



REDUCING OCEAN PLASTICS POLLUTION IN HA LONG BAY

Gaps in Ha Long City's existing solid waste management system and direct disposal of uncollected waste into the ocean are contributing to plastics pollution in Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site. As a popular tourist destination, growing pollution in the bay damages the long-term value of this site as a key contributor to the local economy through tourism and its adjacent markets.

A PUBLIC-PRIVATE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

By using a variety of public-private-community partnership models, the project tests innovative approaches to collect, sort, and treat both on-shore and near-shore waste. The project directly supports the Ha Long City People's Committee and its relevant affiliates, including the Board of Public Services, the Division of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Ha Long Bay Management Board, in their roles and responsibilities as solid waste management providers to address inefficient waste management systems. Three of Ha Long City's coastal wards at the epicenter of the local fishing and tourism industries serve as the main sites for project implementation. Broadly, the project also emphasizes policy regulations and incentives that promote improved waste management practices across the city.

STRENGTHENING FUTURE WASTE MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

The key role of the project approach is to provide a platform for testing innovative waste collection methods that will inform and strengthen future waste management capabilities. Notably, the project focuses on appropriate technological and socially integrated low-cost solutions to ensure the sustainability of implementation beyond the project life cycle.

HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE

- The project's inclusive start-up activities resulted in **strong female participation, with women accounting for 45% of project participants.**
- Strong project coordination with municipal government actors resulted in:
 - » Project information and approach shared with the Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands, contributing to a consultative workshop for developing the **National Action Plan on Marine Plastic Debris Management;**
 - » **Ha Long City People's Committee assigned to be the focal point agency** for project implementation; and
 - » A project baseline assessment preparation and field trips conducted **in coordination with Ha Long City and Ha Long Bay Management Board representatives.**

PROJECT: Lessons Learned from Demonstrated Municipal Plastic Waste Management in World Heritage Ha Long Bay, Vietnam

DURATION: July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019 | **IMPLEMENTER:** Centre for Marinelifelife Conservation & Community Development

(MCD) | **LOCATION:** Ha Long Bay, Vietnam | **BUDGET:** \$131,738