



Wastewater and Solid Waste Management in Provincial Centers

NEWSLETTER

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The '**Wastewater and Solid Waste Management Program**' contributes to improved environmental conditions in, at present, six provincial centers through comprehensive wastewater management, comprising the enhancement of existing waste water collection systems and the construction of new waste water treatment facilities, and/or through improved collection and disposal of domestic solid waste. Capacity development for related municipal/provincial service providers and other relevant institutions assure the sustainable use of the facilities and contributes to improving customer services.

The Vietnamese partner cities/provinces include: Bac Ninh, Hai Duong, Vinh/Nghe An, Can Tho, Tra Vinh and Soc Trang. The German partner institutions include KfW-Development Bank, GTZ-German Technical Cooperation, and DED-German Development Service.

Component: TC Component 2 - Capacity Development Wastewater Management

Perspective: Asset Management

Activity: Study tour

Location: Da Lat and Vung Tau

Date: From 7 to 13 June 2009

Wastewater collection and treatment technologies and related management concepts are relatively new to Vietnam. Most managers and O&M staff of the provincial companies providing wastewater services to the public have hardly ever seen a well functioning wastewater collection process or an effective wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) so far. Besides, knowledge on the operation and maintenance of sewerage systems is limited.

Therefore it is an essential activity of the component's capacity development efforts to familiarize the related personnel of the partner wastewater companies with fitting procedures and facilities of wastewater collection and treatment that are in place in Vietnam already.

Hence, the component invited mid-ranking managerial staff of the Vinh City Infrastructure Management and Development JSC to a study tour aiming to find out more about best-practices in the cities of Da Lat and Vung Tau in South Vietnam.

The program of the one-week tour comprised site visits and meetings with several highlights as follows:

- Site-visit to a wastewater treatment plant financed by Danish ODA funds (DANIDA) about 7km outside of Da Lat City. The plant is located in a valley with



the surrounding hills serving as a natural fence for protection from odor.

- Meeting with the managerial board of the Da Lat Wastewater Management Division of Lam Dong Water Supply and Sewerage Company to learn how to overcome problems and difficulties in operating new sophisticated wastewater assets.
- Site-visit to several spots of the wastewater collection system in Vung Tau City that was financed by French ODA. This system's 484km of sewer line cover about 7,000 people in central Vung Tau City.
- Meeting with the managerial board of the Ba Ria-Vung Tau Urban Sewerage and Development Company to exchange general experiences related to wastewater management.



- Site-visit to O&M works of the Ba Ria-Vung Tau company where winches that are provided by TC Component 2 to the Vinh company could be seen in operation to clean a sewer line.

In addition participants of the study tour had the chance to take part in a cultural event organized by the Ba Ria-Vung Tau wastewater company and their guests from cultural centers of Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau.

As a result of the study tour participants now dispose of improved understanding about technological options for wastewater collection and treatment. Last but not least, good relations could be built up between the guest and host companies. These might serve as a basis for further collaboration, city-twinning or other kind of sector partnerships in the future.