

ZHUB NEWSLETTER

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HA NOI CAPITAL, VIETNAM



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I. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

- 1. ZHub:** a programme developed and implemented by GreenHub to promote evidence-based and experiential environmental education towards Zero waste lifestyles, assisting people to understand Zero waste concepts and practices. The programme concentrates on students in school/university environments.
- 2. Zero waste:** the conservation of resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.
(Source: Zero Waste International Alliance - <https://zwia.org/zero-waste-definition/>)
- 3. “Zero waste School” model:** the Zero waste concept implemented by a school with practical activities by students, teachers, and staff, seeking to raise awareness and minimize waste impacts on the environment and human health.
- 4. MRF model:** a “Material Recovery Facility” (physical structure, equipment and operation) adapted to each school’s capacity, to convert organic solid waste to compost, and collect recyclable materials from solid waste.
- 5. Waste sorting model:** a combination of a physical structure, equipment, and standard process of separating all the solid waste that a school generates into different types of waste for possible recovery.
- 6. Compost Skill Set:** a collection of required knowledge, practical composting techniques, monitoring and evaluation ability learned by students.

II. TRUNG YEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

1 year journey with effort to reduce plastic waste

After one year of collaboration, on 18 May, 2023, Trung Yen Primary School and GreenHub celebrated our success in implementing the “Zero waste School” model.

One year is not a long term but the students and staff of Trung Yen acquired the Composting Skill Set the most efficiently compared to other school sites.

Before transferring the “Zero waste School” model to Trung Yen, GreenHub also co-organised training sessions introducing the Compost Skill Set (in tubes and barrels) for students and teachers, ensuring their competence to actively operate the MRF model.

The organic fertilizer from the in-school compost will be used at first for the school’s rose garden.



Trung Yen Primary School and GreenHub Directors awarded students for their effort to reduce plastic waste at school



Additional training sessions about the Compost Skill Set (in tubes and barrels) for students and teachers at Trung Yen Primary school

Trung Yen primary school applied the Waste sorting model in its kitchen making compost from part of the organic waste in the MRF model, reducing more than **1990** wet tissues and **1440** litres of waste per day. This includes replacing all single-use plastic grocery bags with baskets, encouraging students to eat breakfast at home or bring personal containers to reduce single-use plastic waste.

III. EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE (ESES)

From fun to sorting waste

The Experience Camp event 2023 was organized on April 7th by GreenHub and ESES management board for more than 1040 primary and secondary students, to heighten the school's spirit of Zero waste.

It connected students to practice waste sorting and composting skills which GreenHub introduced through training, so increasing the impact of the Zero waste School programme.

This is the second time this camp was held at the school and showed marked improvements in organization. It included integrating waste sorting skills into the ZHub-designed student game, and reinforcing the knowledge of the students to correctly identify various types of waste.

The event was also organized and decorated with in-school created reusable products to demonstrate the flexible use of these products.



Watch more about the event at





In addition, Zero waste Schools Regulations were promulgated by the school Director to restrict the use of plastic balloons in events, stop using plastic wrap for books, and replacing disposable bottles with 20L-refill bottles.

These changes in ESES reduced about **600** litres of waste per day. Now, ESES has completely applied the waste sorting model in all school areas, especially in its kitchen. Moreover, the MRF model for composting was "upgraded" with 20 wall paintings, and attractive colours for composting tubes, and a visual teaching aid table - providing new information on plastic waste for students.

This progress will insure that in the near future, ESES will include composting and bio-detergent production from organic waste into its curriculum from the 2023-2024 school year.



Composting site at MRF area at ESES



Wall paintings at MRF area at ESES

IV. ACADEMY OF POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT (APD)

Learning about "Innovation in ceramic craft villages towards sustainable business"



APD students and teachers were inspired after Mrs. Ha Thi Vinh's self-experient speech

With the companionship of GreenHub and the Faculty of Business Administration at the Academy of Policy and Development University (APD), 90 students of APD experienced a practical demonstration of an innovative business model associated with environmental protection on June 23rd.

Mrs. Ha Thi Vinh – Founder of the Center of Vietnamese Essence Craft Villages spoke at the visit: “The number of business students here today are mostly female. It shows us the interest and role of us (women) in business at this time”.



In addition, Mr. Boris Fabres - Advisor of GreenHub shared with students that "the development of a sustainable economy is always associated with environmental protection, which means doing business without causing negative impacts on the surrounding community and environment.”

By listening to these experiences and observing many steps in ceramic production, students learned disadvantages and advantages of production in relation to the environment. This will stimulate the APD students to apply these insights, for their work at their university and later in business.



APD students had a chance to watch ceramic production steps in person



V. WHAT WILL ZHUB DO IN THE NEXT 3 MONTHS

We will:

⇒ Create a space for students at APD University (Ha Noi) to recycle solid waste to eco-friendly and usable products by building a MRF model, and improve student knowledge of the value of waste recovery.

⇒ Assist Phenikaa University (Ha Noi) to apply practical solutions to ensure high-value recyclable waste is 100% collected by building a waste sorting model for recovery.

⇒ Improve organic composting skills for ESES (Ha Noi) students and teachers at ESES by conducting training and evaluation with them.

⇒ Expand ZHub network programme to Da Nang or Hai Phong city depending on local partners.



Training about Zero waste for students at Phenikaa University

Training about composting skill for students at Trung Yen Primary School

VI. SEE MORE OF OUR WORK ON MEDIA



On ZHub Facebook Fanpage



On TV channel



On GreenHub Youtube channel

