Improving Solid Waste Management in Vinh Phuk Province – PRO-3

Project in Few Words
Environmental challenges in Vietnam related to domestic or industrial waste are considered as accurate issues for the coming years due to growing cities and industrial development. Facing a lack of available land, rural towns have difficulty in growing, developing and mobilizing land for the final treatment of their waste. Landfilling solutions which are the most often applied today are not satisfactory. Since 2012, authorities have tackled this issue through new local regulations creating environmental cooperatives to provide collection services but lack of equipments, skills, population awareness for paying such services weaken the cooperatives.

From collection to treatment and regulation, many stakeholders are involved and shall be supported. Indeed, authorities at provincial and local levels, environmental cooperatives that provide collection services, private operators involved in management of final landfills or newly bought incinerators, population, businesses, everybody has a key role to play to ensure sustainable solid waste management in the Province.

Objectives
This project aims at contributing to better living conditions in 30 rural towns located in Vinh Phuk Province through an ambitious strategy of capacity building, investments and innovative management models tackling every dimension of solid waste management, socio-economic, organisational, institutional and environmental components. It aims also at promoting sustainable solutions, networking between cooperatives and peer-to-peer exchanges.

Gret and its local partners, SDPE (Department of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment), Cooperative Alliance, Song Hong Center and Institute of Water and Environment, jointly developed the project and created a Project management Unit to define strategic orientations and implement activities.

Objective of Project
- Reduce negative environmental impacts (including land occupation).
- Support environmental cooperatives to deliver sustainable, professional and adapted solid waste collection services.
- Produce references and promote dialog on SWM in semi-urban areas.

The Project in Numbers
- 30 semi-urban cities are targeted involving 120 000 inhabitants.
- 400 staff from environmental cooperatives will be trained to improve their financial and technical performances.
- 5 pilot sites will be chosen for experiments on recycling process.
- 15 service providers managing treatment facilities will be supported.
- 30 agents from SDPE will be trained and equipped for monitoring impacts.

Waste collectors in Vinh Phuk

Training of local NGIOs on Solid waste management (2013)
Six Complementary Components

> Innovative solutions for treatment: study for helping strategic planning, design and improvements of current landfills, market study for recycling, test in 5 sites of promising recycling value chain (composting, wood, …).

> Improved monitoring of facilities for solid waste treatment: capacity building for authorities, setting-up indicators and methodology for monitoring environmental impact and performances.

> Capacity building & equipments of environmental cooperatives: setting up of an equipment fund, training and coaching on governance, on technical skills, security of workers, …

> Promotion and awareness raising for population: design of tools, trainings and promotion campaigns.

> Networking and peer-to-peer exchanges.

> Setting-up a dialog between the stakeholders for defining perspectives and share lessons learnt.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Facilities improvements and pilot of recycling technologies help to reduce solid waste disposal.
- Monitoring and management of treatment facilities is improved in 30 localities.
- Environment cooperatives deliver a proper and sustainable service; Their skills, technical and commercial performances are strengthened.
- Population are more sensitized to the solid waste collection service and pay the fees for the service; recovery rates are increasing for the cooperatives.
- Dialog between local stakeholders is improved, a network of environment cooperatives is in place; Guidebooks are produced and disseminated.