



# Wastewater and Solid Waste Management in Provincial Centers

NEW SLETTER

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The '**Wastewater and Solid Waste Management Program**' contributes to improved environmental conditions in, at present, six provincial centers through comprehensive wastewater management, comprising the enhancement of existing waste water collection systems and the construction of new waste water treatment facilities, and/or through improved collection and disposal of domestic solid waste. Capacity development for related municipal/provincial service providers and other relevant institutions assure the sustainable use of the facilities and contributes to improving customer services.

The Vietnamese partner cities/provinces include: Bac Ninh, Hai Duong, Vinh/Nghe An, Can Tho, Tra Vinh and Soc Trang. The German partner institutions include KfW-Development Bank, GTZ-German Technical Cooperation, and DED-German Development Service.

**Component:** TC Component 2 - Capacity Development Wastewater Management

**Perspective:** Community Participation Management (CPM)

**Activity:** Dissemination and use of Community Baseline Survey results

**Location:** Bac Ninh, Hai Duong, Vinh, Can Tho, Tra Vinh and Soc Trang

**Date:** March - May 2009

**M**id 2008, TC component 2 commissioned the implementation of Community Baseline Surveys (BLS) in each of the six supported cities. The main objectives of the surveys were to identify community environmental and health awareness levels, as well as the most effective means of communicating with the community environmental sanitation and project-related issues.

Following the collection process, data gathered have been thoroughly analyzed by applying statistical and qualitative methods. Main results of the BLS included:

□ Interviewees' awareness re the negative impact of improper wastewater and solid waste management on public health was found to be still rather low. In Soc Trang for example, only 51.1 per cent of the respondents have understood the correlation between polluted water sources and the spread of diseases.

□ Respondents consider face-to-face communication tools (such as

home visits and ward meetings) together with certain mass media (predominantly TV) as most effective means of communicating with them environmental sanitation issues.

All results of the BLS have then been disseminated among political decision-makers, company management boards and other relevant stakeholders of the respective cities. These results disseminations followed a multilayered but every time participatory approach as follows:

Firstly and in each city separately, a results presentation workshop (WS) has been implemented. These WSs- six in total- were also used by all parties involved to mutually agree on an implementation schedule for awareness raising activities in the respective cities. Subsequently, the six surveyed cities were broken into three geographical groups with Bac Ninh and Hai Duong constituting the Group "North", Tra Vinh, Soc Trang and Can Tho the Group "South" and Vinh singly the Group "Center". Then for each group a combined workshop



was organized with the aim to reach mutual agreement among all stakeholders on implementation schedules of awareness raising activities for the whole cluster up to 2011.

Based on the results of the BLS and the subsequent above-mentioned agreements, companies' Customer Care Units- with continued support from component's community experts- will be able to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of its awareness raising and public information activities