and "clean plastic bag collection boxes" are a few of the awe-inspiring ideas and models that have been put into practice.

## Workshop on Consulting on solutions to reduce pollution from the Hong Thuong Landfill

Activity code: 3.3.2.6\_2022

On October 6, 2022, the Project cooperated with A Luoi District People's Committee to organize a Workshop on Consulting on solutions to reduce pollution from the Hong Thuong Landfill. The workshop had the participation and comments of 23 delegates from departments of A Luoi district, Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Thua Thien Hue province, project representatives and consulting group. The consultant has absorbed the comments and advices in the workshop and completed the survey research report and proposed solutions on pollution reduction of Hong Thuong Landfill. Accordingly, the proposed solutions include:

- (1) Treating and renovating the existing Hong Thuong landfill to become a sanitary landfill and continue to operate because the landfill still has capacity.
- (2) Digging up old waste, transporting it and treating it in the Dong Son Disposal Area - the new waste treatment facility in A Luoi.



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(3) Digging and removing old waste from Hong Thuong Landfill and delivering it to treatment Phu Son Incineration Plant: This is also the option that is considered the most feasible to implement.

The consulting team has detailed the waste treatment plan by incineration and completed the report to hand it over to the locality as a basis for the planning for pollution reduction of Hong Thuong Landfill in the near future.

## Improving the collection system in the mountainous district of A Luoi

Activity code: 3.3.2.3\_2022

In order to contribute to the improvement and expansion of the collection system in the mountainous

district of A Luoi, in October 2022, the project handed over to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment of A



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Luoi district 50 waste bins with a capacity of 120 liters to serve the collection, classified in public areas; 100 waste bins with a capacity of 60 liters located in offices; 10 trolleys support waste collection at extended roads in Hong Kim and Quang Nham communes. In the coming time, the locality will continue to use the budget for environmental causes to improve the collection system in A Luoi district, contributing to building a green - clean mountainous district and minimizing waste leak to the environment.

## Training for community tourism groups of A Luoi District

Activity code: 3.3.2.2\_2022

From October 10-13, 2022, the project conducted training on communication on environmental protection and plastic waste for 85 representatives from community tourism groups and individuals in A Luoi. After participating in the training, the trainees has been applying them to the operation activities at their community and become an advocate for tourists on environmental protection and plastic waste reduction.



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Also at this training course, the project combined the content of waste sorting, production and application of indigenous microorganisms (IMO) in life and waste treatment. After finishing the training, the community tourism groups have initially applied IMO to create tourism products such as fermented fruit juice or applied IMO in organic waste and animal droppings treatment. .



## Workshop to consult on an action plan to reduce plastic waste in the period 2022-2023

Activity code: 3.3.1.1\_2022



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On October 28, Ha Tinh City People's Committee held a workshop to evaluate plastic waste reduction activities in the area and consulted on an action plan to reduce plastic waste in the period

2022-2023. The workshop was attended by 48 delegates from departments under Ha Tinh city PC. The comments and suggestions of the departments are the basis for the City to develop a detailed plan for 2023.

On December 9, 2022, Ha Tinh City People's Committee issued Document No. 2998/UBND-TNMT on the implementation of the action plan on plastic waste management in 2022-2023, directing the agencies directly in the city to implements a plan to reduce plastic.

## Enhancing collection of plant protection product packaging in Ha Tinh

Activity code: 3.3.2.4\_2022

In an effort to collect plant protection product packaging in the field to minimize the leak of plastic waste and hazardous waste in the environment, in 2022 the project has coordinated with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and Farmers' Union of Ha Tinh City built 105 storage tanks with a volume of 0.5-0.6 m<sup>3</sup> in the field; provide 80 sets of work protective gear (protective clothing, hats, boots, glasses, masks, gloves); support 08 equipment to transport the packaging to the gathering tanks for transportation and treatment.



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The tanks in other areas within the city will be invested by the People's Committee of the city and wards.



In the coming time, the project will continue to support the construction of 08 big tanks to concentrate the packaging before transporting for treatment. The Farmers' Union is responsible for collecting packaging from small tanks in the field to centralized storage tanks. The Department

of Natural Resources and Environment is responsible for performing a contract with a functional unit to collect and process all the packaging in accordance with laws and regulations related to hazardous waste management.

## Replicating the model of household waste separation and post-sorting organic waste treatment in Ha Tinh, A Luoi

Activity code: 3.3.2.4\_2022



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From August to December 2022, the project cooperated with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and the Women's Union in Ha Tinh city and A Luoi district to implement a model of waste separation, post-sorting organic waste treatment.

The models have been implementing and have many positive impacts and are the basis for local replication.

1. The household waste separation model has been popularized in 15 wards and communes in Ha Tinh city. Based on the knowledge of waste separation, production and application of Indigenous Microbiology (IMO), the members of the City Women's Union have applied it to treatment organic waste and animal waste. Through the content shared of each ward and commune, more and more members participate in the model and achieve high efficiency in organic waste treatment from household and livestock waste.

2. In A Luoi, the movement of 1 organic waste hole for each house, 1 green tree for each waste hole was launched, encouraging households to sort waste and use organic waste to plant trees. Combining more knowledge from the production and application of Indigenous Microorganisms (IMO), households in the

wards and communes of A Luoi district have applied self-produced organic fertilizers to cultivation, livestock and farm waste treatment. The initial step of simple

and highly effective IMO production is an important factor in encouraging households to participate and replicate the model throughout the district.

## The model of waste transfer point is first implemented in Phu Yen

Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2021

In order to improve the waste management in An My commune, Tuy An district, the project cooperated with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Phu Yen province and the People's Committee of Tuy An district to build a waste transfer station in An My commune. The project supported the locality to build a waste transfer point with an area of 60 m<sup>2</sup> (with a corrugated iron wall and concrete foundation to limit leakage of waste and wastewater), 12 trolleys with a capacity of 660 liters to collect waste, installation of 02 surveillance cameras in the area to improve the management and fines for illegal dumping. At the same time, the project also supports painting murals to propagate environmental protection, waste separation and reducing plastic waste in the area of corrugated iron walls surrounding the transit point and planting 5 trees to create landscapes in the area.

The project was handed over to An My commune government in December 2022 to operate, monitor and report on



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environmental protection at the green transfer point. This is a model that has received a lot of attention and response from not only the government but also the people living in the areas. Before the waste transfer point was built, this area often occurred indiscriminate dumping, open burning of waste, causing loss of urban beauty and affecting people's quality of life. The model of waste transfer point (also known as green gathering station) was first implemented in Thanh Khe district, Da Nang city. Up to now, with resources from the project, this model has been replicated to 5 more locations in other project areas such as Rach Gia, A Luoi, Phu Yen...

# Implementing the model of household waste separation and post-sorting organic waste treatment at Phu Yen

Activity code: 3.3.2.1\_2022



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Implementation of the coordination plan between 5 parties including: Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Phu Yen province, Tuy Hoa City People's Committee, Phu Yen Urban Environment Joint Stock Company (Urenco Phu Yen), Centre for Supporting Green Development (GreenHub) and WWF-Viet Nam on the implementation of the model of waste separation in the ward 7 market, separate collection of organic waste and composting at Tho Vuc Landfill, GreenHub and WWF-Viet Nam contributed 5 composting tanks with a volume of 10 m<sup>3</sup>/tank in 2022. Urenco Phu Yen will continue to contribute the construction of the roof for the composting area and the cost of separate collection and production of organic fertilizer. It is expected that in February 2023 the model will start to be deployed, the model implementation time is 6 months. Urenco Phu Yen will

report the results of the model to the City People's Committee, Department of Natural Resources and Environment as a basis for supporting, maintaining and building a pricing mechanism for the implementation of waste separation in larger scales.

The model will receive organic waste from 150 households in Ward 7 for composting. The coordination between the market model and the household in Ward 7 is a test step for separate collection, assessment of treatment efficiency and cost of the model of waste separation, separate collection and post-sorting waste treatment, from there, it is possible to develop a more suitable management plan when expanding the scale of waste management according to the prescribed route.

# Replicating the model of waste sorting and organic waste treatment in Phu Yen province

Activity code: 3.3.2.3\_2021

In 2022, Phu Yen province focused on implementing the waste separation model with a variety of partners. The models have yielded several positive outcomes, facilitating participation among local partners and community support.

In December 2022, the Project continues to accompany local partners to expand this model. Details include:

- For the model of waste separation and organic trash bins usage, after evaluating the first 10 households that joined the model in July 2022, the Project and Ward 7 Women's Union agreed to invite 20 more households. The Project provided 20 composting bins to Ward 7 Women's Union in order to support the replication.
- For the model of community-based organic waste treatment, the Project provided the Office of Natural Resources and Environment of Phu Hoa district with 4 compost tanks with a capacity of 700 liters/tank, which were placed in residential areas of N03, N07, and Bau Duc market in Phu Hoa town. Besides its original goal of reducing the amount of waste for collection, the model of community-based organic waste treatment also aims to raise awareness among the population in waste treatment and environmental protection. The model is operated by the Dong Din Cooperative,



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and the resulting fertilizer will be used for green projects in Phu Hoa town or given away for free to households in need.

- Waste separation training for households in An Phu commune was carried out in November 2022 within the framework of the project's cooperation and support with the initiative of An Phu commune union to collect separately sorted organic waste for testing worm farm. Currently, the Youth Union of An Phu commune is collecting and treating about 60-100kg of organic waste from An Phu market every day. In the coming time, the model is expected to expand, collect more organic waste from households that have been trained and households that have been mobilized by the locality.



## Workshop on sharing best practices and enhancing the role of women in plastic waste management and reduction

Activity code: 3.4.1.1\_2022



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In collaboration with Phu Yen province Women Union, a workshop on sharing best practices and enhancing the role of women in plastic waste management and reduction was held in 17-18 November 2022. There are about 50 participants from women union of the project's site such as Con Dao, Rach Gia, Phu Quoc, Ha Tinh, A Luoi, Phu Yen, Cu Lao Cham, Thua

Thien Hue, and other social organization and enterprises who also work in the same area. This workshop was a chance for the participants to share with each other their experiences, lesson learn, achievements and obstacles as well as to appreciate the women's effort in handling this hot but difficult issue of the modern life - waste management. Within the workshop program, there was also a field trip to visit different models in Phu Yen such as making enzyme dishwashing liquid from organic waste (fruits) by Binh Ngoc commune Women Union, raising earthworm from market's organic waste by An Phu commune Youth Union and composting organic waste at community level by Dong Din Cooperative.

## Highlights from the plastic waste free school

Activity code: 3.4.2.4\_2021 and 3.4.2.6\_2021

This Quarter remarks a great milestone in implementing the activity of plastic waste free school at the sites. In Thanh Khe, 3 schools who already issued the Action Plan have had implemented all the activities with the technical support from Center for Adaptive Capacity Building (CAB) and the Project. Teachers and students have gained a lot of information



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and involved in practical activities such as waste audit, gardening with composting and IMO production, contest about environment and plastic waste topic, etc. The model was also expanded to 3 new schools in Thanh Khe. Similar activities was also replicated in Phu Yen with 5 schools implementing the Action plan and 8 more joining the model. In Rach Gia, the

model is well implemented in 5 schools. Especially, all schools principal board has issued the policy related to plastic waste reduction, focusing on: no printed hiflex banner/poster, no SUP bottle in meeting, no balloons in events at schools, no or reduce nylon book covers, and reduce SUP at canteen as much as possible.



**FISHERIES  
AND MARINE  
PROTECTED AREA**  
(BMU)

## Beach Waste Monitoring (8<sup>th</sup>)

Activity code: 4.5.1.1\_2022

In 2022, the beach waste monitoring program was run for the fourth year in a row by WWF-Viet Nam, the IUCN, GreenHub, and 11 MPAs. With the support of the Project, Phu Quoc National Park, Con Dao National Park, and Cham Island MPA completed their eighth monitoring (season 2, 2022) on October 26-28, November 15-17, and November 13-15, respectively. Following the monitoring, Phu Quoc National Park gathered a total of 59.9 kg of waste, while Con Dao National Park was 99.23 kg and Cham Island MPA was 350.2 kg. The composition of beach



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waste showed that plastic waste stills occupied the biggest share, with nearly 70-80% of the total weight and more than 90% of the total quantity.

## Monitoring plastic waste on the surface of coral reefs (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Activity code: 4.5.1.1\_2022



© Con Dao National Park

Using the method learned in the Integrated Training Course for Effective Management of Marine Protected Areas/National Parks in Viet Nam, Phu National Park staff National Park, Con Dao National Park, and Cham Island MPA conducted the second monitoring on the surface of coral reefs in October and November 2022. According to the final audit in 2022. Phu Quoc had 78% of the total weight of plastic garbage on reefs, Con Dao had 83% of the total weight and 79% of the total quantity, and Cham Island had 67% of the total weight and 27% of the total quantity.



## Collecting marine waste on the coral reefs

Activity code: 4.5.1.1\_2022

After monitoring plastic waste on the reef's surface, 3 MPAs transitioned to collecting underwater waste. In 2022, the combined weight of the waste collected twice from Phu Quoc and Cham Island was 1,859.2 kg and 35 kg respectively. At Con Dao MPA, 7 coral reefs were included in the waste collection operation, which took place over the course of 21 working days spread between the months of Q2, Q3, and Q4. 1,931 kg worth of waste was gathered. In short, 3 MPAs collected a



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total of 3,825 kg of marine debris, greatly improving ocean health.

## Training on video storytelling for the Management Board of Con Dao National Park

Activity code: 4.5.1.1\_2022



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On October 7 and 8, 2022, the Project organized a training course on video storytelling for 24 officials of the Management Board of Con Dao National Park. This course focused on building capacity for the officials to ensure their communication messages

on reducing single-use plastic and avoiding plastic products reach both local and international tourists. During the course, the officials had the opportunity to learn the skills of how to harness the power of video storytelling: filming with a smartphone, photo-editing, idea building and communication message designing. The official also had their video reviewed by experts. After two days of training, officials now can make their own short films and play their part in promoting practices of reducing plastics, protecting the environment, and preserving the forest ecosystem in Con Dao. In fact, 5 short films have been made since the training, showcasing Con Dao

National Park’s efforts on environmental education, sustainable eco-tourism development, and single-use plastic reduction. The course also encouraged

active participation among officials in promoting the broader concept of “Con Dao – Plastic Smart City”.

## Workshop “Practicing waste separation and plastic waste reduction in business activities”

Activity code: 4.5.3.1\_2022

On December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022, the Project collaborated with People’s Committee Con Dao to organize a workshop “Practicing waste separation and plastic waste reduction in business activities” in Con Dao, with the participation of Vice President People’s Committee Con Dao district, the representatives of National Park Con Dao, National Monuments Conservation Center Con Dao, representatives of departments, with more than 51 representatives of enterprises in hospitality & tourism, hotel, transportations (Cano), coffee shop, restaurants and flower shops,...

Enterprises are the key factors that create the impacts of socio-economic-environment to Con Dao, to achieve the goal of economic development while ensuring the goal of marine ecosystem conservation in Con Dao. The theme of workshop aimed to provide the current pollution of plastic waste and waste management in Con Dao, and the representatives of enterprises also had the opportunity to share about their efforts to reduce plastic waste and implement waste separation in their



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business activities. At the discussion session, participants raised challenge and difficulty to make the transform to “greener” and proposed solutions to accompany and to take an action with local authorities to well implement regulations on waste separation at source and reduce plastic waste that is consistent to context of Con Dao.

End of workshop, representatives of businesses in Hospitality & Tourism, Transportation (canoes) services signed a commitment to implement the practice of plastic waste reduction and waste separation at source, aiming to build Con Dao to become a destination without plastic waste in nature by 2030.

## Collecting marine waste at public beaches in Con Dao district

Activity code: 4.5.1.3\_2022



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In Con Dao district, northeast monsoon and trade wind from October to February presents certain challenges, dragging a large volume of waste from the ocean to the beaches (Dam Trau beach, the road along the Ben Dam port, the road from the central to Bai Nhat beach, and the road from Bai Vong beach to Suoi Ot Reservoir). In Q3 and Q4 2022, to fulfill the cooperation agreement with the Project on collecting marine waste at public beaches, the Management Board of Public Works of Con Dao district stepped up their waste collection operation. After

27 days, more than 1,570 m<sup>3</sup> of waste was collected (or about 58.15 m<sup>3</sup> of waste per day). Plastic waste (e.g., plastic water bottles, foam buoys, plastic buoys, fishing nets, plastic bags, etc.) accounted for 70% of marine waste. The remaining 30% came from rubber scraps, wood, fishing vessel wrecks, glass scraps, electronic waste, and batteries. The current status of the public beach in Con Dao district is raising an alarm: tons of marine debris are piling up and being covered by sand, and no action has been taken to address the problem.

Although collecting marine waste can only offer partial help, nevertheless important enough to keep up. In 2023, the Project will keep working with the Management Board of Public Works of Con Dao district to clean up the marine waste in order to prevent waste overload, as well as encourage the Management Board to go with the waste separation option.

## Implementing a communication program on household-based waste separation and plastic waste reduction

Activity code: 4.4.3.2\_2022

In Q4 2022, in order to implement the model of “Residential area to reduce plastic waste and waste separation at source”, the Project and the Office of

Natural Resources and Environment of Con Dao district organized 7 communication workshops for 5 residential areas and attracted the attendance of 240

households. The workshop focused on educating the public on how to identify different types of household waste; how to classify waste into organic waste, recyclable waste, and other waste; as well as how to treat waste through a number of common methods. Households also were encouraged to apply the knowledge at home and join the model of “greenhouse” which requires recyclables collection and plastic bag reduction. The Project also printed 1,300 leaflets with instructions for waste separation at source. In 2023, the Project will continue to support residential area No. 5 to develop the



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model “Residential area to reduce plastic waste and waste separation at source”, thereby replicating the model in other areas.

## Continue to implement the communication program to separate waste at source for households

**Activity code: 4.2.1.2**



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The awareness raising activities on waste separation at source at the community level were continuously implemented in Duong To and Duong Dong by The project, in collaboration with Phu Quoc Office of Natural Resource and Environment (ONRE). Details are as follows:

- On October 10 to October 14, 9 community meetings were held with the participation of 168 local people
- On November 1, 1 community meeting was held with the participation of 23 local people

Those meetings provided local people with information on Environmental Law No.77/2020/QH14 and Decree No.45/2022/ND-CP on Providing penalties for administrative violations against regulations on environmental protection, as well as it call for action on waste separation at source and single-used plastic reduction.



# Communication model of waste separation and plastic reduction through Participatory Action Oriented Training (PAOT) method” in Phu Quoc

Activity code: 4.2.3.3

Action-based learning method is an approach that fosters initiatives depending on local resources and voluntary actions of the local population who contribute their own abilities and powers to address common issues and make immediate improvements. This method has been applied in many fields of health, education, rural development, child safety and injury prevention, clean water and sanitation, climate change, etc. Within the framework of the Project, the action-based learning method is used to change households’ behaviors to reduce plastic usage by empowering individualism – meaning every action counts. As women are primarily responsible for the waste disposal practices of the household, it is important that women are trained and aware about the need to change the way their families handle waste. Therefore, the Project and the Women’s Union collaborated to launch the model “Applying action-based learning methods to call for communities’ participation in waste sorting and plastic reduction”, starting in January 2022. The model includes various capacity-building courses for reporters and campaigners, community meetings and canvassing to gain their agreement to join the model. In terms of training courses, the Project trained and improved communication skills for 17 reporters and



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26 campaigners from 8/9 communes and wards of Phu Quoc city as they are the key team of communication campaigns. In terms of communication activities, from May to August 2022, 27 residential groups were established and more than 700 households agreed to reduce their use of plastics. When the Project and coordinating units visited these households, most of them stayed true to their commitments: sorting waste at home and taking advantage of recycled waste, improving waste reduction practices, and using reusable bags when going to the market.

On 18 October 2022, in Phu Quoc Island, 80 women who are the core staff of the Women’s Union in Phu Quoc city joined a workshop “Preliminary workshop of communication model of waste separation and plastic reduction through Participatory Action Oriented Training (PAOT) Method ” in Phu Quoc.



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The workshop discussed the results of communication activities used PAOT method in Phu Quoc in 2022. Participants were divided in groups to discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT analysis) of the PAOT method. Some lessons learned have

shared for improvements and other visions for applying the PAOT method for the next year.

Various reused products from plastic waste were displayed in the workshop by the Woman Union members in 8 communes/wards. The participants also shared successful and inspirational stories in reducing plastic and separating waste at source in the community.

The workshop honored dynamic propagandists and local “plastic heroes” who have made excellent contributions to the plastic reduction and waste separation at source in Phu Quoc Island.

## Meeting of the Standing committee for implementation of the marine plastic debris management plan in Phu Quoc city

**Activity code: 4.2.2.1**

On November 22, 2022, the Standing committee for implementation of the marine plastic debris management plan in Phu Quoc city (Standing committee) held a meeting to review the activities according to Plan No. 652/KH-UBND dated December 23, 2021 by the People’s Committee of Phu Quoc city on the implementation of the action plan on marine plastic debris management in 2022. At the meeting, the representative of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment gave an update on the results and discussed their goals for 2023. Members of the Standing committee recognized the Project’s help with Plan No. 652/KH-UBND, and expected



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the continuation through 2023. There was also a representative from the program “Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO)” who attended and presented the framework of the project on waste sorting at source for Phu Quoc city. This CCBO-funding project will be completed and piloted in 2023.

# The launching event of the plastic reduction school model at Nguyen Trung Truc High School, Phu Quoc city

Activity code: 4.5.5.1



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On December 4th, 2022, the project “Mitigating marine plastic debris in Viet Nam”, WWF-Viet Nam collaborated with Phu Quoc Education & Training Department and Nguyen Trung Truc Primary and Secondary School to hold a launching ceremony for a plastic reduction school model. The event was highlighted with the participation of representatives of Phu Quoc Department of Education & Training, the school management board along with all teachers and more than 600 students.

The launching event provided students with knowledge about single-used plastic and plastic waste, the results of the school’s waste auditing activity as well

as information on the plastic reduction school model. Through games focusing on waste separation and single-used plastic reduction, the students have opportunities to learn together about the need for behavior change in terms of waste separation at source, single-used plastic reduction, reuse and recycling. The launching event ended with a large-scale group picture that shows the great commitment of students and teachers of Nguyen Trung Truc Primary and Secondary School to tackle the issue of plastic waste and turn the school into a plastic reduction school.

After the event, there are a series of interesting activities will be developed and implemented during the school year 2022-2023, such as the launching of designing a poster on waste separation, an extracurricular program, a communication program, and follow-up waste collection facilities at school, combined with issuing regulations and action programs. All efforts are to help the school effectively manage waste and reduce plastic waste in school.

## Mô hình Cá Dép bảo vệ môi trường

Activity code: 4.2.3.4

This fish model is 3 metres long and 2 metres high. It is made from 280 kgs of used plastic shoes and flip-flops collected from Phu Quoc beach by a group of youth volunteers. This fish model is a demonstration by Phu Quoc's young generation of current plastic waste challenges and the importance for local people and tourists to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic debris waste. In the coming time, those plastic shoes and flip-flops will be washed, painted, and given to local people and tourists as souvenirs. Hotels are also encouraged to reuse them as hotel flip-flops. These are the activities



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of a 3 months project called “Phu Quoc, a paradise of plastic shoes”, involving the local Youth Union in the movement to reduce marine plastic debris, within the framework of the Project.

## Implement the project of environmental protection in fisheries activities

Activity code: 4.1.5.2\_2022

On November 23, 2022, the Directorate of Fisheries (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) held a conference to discuss solutions to the implementation of the environmental project in fisheries activities in the period of 2021 - 2030 in Can Tho. The project was approved under Decision No. 911/QD-TTg dated July 29, 2022). Identifying the seafood industry as both an agent and a party affected by the problem of ocean plastic waste, since the beginning of implementation in 2020, the Project to reduce ocean plastic waste in Viet

Nam has accompanied the industry. Fisheries in many activities to reduce the impact of plastic waste. At the above conference, the representative of the project also shared about the efforts to contribute to the fisheries sector, such as supporting the development of action plans for the fisheries sector (2020-2021); Communication campaign “Eliminate ghost fishing gear” (2021); Pilot model of boats and fishing ports implemented under the MARPOL convention at Tho Quang port - Da Nang (2022); Research on the mechanism of exchanging plastic



waste for fishing vessels: international and domestic experiences and policy proposals for Viet Nam (2022-2023) and many activities to support communication as well as solutions to reduce plastic for fishing vessels. The fisherman statue has been implemented by the project in many localities.

In the coming time, the project will continue to look for opportunities and resources to accompany the Directorate of Fisheries in implementing the project of environmental protection in fisheries activities, especially marine waste management, in order to contribute to the common effort to improve the quality of the environment, protect the oceans, people's livelihoods and health.



**PROJECT**  
**“HUE - A PLASTIC**  
**SMART CITY IN CENTRAL**  
**VIET NAM”**

**(TVA)**

## Launching the first collective group of scrap buyer in Hue City

Activity code: 4.2.2

The informal workforce plays an important role in the waste collection system in Viet Nam. According to the study of the Hue TVA project, recyclable waste is collected mostly based on informal collectors in Hue City. These people are mostly underprivileged, not highly educated women. The scrap buyers in Hue are not received free health insurance or other welfare. Currently, there is a lack of a group that cooperates and supports each other in the informal collector's field.

On December 7, 2022, Thua Thien Hue Woman's Union with the support of the TVA Hue project launched An Dong ward's collective group of scrap buyers - the first collective group of scrap buyers in Hue City.



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With 11 core members. The collective group will contribute to improving the health, livelihoods, and working conditions of the scrap buyers in the An Dong ward.

With the initiative, we hope that this collective group model will achieve its goals in the coming time and inspire the community to replicate the model in the whole of Hue city. To promote sustainable recycling and increase social recognition of the role of the informal collectors

## Hue fishermen “Bring waste to shore” after each fishing trip

Activity code: 1.4.3

On November 18, 2022, the Project in collaboration with the Management Board of Thua Thien Hue Fishing Port organized a propaganda workshop for more than 40 fishermen from prestigious trade unions. credit in the communes/wards of Hue city and surrounding areas. The workshop disseminates content on the problem of ocean plastic waste

pollution and propagates to fishermen how to reduce plastic waste, contributing to protecting aquatic resources and developing sustainable fisheries. At the workshop, the project provided netted bags containing plastic waste for fishermen to install in fishing boats and bring back to shore. Collecting waste from the sea to the shore and turning waste into money



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is the trend of fishermen today. The fact that offshore fishing vessels collect used recyclables such as cans, plastic bottles, and plastic bags and bring them to shore has both contributed to protecting the marine environment, protecting aquatic resources, and protecting the marine environment as well as getting extra income from the sale of recycled bottles. This is a part of a whole plan to change the behaviour of local people in Thuan An regarding plastic waste. In a move for more sustainable seafood resources and to protect the environment, the TVA Hue project will also support Thua Thien Hue fishing ports management board in building Thuan An as a “green” port.

## Opening the first refill station in Hue

### Activity code: 1.4.3

To encourage local people from reducing throwing away containers which usually are plastic, two businesses are offering a refill model to protect the environment and give containers a new cycle of life. The initiatives are supported by the Hue TVA project and Hue Farmer’s Union.

Green Net Company Limited (Address: 73 Thach Han) and Hue Local Farmer’s sales store (Address: 32 Phung Hung) sell eco-friendly products without packaging by refilling containers. Customers not only get a discount on the total purchase bill but encourage everyone to join hands to protect the environment.



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The containers of shampoo, hand sanitizer, fish sauce, cooking oil, etc which usually throw away by customers after use leads to a lot of plastic waste as customers have to buy them over and over again, refill stations in Hue are a solution to cut down on that waste. This



will be the first step to form an ecological lifestyle and ecological consumption, in order to reduce plastic waste in sales

activities in the city and thereby change consumers' perceptions and habits.

## Launching Plastic reduction working group in Hue and the campaign of “Smart consumers willing to reduce plastic” on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Activity code: 1.4.2



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On the morning of December 18, 2022, at Thua Thien Hue Innovation Hub (53 Nguyen Hue, Hue City), the project collaborated with Hue Innovation Hub held the Launching Ceremony of a Plastic reduction working group in Hue city. The group has established for synergizing public and private entities that work toward the achievement of reducing plastic waste leakage and promoting Hue to become a Plastic Smart City. The very first 12 members have attended in the launching ceremony. Besides, TVA project has also launched a campaign “ Smart consumers willing to reduce plastic” to motivate “Bring your own” practice for shopping. The campaign has targeted users and F&B establishments, up to 1,300 people have committed to reduce plastic use, and 16 establishments joined. In one hand, it will create a habit of bring

their own stuffs (bags, bottles, food containers,...). On the other hand, the campaign has called for the companion of the Beverage establishments by provision of free upsize/discounts for those who bring their own for shopping.

The event also brings participants many special activities such as: experiencing the plastic ocean art space; visit recycling booths and especially shop in the new form of purchasing the first “refill station” in Hue with products of natural origin and environmentally friendly.



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In addition, it is impossible not to mention an activity that shows the value of waste, which is the activity “Exchange garbage for gifts”. Each event attendee is encouraged to bring personal items such as bags, water bottles, bottles... to receive attractive incentives and gifts.

# The Project Annual Meeting 2022

Activity code: 1.3.8

The TVA project conducted an annual workshop to evaluate the progress of the implementation in 2022 (On December 23, 2022).

Attending the workshop were leaders of Hue City and related Departments of the province; leaders of wards, communes' people's committees; representatives of mass organizations, including Women's Union, Farmer's Union at the city; and other related associations.

The workshop evaluated the project's activities, gathered lessons learned, identified factors leading to improved success and sustainability, and discussed challenges and impact.

Since launching stage 2 of the project in May 2022, the TVA project has implemented in 24 wards and communes in Hue city. As a result, in 2022, 14 tons of waste were collected, including more than 1 ton of plastic waste; 9,000 students benefited from the project's activities; and more than 4,000 people were communicated directly about waste separation at source and plastic reduction.



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Regarding business activities, the project has connected with many public and private entities to build a network of partners to reduce plastic. Among them are the launching ceremony of the Plastic reduction working group in Hue and the event "Smart consumers willing to reduce plastic".

At the workshop, the delegates discussed and evaluated the project implementation results in 2022 as well as discussed the implementation direction in 2023, in which the focus was on the implementation of waste separation at source, with the expectation of better implementing plastic reduction activities for the city, aiming to build Hue into a plastic smart city by 2024.





For more information please contact:

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