

Abstracts

ACTION AND INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN HOCHIMINH CITY, VIETNAM

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There are approximately 600,000 m³ of wastewater discharged without pretreatment by more than 600 industrial factories, 30,000 handicraft production units from 32 hospitals and domestic users every day. Adding 4,000 tones solid waste each day, 400 tones are discharged into the canals and rivers. The collection, transportation and disposal of domestic and industrial waste are unable to keep up with demand. On the other hand, smoke, dust, noises come from varied sources of industry, road transport and construction sites. Sustainability for these pollution situations, there are the environmental protective activities: 1- community education, has become an on-going frequent task. Every year HCMC encourages the citizens to do more to protect the environment through its "Clean and Green" and "don't cast off solid waste" campaigns. It has been able to mobilize millions of participants from juniors and senior high schools and 65,000 youth union members. There have been positive changes in the awareness of the vast majority of citizens on the necessity and responsibility of every one to protect the environment. This leads to widespread responses from the community. The movement gradually takes in -depth significance with the development of concrete action plans and programs. There is harmonious co-ordination between different branches and sectors of the City. There is the action "The environment of Children", aiming at enhancing environmental awareness for school children at all levels. The environmental quality monitoring network expands continually in terms of number of stations, upgraded monitoring quality, as well forecast of trends in the City's environmental quality: Water quality monitoring network, Ambient air quality monitoring network and Road transport pollution. Industrial pollution abatement program was established. Following the survey on industries aimed at pollution abatement in industrial production, Life cycle assessment, results for 2 phases: a/ 13 of the 43 enterprises, whose names were in the Black Book, have implemented their measures to install waste treatment facilities. Some enterprises moved their factories to the outskirts of the city. 26 enterprises have prepared their environmental impact assessment. B/ 500 entities have been surveyed, 165 units have been thoroughly investigated and classified. The result shows that 44 of 165 need to carry out pollution control requirements. There are actions taken in response to public complaints on environmental pollution. On the other side, the EIE appraisal of investment projects are carrying out. Since 1993, the City has carried out appraisals for 1,750 projects in renovation, refurbishment and new construction of all types. Many environmental training and international co-operation are carried out.