

# 3RproMar in Soc Trang: Protecting the marine environment and coral reefs

## Background

The regional project "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to Protect the Marine Environments and Coral Reefs," funded by the German Government and in collaboration with ASEAN, aims to support the efforts of ASEAN Member States in reducing the leakage of plastic waste from land into the sea.

This project has national components implemented in Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, and the Philippines. In Vietnam, Soc Trang province, downstream of Bassac River, Mekong Delta, has been chosen as the perfect place for a pilot site.



Soc Trang is a southern coastal province located at the downstream end of the Bassac River in the Mekong Delta—Vietnam's most important agricultural region and the "rice bowl" of Southeast Asia, home to around 18 million people. However, rapid urban and economic development has put growing pressure on water bodies, especially coastal waters, which face serious pollution from plastic waste and transboundary waste from upstream of the Mekong River Basin. With a 72-kilometer coastline and two major estuaries—Hau and My Thanh Rivers—Soc Trang has abundant marine resources and strong potential for integrated marine economic development, including fisheries, aquaculture, marine industries, port services, tourism, and maritime transport.

## The 5 Work Packages of Pilot Activities in Soc Trang

- 1 Supporting the implementation of the Waste Segregation at source Plan in accordance with the guideline of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment

- 2 Support the development and implementation of various models, including Green House models, community-based composting models

- 3 Organize and implement communication activities to widely disseminate information and engage diverse target groups (clean-up events, school activities, etc.)

- 4 Capacity Building for Local Stakeholders through trainings, workshops, study tour, etc.

- 5 Promote private sector engagement in implementing 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) activities within the plastic value chain



## More about 3RproMar



3RproMar Factsheet



3RproMar Vietnam Video

## 3RproMar Soc Trang Results

Through close cooperation and coordination with the Soc Trang Department of Agriculture and Environment and the People's Committee of Tran De, Vinh Chau, and Cu Lao Dung districts, since the implementation in 2024, 3RproMar Soc Trang has:

Training of trainers (ToT) on waste segregation at source for **60** government officers in Soc Trang and **120** students and teachers in 3 coastal districts

Awareness raising program among students and practice waste segregation in Tran De town

Develop draft Action Plan on waste segregation at source in Soc Trang province

Knowledge exchange and capacity building for local stakeholders

Provide **18300** 3R notebooks and **4,150** shopping bags and **4,500** mesh bags to schools and community.

Implementing **700 meters** of bamboo trash trap to collect marine litter in Vinh Chau town

Distribute **100** "Green House" models to **838** trash bins to 3 coastal districts

Clean-up events in 3 coastal districts

By integrating green practices into our schools, we are not only protecting the environment but also nurturing a generation that values sustainability. Through weekly awareness activities, waste segregation training, and school-wide recyclable waste collection campaigns, we empower our students to become responsible stewards of the planet

Ms. Pham Thi Cam Tu, Head of the Department of Education and Training of Vinh Chau town, Soc Trang province

I believe that real change comes from action, not just words. By bringing together women, youth, teachers, and students for monthly clean-up campaigns at Kinh Ba sluice gate, we are taking meaningful steps to protect our land and waters from plastic pollution.

Mr. Ong Tien Chuong, Vice Chairman of Tran De Town People's Committee, Soc Trang province

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