BUILDING A SOCIALIZED MODEL OF DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT IN HOI AN

PROJECT NUMBER VN/SGP/OP4/Y3/CORE/10/07
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Hoi An ancient town, a tourist city generates approximately 75 tons of waste every day from households, restaurants, hotels, markets, schools, offices, streets and public places. Domestic waste is categorized into 3 basic types: recycled waste collected by scrappers and sold to scrap facilities; bio-degradable waste; and persistent waste. Previously, almost all waste generated was mixed together instead of being separated into different types.

Waste collection is conducted mainly by Hoi An Public Works Agency, self-management collecting groups, and local scrappers. In addition, there is still a considerable amount of uncontrolled waste disposed around the city in abandoned land areas, rivers, beaches, etc.

The project “Building a socialized model of domestic waste management in Hoi An” received support from GEFSGP, with the objective to meet
long-term goals of Hoi An city waste management strategy, contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of domestic waste management, environmental protection, and sustainable development of Hoi An world’s cultural heritage. At the same time, it aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

**OBJECTIVES**

1. **Strengthen the socialized management of domestic waste in Hoi An city;**

2. Develop a model of collecting, disposing and sorting domestic waste, with participation of communities and people, scrap collectors and buyers;

3. Review and evaluate the results; replicate the model; propose policy recommendations.

**Key Activities**

1. In consultation with relevant stakeholders, the project coordinated with the Office of Natural Resources and Environment (ONRE) and Hoi An Public Works Agency (PWA) to guide waste collection, disposal and sorting in several agency offices; piloted sorting at 5 locations; provided sorting equipment; monitored, evaluated and proposed recommendations.

2. Integrated advocacy on domestic waste management in local cultural events, television and radio; organized 01 contest on waste collection, disposal and sorting initiatives; organized the Green Friday (1 hour for a cleaner Hoi An); organized 04 training courses on domestic waste collection, sorting and disposal skills; organized 04 dialogues among city stakeholders on domestic waste and environmental management.

3. Surveyed waste collectors and trader in Hoi An vicinity; established 5 collecting, disposing, and sorting groups, with organizational support from the Women’s Union, and technical and financial support from the project; developed action plans for these groups.
4. Established an organizational and managing mechanism for groups participating in the project; organized 06 communications training courses on waste collection, disposal and sorting; organized 04 dialogues among stakeholders (ONRE, PWA, buyers); organized the procurement of equipment (bicycles, scooters); developed and disbursed loans to the group members.

5. Organized monthly meeting among 4 groups participating in the project; monitored and provided technical support for the groups; gathered information and assessed the model results; compiled policy recommendations report to support the scrap purchasing groups; organized training on technology, provided technical support on collecting, recycling and environmental treatment for waste collection facilities.

6. Compiled, appraised, and disseminated technical documents; developed recommendations report on policy issues to strengthen domestic waste management in Hoi An.

The objective is to meet long-term goals of Hoi An city waste management strategy, contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of domestic waste management, environmental protection, and sustainable development of Hoi An world’s cultural heritage.
RESULTS

I. Waste collection is well organized and managed

1. Project established 04 community organizations including the waste trader group of 7 people; trolley waste collector group of 26 people; waste loan group of 16 people; and bicycle waste collector group of 37 people.

Waste trader group: members are purchasing agents that buy from the street collectors. Currently, there are 17 recycled waste purchasing facilities. Most facilities are working with each facility. The project has organized...
study trip in Hue for 23 waste trader and commune/ward government staff to obtain more experiences in waste collection and processing

*Loan, trolley and bicycle groups:* members are the women waste collectors residing in Hoi An city, these women (from 16 households) were equipped with 27 trolleys, 35 bicycles, loans, the total disbursed loans was VND 146.3 million, and participated in communications training courses to help expand working zone and enhance knowledge for advocacy of environmental protection in the community.

The enhanced capacity resulted in the increased amount of recycled waste collected as well as their income. When the waster collectors integrated advocacy in the collection process, the average number of customers increased by 39.9% per day, the collected waste increased by 56.1%, and the revenue increased by 41.8%.

2. Domestic waste was classified at its source into 3 main types including biodegradable waste used for producing compost, recycled waste for sale to factories, and persistent waste to be disposed in landfill. The amount of waste at the landfill was reduced by more than 70%, reducing overloading and burning issues, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to glocal climate change mitigation.
3. Supported community-based models of the Women’s Unions, in order to strengthen the collection, sorting and disposal of domestic waste.

Through the “3 clean” model in 13 communes and wards; “Household waste basket” model in Tan An and Cam Thanh; “Waste sorting group at source” model in Cam Kim; “Women’s self shopping cart” in Minh An, people were mobilized to actively participate in the waste collection and sorting at source, minimized the use of and moving toward non-use of plastic bags.

In addition, the Union integrated environment protection advocacy in activities, such as contest, quiz, and dialogue on the impact of waste on the environment and community health.

II. Social Impact

1. The project integrated advocacy on domestic waste management in the local cultural events, through news on TV and radio, as well as contest on waste collection, disposal and sorting initiatives; organized the Green Friday (1 hour for a cleaner Hoi An). From October 2011 to date, media programmes on waste separation and environmental protection was broadcast 6 times per week, on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
2. The project organized 04 training courses on domestic waste collection, sorting and disposal skills; organized 04 dialogues among city stakeholders on domestic waste and environmental management. Total number of participants was 668 people.

3. The project has contributed to raising community awareness and capacity in environmental protection, and mobilized people to effectively manage and sort domestic waste, hence reducing the amount of waste disposed to the city landfill.

4. The models implemented in conjunction with activities of the Women's Union has been highly effective: addressing several issues, raising community awareness in participating in environmental protection activities, increasing the amount of sorted waste, and creating operational funds.

5. Through the direct support for the poor households, the women waste collectors received loans, which in turn created a harmony between economic interests and environmental protection. The borrowers were aware of the loan purpose and focused on expanding their activities, hence showed the effective use of the loan as well as increased income to make timely payment of principals and interests. Besides, these women received support of trolleys and bicycles, which helped to increase the amount of recycled waste collected, and contribute to protecting the environment and improving their quality of life.

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6. The model of socialized waste co-management in Hoi An has been an example model that mobilized the whole society for addressing local waste management problems. Through surveying and assessing of the model benefits, the community has confirmed the most significant result of cooperation to share responsibility for waste management, ensuring a clean environment of the heritage site and surroundings, attracting more tourists to create more favorable livelihoods conditions.

7. The project has developed a dynamic communications team equipped with knowledge in environmental protection. This is an important human resource of the Union as well as the city. Additionally, people health has been better protected, especially the people of Cam Ha.

8. The model in Cam Thanh and Thanh Ha wards was developed into the pilot model of waste sorting and enforcing domestic waste management regulations of the city; supported Hoi An Market Management Board to advocate, monitor, and evaluate the programme “to minimize the use of plastic bags at Hoi An market”; supported Minh An ward to construct the “global citizen road section” along Tran Phu road in Hoi An.

III. Economic Impact

- Improving and protecting the environment in a sustainable way have contributed to the development and promotion of tourism in Hoi An, namely the “bio-cultural tourism”, a key economic sector of Hoi An.

- The loan support activities helped women waste collector to increase income, increase capital, transition from street vendors to establishing facilities with larger-scale business, thereby increase the amount of recycled waste and reduce the amount of waste disposed to the landfill.
1. After the project completed, Cam Thanh commune remains an example of ecotourism of the city. And the model has been replicated in other localities such as Thanh Ha, Minh An, Cam Kim.

2. The project results have been researched and studied by students in local as well as national universities. A number of international cooperation programmes such as JICA also has collaborated with Hoi An city to further improve the quality of environmental protection, especially the domestic waste management.
3. Mobilized the participation of organizations and individuals in the domestic waste management in Hoi An; Strengthened waste management capacity of the authorities in communes and mass organizations in Hoi An;

4. The community-based model of collecting, sorting and disposing domestic waste continue to be implement and improved, with lessons learnt for replicating in other areas of Hoi An; the waster collectors are organized into associations and groups (5 groups of 10 people) with the ability to expand waste management activities based on the increase in waste collected;

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