VIETNAM NATIONAL SURVEY ON MARINE LITTER
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STATE OF
THE PROBLEM

Surveys and Monitoring
Source Differentiation
Accumulation Zones
Ecological and environmental impacts
Socioeconomic Impacts
Derelect Fishing Gear
Other scientific data and studies
Coastal Cleanup
Surveys and Monitoring

There are only several scientific researches that are related to the marine litter undertaken by specialized organizations.

Navigation: Research on building up waste treatment system for ships at seaports of Vietnam; Research on selection of technology and proposal of pre-feasible option in building up ship-waste treatment station for the area of Hai Phong and Quang Ninh.

Oil and gas: Research on effects of oil-originated and synthetic solutions generated by exploratory drilling activities to the marine environment.

These researches are mostly sectoral-purposed eg
Source Differentiation

In Vietnam, there are not any available data on marine litter to differentiate/identify the sources of marine litter (e.g. the proportion that comes from land-based sources versus ship-based sources).

Accumulation Zones

Because of shortage of surveys and datas on marine litter, consequently there is not any available information on ocean circulation patterns and accumulation zones for marine litter in Vietnam’s waters and along the coastlines.
Due to the lack of data and information on marine litter, therefore, it is unaware of impacts of marine litter on the biological, ecological and environment.

As mentioned above, socio-economic impacts of marine litter are not available in Vietnam.
**Derelect Fishing Gear**

There is not any data or information specifically on the impacts of derelict fishing gear in Vietnam.

**Other scientific data and studies**

Data and results from other studies, research and monitoring that are relevant to assessing the State of the Marine Litter problem is absent.
Coastal Cleanup

Vietnam participates in the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC)
www.coastalcleanup.org

* ICC firstly held in 2000 in only one coastal city
* Since 2000, ICC held annually in Vietnam
* Up to now, ICC program is expanded and held annually in many coastal provinces of Vietnam.

Annually since 1994, the Clean Up the World takes place in not only coastal provinces, but also all provinces and cities of Vietnam

Vietnam also participates in Clean Up the World
www.cleanuptheworld.org

World Environment Day is also celebrated annually in Vietnam by all provinces
At present, Vietnam does not have an official Lead Agency for Marine Litter Issues yet. However, so far Vietnam Environment Protection Agency (VEPA) still dealing with marine environment protection issues. Because of VEPA functions and tasks, VEPA is considered the most suitable agency to take Lead Agency for Marine Litter issues.

Vietnam does not have any cross-sectoral task-force, working group, committee or similar group with responsibility for, or interest in dealing with Marine Litter issues.
Vietnam has many policies, legislation, regulations and other instruments that mention very generally the protection of marine environment from marine litter issues.

However, there is no a specific policy, legislation or regulation directly addressing marine litter.

* Law on environment protection 1993 and revision 2005;
* Vietnam Maritime Code 1990 and revision 2005;
* Law on Oil and Gas, 2000;
* Law on Mineral;
* Law on Water Resources;
* Decrees:
Participation in International Conventions

**MARPOL**
On August 29, 1991 Vietnam officially signed and participated in MARPOL 73/78 Convention by signing Annexes of I and II of the Convention. Vietnam has not ratified Annex V of MARPOL yet. However, Ministry of Transport is promoting this participation process of Vietnam.

**BASEL**

Other global/regional programs
- PEMSEA
- COBSEA
Understanding and awareness

Understanding and awareness about marine litter is very low. Understanding and awareness are varied from different decision/policy making groups.

Economic Instruments

There are some economic instruments but they are not applicable to marine litter.
Specific regulations/laws on waste discharge to the seas or post-collection treatment not yet available;

Marine litter management Plans at all levels are not yet developed. Even, all seaports of Vietnam do not have their own environment management plans;

Waste treatment system at seaports not yet available

Integrated Management System for all marine activities not yet established

Information system and Information exchange mechanism among various sectors are extremely weak

Awareness of communities are weak

Expenditure for environmental protection is quite low
NATIONAL NEEDS & ACTION PLAN

- Develop relevant legal law and policies
- Build and strengthen capacity for both managers and professionals;
- Develop and establish mechanisms for marine litter management;
- Establish marine litter monitoring system;
- Periodically develop Report on State of marine litter;
Invest and upgrade infrastructure for management and treatment of marine litter;

Propagate laws and regulations and awareness to relevant groups;

Strengthen international cooperation;

An official Lead Agency for Marine Litter in Vietnam should be nominated by the Government of Vietnam in order to facilitate international cooperation issues on marine litter.
DEVELOP AND ADAPT A REGIONAL COOPERATION MECHANISM IN MANAGING MARINE LITTER IN EAS;

DEVELOP AND APPROVE A REGIONAL PLAN TO MANAGE MARINE LITTER. THE PLAN WITH SPECIFIC PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES.

ESTABLISH A REGIONAL INSTITUTION FOR MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT.

DEVELOP A DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND SHARING SYSTEM AT REGIONAL LEVEL

TRAINING AND RAISING AWARENESS FOR MANAGERS, POLICY MAKERS, ... ON MARINE LITTER

CALL UPON FINANCIAL SUPPORTS FOR REGIONAL MARINE LITTER
Thank you for your attention!