

Project title: Establishing Zero Waste Community in An Hai Bac ward, Danang based on the community garden in Morrison street

Project duration: 2/2022-12/2022

Project location: Morrison street, Son Tra, Danang, Vietnam

Project information:

1. Background

An Cu 3 group in An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra district, Danang has a population of 600 people from 231 households (Population Report of An Hai Bac People’s Committee in 2021). It is surrounded by 50 hotels and 20 cafes and 20 restaurants. The area is estimated to generate about 600 kg of organic waste daily. About 95% of the organic waste is mixed with other domestic wastes and sent to Danang’s landfill. This project aims to help Danang’s local government reduce the amount of landfilled organic domestic waste by establishing a Zero Waste Community where 30 targeted households partake in a waste management procedure based in a community garden at number 27 Morrison Street, Danang. The project will not only implement communications and education activities but also empower women as the key participants by providing them with capacity training on waste treatment (such as waste classification and composting), communications, gardening and raising voice opportunities. In addition, the waste management protocol and education approaches are led by the Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance. Furthermore, the project engages the community members through diverse environmental and cultural events thanks to the partnership with local and expat CSOs and communities. In addition, the project will draw public attention to the site and achieve financial sustainability since a member of the Zero Waste Community, Mud Bistro will establish a cafe and vegetarian catering service. Their pop-up kiosk is a part of the project’s ecosystem to demonstrate a waste-conscious business model. Having its waste directly managed on-site while benefiting from the garden-grown herbs, Mud Bistro’s kiosk directs 16% of its net income back to the project.

2. Main purpose and specific objectives:

2.1 Main purpose

- The main purpose of the project is to establish a Zero Waste Community in which 30 households participate in a pilot waste management scheme based on the community garden at number 27 Morrison street over the course of the year 2022.

2.2 Specific objectives:

- Improve capacity and understanding on the issue of waste treatment (waste impact, waste classification, composting) for 30 targeted households

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- Reduce the amount of domestic waste going to landfill from 30 targeted households by 90% by the end of the project
- By the end of the project, there will be a 300 member Zero Waste community through the communications, education and cultural events and volunteering program.
- An integrated garden of 330m² serving as a compost site, gathering and educating place is set up by Feb 2022, and maintained by the community until 12/2022.

2.3 Expected results:

- Result #1: 30 households from An Cu 3 group in An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra district, Danang increase knowledge and adopt supportive attitudes towards zero waste practices
- Result #2: 30 households from An Cu 3 group in An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra district, Danang separates domestic waste successfully at home at a 90% rate; in which 100% organic waste is composted, 100% recyclable waste is given to waste pickers
- Result #3: Three joint-education programs designed and implemented by C&E and partners. 300 active members become the project’s second-year target beneficiaries. One weekly school engagement program is organized.
- Result #4: A community garden is established. A comic book is published to disseminate the model of the Zero Waste Community.

2.4 Target groups and final beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender):

Final beneficiaries: children and their family members from 30 households from An Hai Bac ward in Danang, totalling 120 people. Secondary beneficiaries include 10 female waste pickers, 30 expat volunteers, 50 local volunteers, 80 university students and 10 CSOs, NGOs and institutions namely: GreenViet, Sasa Team Marine Animals Rescue, Danang Go, Green Hero, Dork Dancing, Green University DUE, University of Science and Education (University of Danang) GreenPoints Vietnam, No Waste To Go, “Love gardening Danang” community, “Home composting” community wider gardening community, conscious millennials.

3. Specific action plan for project implementation

Period	Description of activities	Implementing organization
Feb, March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct an 1 week waste audit in 100 families in An Cu 3 group, An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra district, Danang ● Interview the representatives of 100 families and authorities in An Cu 3 group, An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra 	C&E Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance, Tram Eco,

	<p>District, Danang about their understanding of Zero Waste practices and willingness to apply Zero Waste practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct activities to raise awareness about the landfilled domestic waste issue in Danang; provide instructions for classifying domestic wastes and composting at home for residents in An Cu 3 group, An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra District, Danang • Establish a community garden at number 27 Morrison street. • Establish the Black Lotus Coffee House 	<p>Mrs Dinh Vu Minh Chau, Mud Bistro</p>
<p>April, May 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite 10 committed volunteer families in An Cu 3 group, An Hai Bac ward, Son Tra District, Danang and provide each family with 3 bins. Check their waste classifications daily and provide capacity building. • Organize study trip in Cam Thanh Zero Waste community in Hoi An for 10 representatives of 10 families to inspire them • Install information boards and posters outside of the community garden and nearby areas • Purchase and maintain waste management facilities at the community garden • Make compost, do gardening, host community engaging activities at the garden on the weekends: making decorative items for the garden from recyclable materials, waste classification competition, harvesting days • Create cultural events to draw public attention 	<p>C&E Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance, Tram Eco, Mrs Dinh Vu Minh Chau, Mud Bistro</p>
<p>June, July 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist the 10 initial families in inviting 10 other families to join the project. Provide each new family with 3 trash bins. Assign 20 committed families to cross-check their waste classifications daily, write reports. Hold weekly meetings for work evaluation and improvement. • Organize study trip in Cam Thanh Zero Waste community in Hoi An for 10 representatives of 10 new families to inspire them • Encourage the families to share their Zero Waste practice stories on Facebook, Zalo • Create radio stories, invite journalists/ reporters to interview the committed families and active community 	<p>C&E Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance, Tram Eco, Mrs Dinh Vu Minh Chau, Mud Bistro</p>

	<p>members to empower them and draw public attention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introducing Zero Waste practices to 1 school each week ● Collaborate with CSOs or NGOs to offer 03 joint programs each month (integrate with government campaigns - e.g waste impacts on Wildlife, benefits of gardening to mental health, artworks from recyclable wastes) 	
Aug, Sep 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assist the 20 committed initial families to find 10 other voluntary families to join the project. Provide each new family with 3 trash bins. Assign 30 committed families to cross-check their waste classifications daily and provide capacity building. Hold weekly meetings for work evaluation and improvement. ● Organize study trip in Cam Thanh Zero Waste community in Hoi An for 10 representatives of 10 new families to inspire them ● Set up a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) station at the community garden. Organizing workshops making eco-bricks, detergents from citrus fruit skins, soaps from excessive cooking oil... 	C&E Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance, Tram Eco, Mrs Dinh Vu Minh Chau, Mud Bistro
Oct, Nov 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce the project to governmental authorities and residents in nearby areas ● Provide training for interested people/ groups who want to replicate the project in their neighborhoods 	C&E
Dec 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make 1 video to describe the project from the beginning, write year-1 report, share a success story on social media and discuss the next year plan 	C&E Tram Eco

4. The sustainability of the project

4.1 The sustainability of the project:

The project has strong support from the landowner - Han Hotel, evidenced not only by a free 2-year venue lease but more importantly by their proven track of environmental activities. Past efforts including premise-wide composting, free nursery plant giveaways, home-scale community gardening speak volumes about the ambition of the landowner to start a zero-waste community garden. The lack of human resources, community and technical guidance, factors

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once hindered the success of the community, will be addressed by the project. Therefore, by the end of it, the landowner will become a local champion who has the knowledge, skills and community required to commit to growing the Zero Waste Community.

As direct beneficiaries, by the end of the project, 50 targeted households will have established a strong bond thanks to waste training, initial incentives, cultural and educational events and joining in a shared work towards a common goal. They will be motivated and empowered based on our Food Waste Volunteer roadmap to becoming Food Waste Masters who can then continue to share, instruct and train other people to learn about and expand the model. With the help of youth and expat volunteers, physical labor is covered.

Business instalment Together, Black Lotus Coffee and The Lotus Collective commit to contributing 16% net profits back to the project. Both businesses serve as an established presence to incorporate expats into the Zero Waste project as they return to the community, and also as a platform for public and private events drawing visitors to the park, creating revenue, and promoting project awareness.

4.2 Risks and solutions

Risks	Potential Impact on Project	Solutions
Covid - 19	Social distancing or lockdown could reduce gatherings and event attendance and decrease sales. It could prevent training, meetings from happening face-to-face, and stop volunteers from going to the garden but otherwise have an insignificant impact on the actual waste management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Move training and meetings to virtual platforms and conduct them at separate households. Waste management schemes happen in the families, either garden or rooftop space to achieve the planned 100% organic waste management rate. - Volunteers observe social distancing when going to work on the garden.
Pollution from waste management	Activities such as composting, sorting out waste can give rise to air, water, soil pollution risks and negatively impact the visual landscape of the street.	Waste management schemes are based on proven work of both C&E and VZWA to guarantee minimum pollution. To reduce pressure on the central waste management location, home composting is instructed to achieve a 60% composting rate, thereby mitigating the smell and soil pollution.

5. Contribution to thematic areas of VB4E:

The project contributes to SDG 11, 12, 13 and 17.

According to a Da Nang Urban Plan Institute in 2015, the volume of municipal solid waste in Da Nang is projected to reach 1800 metric tons per day by 2025, 2400 metric tons per day by 2030, and 3000 metric tons per day by 2040. Currently, all municipal solid waste generated is treated at the Khanh Son landfill. The disadvantage of municipal solid waste disposal and treatment at this landfill is that it has become a hotspot for environmental pollution in Da Nang, and is an adverse, unfavorable use of land. Over time, costs for municipal solid waste collection and costs for treatment in this landfill have also increased, particularly to deal with odor, GHG emissions, and leachate that emerge from the landfill. According to UNDP, poor solid waste management and waste disposal practices are currently one of Da Nang's most burning issues. With 1,100 tonnes of solid waste being produced on a daily basis, Da Nang's waste is soaring by 16-17% annually leaving the city's only landfill constantly overloaded and on the verge of closure. It is clear waste management is an urgency the city needs support in solving.

On the other hand, the People's Committee of Da Nang City issued Decision No.1099/QĐ-UBND on April 2nd, 2021 approving "Build Da Nang City - the Environment City Plan period 2021-2030". An ambitious plan that emphasizes waste management is one of the key issues to be addressed. With the rise of environmentalism in Danang, and the fact that the city is projected to attract an increasing amount of tourists to visit and invest in business the city, it is imperative to mobilize existing support in environmental work and at the same time pave way for opportunities in public-private partnerships for the benefit of the sustainable development of the city. The proposed project raises awareness about SDG 11, 12 and 13, aims to change behaviors of local consumers in a direction beneficial for the economy and waste management, and reduces GHG by diverting organic waste from going to the landfill. It promotes an innovative model of partnership between the NGOs and public sector with the businesses by involving successful entrepreneurs from the beginning till the end. Last but not least, it uses the community garden space as an educational space and an exchange hub where interested CSOs, NGOs and businesses can visit, learn and interact. This is where the awareness of the Vietnam Wildlife Conservation Fund can be best promoted and understood.

6. Management structure:

- **Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance:** consultant on waste management and waste education; communication with relevant government departments; policy advocacy at government level to regulate the replication and incentivization of grassroots waste management and education model.

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- **Mud Bistro:** Established Coffee franchise brand called “Black Lotus Coffee House” The business directs 16% of its net income to the project and creates cultural events to engage ex-pat and Vietnamese members.
- **Mrs. Dinh Vu Minh Chau:** the owner of the location where the project takes place. Mrs. Dinh contributed the land on a two-year agreement.
- **Tram Eco:** Be in charge of communication activities - mostly on social media to recruit youth volunteers to join the project and draw youth’s attention.
- **The Lotus Collective:** Establish a modular community space, host classes and manage events to promote the garden and its mission, as well as drive visitors to concessions (Black Lotus Coffee House). Acts as an additional marketing channel for the garden and sharing about its initiatives. Along with Black Lotus Coffee House, the business directs 16% of net income back into the garden project.

7. Total budget:

530,000,000 VND

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

About C&E (Centre for development of community initiative and Environment):

General information: Center for Development of Community Initiative and Environment (C&E) is a Vietnamese not-for-profit and non-governmental organization established in 2008. C&E works on promoting the participation of and improving the capacity of local community groups and organizations for better solutions to environmental issues closely related to their life, contributing to the development of civil society and a sustainable environment in Vietnam.

Past implemented projects include:

1. Inspire Youth through YouthXchange” and “Creative Sustainability through Non Formal Education” (2019 – 2020)
2. Partnership for Community Action on Climate Change (2011-2015 and continuing in 2021)
3. YouthXchange (2010 – 2015)
4. Youth Projects (2015-2020)

Further information: Previously, C&E focused heavily on activities related to promoting the development of local communities, ethnic minorities, environmental protection education, and communication on sustainable development. Recently, C&E focused on projects on Ecological Lifestyle and Ecological Transformation.