

Safeguarding communities along the Mekong Delta

Over 282,000 people in the townships of Bac Lieu, Ha Tien and Sa Dec, now have direct access to piped clean water and sanitation facilities through a joint initiative by the Vietnamese and Australian Governments.

These three towns were given priority because of rapidly deteriorating environmental health conditions, a growing demand for clean water supply and appropriate sanitation, and the potential for economic growth. The new water systems in all three towns are now operational and will progressively expand to meet the increasing populations and future house connections demand.

The project has focussed on infrastructure, strengthening the local institutions and developing the health and welfare of the communities.

The project's infrastructure has provided a clean 24-hour water supply to the existing urban and newly developing areas as well as:

- Water pressure has been increased and reliability of the systems improved.
- New drainage systems have been constructed.
- Public toilets have been provided at bus stations, markets and other public places.
- Many household septic tanks and toilets have been built through on-going sanitation credit-schemes.
- The existing uncontrolled rubbish dumpsites are being replaced with new sanitary landfills sufficient to cater for community needs until 2020.
- Rubbish bins, pedicarts and trucks have been provided to extend the solid waste collection services to all urban areas and commune centres.

The project's institutional strengthening and community development components provided training and equipment to build the capacity of local water supply and environment companies to operate and maintain the new works. These efforts have also improved the overall welfare, living conditions and health of the communities by increasing their awareness of water, sanitation and health linkages.

Leading a consortium including a local engineering firm and water supply companies, GHD commenced the project in year 2001.

Completed in July 2008, the residents in the urban and peri-urban areas of the three towns are now enjoying the benefits of improved water supplies, town drainage, sanitation and solid waste treatment centres.

*International Development Assistance Group
GHD Ho Chi Minh City*

Project Profile

Project: The Three Delta Towns Water Supply and Sanitation
Client: Co-funded by AusAID and the Government of Vietnam
Duration: October 2001 - July 2008
Location: Mekong Delta Region, Vietnam