



QUARTER 3 & 4

NEWSLETTER

PROJECT: "PILOT OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODEL IN WASTE MANAGEMENT IN LAM DONG COMMUNE"

Hai Phong, December 2024



DAMEN Song Cam Shipyard Co., Ltd (DSCS) is the sponsor and co-implementer of the project "Pilot Model of Circular Economy in Waste Management at Lam Dong commune, Thuy Nguyen district, Hai Phong city"



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LAM VILLAGE ZERO WASTE MODEL

“FOR A ZERO WASTE LAM DONG” CLUB: PIONEERING GREEN LIFESTYLES

The “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club was officially launched on September 28, 2024 at the “Green Traders and Consumers: Reducing Plastic Bag Use at Lam Dong Market” event. This marks an important milestone, signifying the community's collective effort on their journey toward a sustainable Lam Dong.

The club was established with 35 core members under the management of the Women's Union of Lam Dong Commune, with support from the “Zero Waste Lam Dong” Project. Since its inception, the club has quickly implemented numerous practical activities, creating a strong ripple effect within the community.



Mrs. Dam Thi Thuy Chinh – President of Women’s Union of Lam Dong Commune introducing the Club’s launch



The Club representative received organic composting and recyclable waste collection models from DSCS, the Commune People’s Committee, and GreenHub and committed to implementing the models

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE CLUB

01

Raise awareness and guide waste separation at source for households in the commune

02

Organize regular events exchanging recyclable waste for green gifts

03

Implement Household Food and Organic Waste Management



The “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club at the event “Green Traders and Consumers – Reducing Plastic Bag Use”



Through each small activity, the Club has contributed to raising environmental awareness and fostering a collective sense of responsibility to build a green Lam Dong.

CHANGE STARTS FROM WITHIN: GUIDING WASTE SEPARATION AT THE SOURCE



GreenHub has provided training for members of the "Club for a Trash-Free Lam Dong" on how to use informational materials to guide household waste segregation

One of the key activities of the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club is the program to guide local residents on how to separate household solid waste at the source.

The club has actively carried out communication sessions in every village and neighborhood, helping people understand the importance of waste separation at the source. The club has localized and simplified the new regulations by using instructional posters detailing guidelines set by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Hai Phong City.

As of now, all residents in Lam Dong Commune have been informed about the Regulation for Separating Household Solid Waste, with **43.4% of households (854 households)** receiving in-person guidance and instructions at their homes. This impressive figure, reflects the club's determination to create a mindset shift in the community.

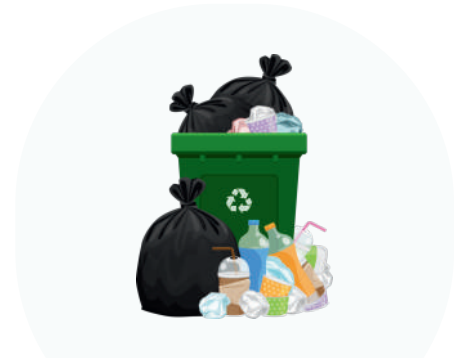


Club members educating and guiding residents on household waste sorting

RECYCLABLE WASTE EXCHANGE: SPREADING GREEN HABITS

Since September 2024, the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club has been organizing a monthly "Recycle Waste for Green Gifts" program, attracting widespread participation from the local community. This program not only encourages waste separation and raises environmental awareness, but also strengthens community bonds and mutual support, with all funds from the recycled waste used to assist families facing difficulties.

Over the course of two months, the program has collected a total of 809 kilograms of recyclable waste, including plastics, paper, metals, and glass. In exchange, participants received meaningful green gifts such as saplings, fabric bags, food containers, and probiotic products for composting. These small gifts encourage people to maintain sustainable lifestyles.



809 KG

RECYCLABLE WASTE COLLECTED



Some images of local residents participating in the "Recycle Waste for Green Gifts" program



Members of the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club taking part in the training on composting organic waste using bins and pits

TURNING WASTE INTO RESOURCES: MANAGING HOUSEHOLD FOOD AND ORGANIC WASTE

The “Zero Waste Lam Dong” Project partnered with the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club to implement a model for managing food and organic waste at the household level, building “Zero Waste Lam Village”. This practical and effective solution transforms daily organic waste into valuable resources while significantly reducing the amount of waste sent to the environment.

On August 10 2024, the project organized a specialized training session on “Managing Organic Waste at the Household Level” for 10 pilot households in Hau Village. During the program, participants were trained on simple techniques for composting organic waste at home, namely using compost bins and pits, banana circle models and producing biological enzymes.



GreenHub conducted surveys of the pilot models for organic waste management using compost bins in Hau Village

The pilot process was closely monitored and evaluated to ensure efficiency and feasibility. Based on the positive results from the pilot, the composting model using bins and pits was selected for wider implementation. This method is well-suited to the local conditions, easy to apply, and delivers clear, tangible results.



Representatives from DSCS, the Lam Dong Commune People's Committee, and GreenHub presenting 10 compost bins and pits to the pilot households in Hau Village



DSCS presented 50 compost bins and pits to 50 households in Lam Dong Commune

With the support of DSCS, GreenHub distributed over 50 compost bins and pits for food and organic waste to households in Lam Dong Commune on October 27, 2024.

The project also organized a training session to guide participants on the proper use of compost bins and pits, ensuring effective waste management.



Members of the "For a Zero Waste Lam Dong" Club participating in the training



Residents were guided by experts on how to properly use the compost bins



Master's degree holder Bui Thi Hong Ha, an agricultural microbiology expert, conducting the training on composting organic waste using bins and pits

With the enthusiastic participation of local residents, the model is gradually spreading and becoming a sustainable solution, bringing Lam Dong closer to its goal of becoming "Zero Waste Lam Dong".

IMPROVING WASTE COLLECTION IN LAM DONG COMMUNE

“Zero Waste Lam Dong” has implemented several practical activities to support the local waste collection team, and enhance waste management and disposal efficiency across the commune.



Mr. Quach Dinh Nguyen, Deputy General Director of DSCS, presenting protective gear and labor insurance to the waste collection workers



Representatives from DSCS, the Lam Dong Commune People's Committee, and GreenHub presenting protective gear and labor insurance to the waste collection team

Supporting the Waste Collection Team

DSCS provided protective gear and labor insurance to the Lam Dong Commune waste collection team at the “Green Traders and Consumers” event on September 28. This practical support will improve working conditions for waste workers, ensuring their safety and health.



A pilot program for centralized waste bins

Establishing Centralized Waste Collection Points

To increase collection efficiency and lighten the workload of the waste collection team, the project designed and installed a pilot program for centralized waste bins. These bins are strategically placed to be convenient for residents and the waste collection team, encouraging proper waste disposal.

Additionally, Lam Dong Commune has been provided with three more public green bins to better support the waste collection and disposal process, helping maintain the cleanliness of the community.



LAM DONG MARKET RESTRICTS THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS

FIELD SURVEY: WHAT ARE VENDORS AND CONSUMERS SAYING ABOUT PLASTIC BAGS?

In collaboration with the Lam Dong Commune People's Committee, the project conducted a KAP (Knowledge - Attitude - Practice) survey with 60 vendors and consumers at Lam Dong Market on August, 2024. The survey revealed that despite high levels of awareness about plastic bags' harmful effects, their usage remains widespread.

Specifically, **93%** of vendors and 100% of consumers knew that plastic bags are harmful to the environment and health. **100%** of traders however continued to provide plastic bags for free, and **87%** of consumers still used plastic bags, averaging **5.7** bags per day. Interestingly, **64%** of consumers who brought reusable bags still opted to use plastic bags for carrying products

The survey also indicated that the community was open to change: 68.97% of vendors expressed interest in finding alternative products, and 87% of consumers were willing to participate in activities aimed at reducing plastic bag use.

These findings underscore the importance of providing alternatives to plastic, increasing awareness, and implementing market wide regulations at the management level.

Based on the survey results, the project planned follow-up activities such as awareness-raising events, technical training sessions, the provision of eco-friendly alternatives, and communications through posters, murals, and local loudspeakers. These efforts aim to turn Lam Dong Market into a model for reducing plastic waste.



Volunteers conducting KAP surveys with traders at Lam Dong Market



Volunteers conducting KAP surveys with consumers at Lam Dong Market

COMMUNITY EVENT: "GREEN TRADERS AND CONSUMERS: REDUCING PLASTIC BAG USE AT LAM DONG MARKET"

Local government officials, residents, market vendors and community members attended the successful “Green Vendors and Consumers: Reducing Plastic Bag Use at Lam Dong Market” event organized by GreenHub, Lam Dong Commune People’s Committee and DSCS. On the morning of September 28, 170 participants engaged in practical activities that encouraged sustainable consumption while raising awareness of waste separation and reducing plastic waste.

During the event, attendees were invited to participate in various activities , such as:



Residents and club members participating in activities at the Recycle Waste for Green Gifts Station

- **Recycle Waste for Green Gifts Station:**
This activity, organized monthly by the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club, allows residents to exchange recyclable waste for green gifts, encouraging waste separation at the source.



Residents and club members taking part in activities to learn about waste separation

- **Waste Separation and Organic Waste Management Station:**
This station provided guidelines on how to separate waste and manage organic waste at home through compost bins and pits, helping residents turn food waste into organic fertilizer for agriculture.



Traders were informed about reusable products to replace plastic bags during the event

● Green Traders and Consumers Station:

Traders and residents had the opportunity to experience and share ideas and sustainable solutions to replace plastic bags, helping to reduce plastic waste in daily transactions.

As part of the program, the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club was officially launched with 35 members. Mrs. Dam Thi Thuy Chinh, Chairwoman of the Women's Union of Lam Dong Commune, spoke on behalf of the club, committing to carrying out regular activities such as recycling programs, raising awareness about organic waste management, and guiding residents on waste separation at the source.

“For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club

35  members



The club received the models from the Lam Dong Commune People's Committee, DSCS, and GreenHub

To support the club’s activities, the project handed over communication materials, recycling collection models, and organic waste management systems for households.



Mr. Dao Van Linh presenting labor protection gear to the waste collection team

Mr. Dao Van Linh, Secretary of the Party Committee and Chairman of Lam Dong Commune People's Committee in Thuy Nguyen, Hai Phong, said: "This event helped traders and consumers in Lam Dong Commune better understand waste segregation and management. This event is of great significance, as it will gradually raise awareness among residents and highlight the importance of the environment. Furthermore, the program was conducted in a lively and visual way, allowing them to easily acknowledge waste management solutions and implement them effectively."



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Mr. Quach Dinh Nguyen, Deputy General Director of Damen Song Cam Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., shared: "Damen Song Cam is always committed to supporting community projects such as the "Zero Waste Lam Dong" Project to bring sustainable benefits. We hope that the models implemented by the project will contribute to improving the living environment and inspire long-term positive changes."

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Ms. Trần Thị Hoa, Director of GreenHub, emphasized: "Reducing the use of plastic bags and implementing waste segregation at the source provide practical benefits for everyday life. We believe this model will spread to more communities."

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The community and local authorities' enthusiastic support for the event reflected Lam Dong Commune's spirit of responsibility and determination for environmental protection.



Residents actively participated in learning about the waste segregation regulations during the event

SPREADING THE GREEN MESSAGE AT THE MARKET

The "Zero Waste Lam Dong" project implemented communication activities at Lâm Động Market to raise awareness about reducing plastic bag usage and promoting sustainable consumption behavior, from June to December 2024.

The communication products and activities included:



Banners placed in prominent spots at Lam Dong Market



01 Banners promoting plastic bag reduction

These banners, featuring friendly and creative messages, are strategically placed in prominent locations to attract the attention of market vendors and local residents.





The recycling bin model installed at Lam Dong Market

02

Recycling bin shaped like a shopping basket

This creative model not only serves as a part of the recycling waste segregation initiative by the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club, but also conveys the message of encouraging the public to use reusable bags/baskets instead of plastic bags.



Local cultural officers conducting monthly radio programs

Regular local radio broadcasts

03

The message “Lam Dong Market restricts plastic bag usage” and other environmental topics were integrated into the commune’s periodic radio programs, helping to spread information widely and consistently to all commune residents.

These communication products are easily accessible and have a broad outreach, contributing to raising public awareness and encouraging residents and vendors to adopt reusable products.

"FOR A ZERO WASTE LAM DONG" CLUB: TRANSFORMING MARKET SHOPPING HABITS

The "For a Zero Waste Lam Dong" Club regularly organizes activities at Lam Dong Market to raise community awareness about the detrimental effects of plastic bags, encouraging both residents and market vendors to adopt reusable alternatives.

Alternatives such as mesh bags, fabric bags, foldable shopping bags, and food storage containers not only serve as practical gifts in the "Recycle Waste for Green Gifts" initiative but also offer effective solutions to promote waste separation at the source. The club's activities complement each other, creating momentum for the community to collect recyclable waste and replace plastic bags with sustainable products in everyday life.



Club members shopped without plastic bags and spread the message to vendors at Lam Dong Market

The club's continuous efforts have contributed to building a green living movement, helping Lam Dong Market gradually become a model for plastic waste reduction.



Mr. Sjoerd Koetje, DSCS Financial Director, painting an educational mural with students at Lam Dong Kindergarten.

ZERO WASTE SCHOOL

I LAM DONG KINDERGARTEN GETS A NEW LOOK

- Lam Dong Kindergarten was an environmental leader prior to the implementation of “Zero Waste Lam Dong” project. The kindergarten had already begun environmental education initiatives for its students. Support from the project has provided the school with additional resources and specific solutions to further strengthen this goal.



Students participating in activities to learn about the harmful effects of single-use plastic on health and the environment

KEY ACTIVITIES:

01

"Raising Awareness of Waste's impact on the Environment through Mural Painting"

This event was successfully held on August 11, 2024, with the participation of students, parents, teachers from Lam Dong Kindergarten, and the families of DSCS employees.

The event offered an opportunity for students and their families to engage in activities exploring plastic waste and alternative solutions. Additionally, mural painting helped spread the message of environmental protection to students and their families.



DSCS employees' families, teachers, parents, and students taking part in the mural painting activity



Students and Teachers using the recycling bin model

Communication Products in the School

02

In collaboration with the ZHub program, Lam Dong Kindergarten was equipped with posters and recycling bins featuring vivid, visual images, helping students easily recognize and practice waste separation.



Communication Posters installed at Lam Dong Kindergarten

03

Teacher Training

In collaboration with GreenHub's ZHub program, we conducted training sessions for teachers on waste sorting skills and organic waste management. Teachers are now able to apply the information and skills they learned to implement organic waste management models, create recycled products, and integrate these lessons into their teaching. This helps instill environmental consciousness in students from an early age.



Ms. Dinh Thu Hang – GreenHub Project Manager discussing eco-friendly products with Lam Dong Kindergarten teachers during the Training Session

04

Organic Waste Composting Practice at the School

Lam Dong Kindergarten has begun implementing an organic waste composting model from food waste, with guidance and support from the project. This method not only reduces household waste but also generates natural fertilizer to nourish the school's green gardens.



Lam Dong Kindergarten's teachers were trained on how to manage organic waste using composting bins

These activities gradually establish good habits for parents and the local community in Lam Dong Commune. Lam Dong Kindergarten has become a model Zero Waste School and beacon spreading this model to other schools in Hai Phong city, affirming the crucial role of education in promoting a sustainable green lifestyle.



INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

TORCHBEARER IN SPREADING ZERO WASTE LIFESTYLE MOVEMENT

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Lan, the Deputy Head of Hau Village, is a leader in local community movements and a Zero Waste Lifestyle torchbearer.

Mrs. Lan's life is busy with farming, raising livestock, and working at a small tea shop. She supports her family and cares for her husband. Ms Lan is passionate about community activities despite her busy schedule.



Daily work at home of Mrs.Lan



Mrs. Lan educating and guiding other households on organic composting

She noticed that discarded fruit peels from the tea shop could be turned into organic fertilizer for her vegetable garden. She didn't know where to begin however, until the "Zero Waste Lam Dong" project was launched in her commune. After receiving support in the form of compost bins, compost pits, and training on how to manage organic waste, Mrs. Lan took the lead in piloting the model and spreading it to other households in the village.

With such great enthusiasm, Mrs. Lan, alongside the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club, piloted and promoted the organic waste composting model to many households, helping the community gradually adjust their awareness and habits.

At first, Mrs. Lan and the club members were unsure about the proper composting steps and how to guide other households. With training sessions and regular support from the project however, the club produced highly effective organic fertilizer for plants.

The organic waste composting model, using bins and pits, has contributed to reducing food and organic waste from being dumped in landfills, easing the burden on the commune's limited waste collection system.

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“In addition to reducing waste in the environment, this model is very effective as the resulting compost helps my vegetables grow well, and they taste great because there are no chemicals. I want to spread this model to more households because it benefits not only the environment but also public health.”

Mrs. Lan shared

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Every month, over 450 kilograms of food and organic waste is processed at the source instead of being discarded at the landfill. People in Lam Dong Commune now have an additional method of turning organic waste into safe fertilizer for their vegetable gardens. The model has been highly regarded by the community for its effectiveness and practicality, not only in environmental protection but also in ensuring the health of the residents.

She also actively participates in the project's training sessions and has become an influential figure in carrying out meaningful environmental activities, such as educating people on waste separation and organizing community events to encourage waste sorting and reduce plastic bag use with the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club.



Mrs. Lan actively participated in the project's training sessions



Mrs. Lan enthusiastically joins the activities of the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club

Her story not only inspires others but also proves that with optimism and effort, anyone can make a significant change for their family, community, and the environment around them!

THE STORY OF THE GARDEN ENTHUSIAST “WASTE REDUCTION – GREEN CONTRIBUTION”

Mr. Dam Van Hai, a gardening enthusiast from Lam Dong Commune, has become an inspiring figure in the environmental protection movement by successfully implementing the organic waste management model at his home. His thriving green garden is not only a source of pride but also a testament to the positive change brought about by his environmental awareness.



Organic waste from nearby businesses is processed by Mr. Hai's family



Mr. Hai recording data on food and organic waste processed in the project's logbook

After attending a communication session by the “For a Zero Waste Lam Dong” Club, Mr. Hai and his family began experimenting with using compost bins and pits to manage organic waste. Not only did they manage waste from their own household, but they also helped nearby businesses, processing tens of kilograms of organic waste every day. The natural fertilizer produced helped improve the health of their garden plants while significantly reducing waste sent into the environment.



“Mr. Hai enthusiastically shared, “This method is not only good for the plants but also helps reduce the burden of waste collection. If everyone contributes a little, society will improve day by day.”

The efforts of Mr. Hai's family have inspired many others in the commune to join the “Waste Reduction – Green Contribution” movement. They believe that change begins with small actions that can make a big impact, helping to build a greener, cleaner, and more beautiful Lam Dong.

THE STORY OF A WASTE ENTHUSIAST: 10 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE “WASTE MANAGEMENT” PROFESSION

For the past 10 years, Mrs. Dam Thi Lam, the head of the waste collection team in Lam Dong Commune, has quietly dedicated herself to the job she lovingly calls “waste management.”

Every morning, while others are still asleep, Mrs. Lam starts her waste collection route on familiar streets. Thanks to her dedication and discipline, the neighborhood she oversees never experiences waste buildups. Working with a high sense of responsibility, Mrs. Lam always aims to create a clean and healthy environment for her community.



Mrs. Dam Thi Lam's daily waste collection work



Mrs. Lam participating in training sessions organized by the “Zero Waste Lam Dong”

Mrs. Lam’s work is not easy. She has faced dangers such as needle pricks, broken glass, and even dog bites, along with verbal abuse from misunderstandings by residents. Despite these challenges, she has never been discouraged.

“I’ve been working in waste management for 10 years. I’ve never taken a day off, not even on the first day of Tet Holiday,” she proudly shared.

She has been involved with the project since its early days, helping with surveys of each household and waste audits. She has always been ready to support the project team with the highest sense of responsibility and is pleased that the project has raised awareness among households about waste sorting and management, improving the waste collection system, and easing the challenges faced by the collection team.



Mrs. Lam guiding residents on using the centralized waste bin model implemented by the project



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I'm very happy to see that people are more aware of waste sorting. Many families now separate recyclable waste for us to collect and sell. This makes our work much easier and more convenient.

Mrs. Dam Thi Lam added.

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Mrs. Lam at a training session on waste segregation organized by the project

Mrs. Lam's tireless dedication and love for her profession have changed many people's views on waste collection, contributing to a cleaner, greener, and more beautiful Lam Dong.



Mr. Quach Dinh Nguyen, Deputy General Director of DSCS, presenting labor protection gear and labor insurance to the waste collection team

GreenHub

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ZERO WASTE LÂM ĐỘNG



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