



PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLEAN REGIONAL WATERWAYS

Plastics pollution is a serious issue along highly populated rivers and estuaries in Nam Dinh Province, home to 2.15 million people. Mismanaged plastic waste contributes to an increase in ocean plastics pollution and affects the livelihoods of those living along waterways in the province. This challenge is pronounced in the Red River Delta, one of Vietnam's most densely populated regions and the country's first UNESCO-Ramsar wetlands site.

STRENGTHENING EXISTING WASTE MANAGEMENT

Building on existing efforts of local government authorities, the project provides technical assistance to find innovative and practical improvements to the current solid waste management system (SWM) in Nam Dinh. The project also raises awareness among the roughly 100,000 people who live in riverine and coastal communities in the province to reduce the rate of plastic pollution entering regional waterways.

TESTING AND SCALING INNOVATIVE WASTE COLLECTION TOOLS

The project partners with communities and local government to design and test new models for collecting, sorting and treating solid waste from waterways, such as locally-made bamboo waste traps. With an emphasis on cost-effectiveness, replicability, and scalability, these different waste management models combine low-cost technologies with social solutions in ways that reflect the complex challenges of regional waterways and coastal populations.

HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE

- **Strong thought leadership on the role of women in municipal solid waste management** resulted in an invitation to present on a panel at the October 2018 **Our Ocean Conference** in Bali, Indonesia.
- Project information and lessons are contributing to the development of the **National Action Plan on Marine Plastic Debris Management** led by the **Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands**.
- Close coordination with local government authorities during project start up led to close working relationships with the **Nam Dinh Department of Natural Resources and Environment** at the provincial level, and the **People's Committee of Nam Dinh City** at the district level for project implementation.
- A project baseline assessment was conducted with **strong involvement of Nam Dinh People's Committee** representatives.

PROJECT: Comparative Pilot Waterway Municipal Plastic Waste Management Practices for Reducing Marine Plastic Pollution in Coastal World Biosphere Reserve of Nam Dinh, Vietnam | **DURATION:** July 3, 2018 – June 30, 2020 | **IMPLEMENTER:** Centre for Marine Life Conservation & Community Development (MCD) | **LOCATION:** Nam Dinh, Vietnam | **BUDGET:** \$249,995