



Vietnam Business for Environment – VB4E

Project title: Business actions towards zero plastic waste to the ocean

Project duration: 3 years

Geographic area of the proposed project: Ha Long Bay, Bai Tu Long and Cat Ba

Project idea:

Marine plastic pollution is one of the most widespread threats to our environment, economy and societies. Every year, 8 million tonnes of plastic - the equivalent of 1 truck full of plastic waste every minute - is released into our ocean which ultimately infiltrates the food chains, severely affecting the health and livelihood of both marine ecosystems and coastal communities.

Three recent coastal cleanups and waste audits organised by IUCN in Ha Long Bay in 2016 and 2017 revealed some shocking figures: a total of around 2.2 tons of trash are collected in a six-hour timespan; 90% of the trash are single-use non-recyclable plastics; and polystyrene makes up 70-80% of the total amount of trash collected. The high visibility of plastic waste and polystyrenes in the area has left a bad impression on tourists.

Businesses, especially those operating in Ha Long, Bai Tu Long and Cat Ba, are encouraged to join the fight to combat plastic waste pollution with some major project activities as follows:

- Organize trainings for business staffs on waste audits
- Proactive practices to replace alternative products to replace single use plastics
- Trainings for Ha Long Bay Management Board, Cat Ba and Bai Tu Long National Parks on plastic waste monitoring
- Conduct monitoring activities twice a year in the selected coastal areas by staff and volunteers.
- Collect data and send information to management agencies for analysis to support management strategies.
- Conduct beach clean-ups campaigns mobilizing volunteers from business employees

Relevance to VB4E thematic areas

The project would contribute to two focus themes of plastic waste management, and marine and coastal conservation.

Management structure:

Ha Long Bay Management Board, Bai Tu Long National Park and Cat Ba National Park will be engaged as key partners for the project implementation.

The field work monitoring activities will be conducted by management officers of Ha Long Bay Management Board, Bai Tu Long National Park and Cat Ba National Park with technical advice by IUCN experts. IUCN will coordinate other joint activities among three sites as well as organize monitoring, evaluation and learning (MLE) trips for the National Coordinating Body member who would supervise the project progress.

Total Budget: US\$60,000/year * 3 years on rolling basis

Co-financing: IUCN would mobilize funding from other sources to co-finance the project

Please contact coordinator at VB4EAlliance@gmail.com for further information if you are interested in the project idea.