



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & PAPER SUBMISSIONS

WORKSHOP ON TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS TO WASTEWATER FROM TOUR BOATS AND TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN HA LONG BAY AND CAT BA ARCHIPELAGO

Ha Long, 5th April 2019

Ha Long Bay Management Board and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) would like to invite businesses, scientists, and professionals from Vietnam and abroad to attend and deliver presentations at the *Workshop on Technology and Management Solutions to wastewater from tour boats and tourism activities in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago*. This activity is part of the Ha Long Bay- Cat Ba Alliance Initiative funded by US Agency for International Cooperation (USAID).

Time (tentatively): 5th April 2019 at Ha Long City, Quang Ninh Province. Details of agenda and venue will be announced later.

Key themes: Presentations should focus on one of the following three topics:

1. Appropriate wastewater treatment technology to be installed on tour boats operating in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago.
2. Appropriate technology to treat wastewater from other tourism activities in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago
3. Design, operation, management, and monitoring solutions of the collection and treatment of wastewater from tour boats and other tourism activities at Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago based on international and domestic experiences.

Detailed requirements are given at the [workshop concept note](#)

Registration process:

- Please fill in this online registration form: <https://goo.gl/forms/HXU5aHpaku5Nsj372> no later than **17th March, 2019** (Gmail accounts will be required to fill in the form).
- After receiving your registration forms, the organizers will set up an evaluation team to screen and select the most appropriate technologies and solutions to present at the workshop. Companies that are not selected for presentation will still be invited to join as normal attendees and can register to display your products at the workshop. Selection results will be announced by 22nd March 2019

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CONCEPT NOTE

**WORKSHOP ON TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS TO
WASTEWATER FROM TOUR BOATS AND TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN HA LONG
BAY AND CAT BA ARCHIPELAGO**

Ha Long, 5th April 2019

1. Introduction

Ha Long Bay World Natural Heritage Site and Cat Ba Archipelago Biosphere Reserve are the two top tourist attraction areas of Viet Nam, famous worldwide for their beautiful seascape with thousands of small and large karst mountains rising from the sparkling green waters. Yet, they are also sensitive marine areas and environmentally impacted by development activities such as tourism, maritime activities, aquaculture, coastal urban development, and so on.

At Ha Long Bay, in 2018, there were about 505 tourism boats including more than 320 day boats and more than 160 overnight boats. At Cat Ba Archipelago, there are currently 121 boats providing tourism services including 59 overnight boats and 62 day boats. The local government has taken many regulatory efforts to manage discharge from cruise ships; however, pollution from waste water including black water and grey water is still a threat. In Ha Long, though 100% boats have an installed oil separator system, only a few modern steel boats have installed on-board waste water treatment equipment for both black water and grey water. Other old, small, and wooden boats cannot do the same due to the limited space of the engine room. Meanwhile, Tuan Chau International Port has no facility to collect waste water from these boats for proper in-land treatment. At tourist sites and on floating construction such as those used for floating aquaculture farms for tourism purposes, the amount of wastewater from toilets is increasing significantly and at a trend exceeding the capacity of current septic tanks, which requires better and more innovative technology to address. Likewise, Cat Ba Archipelago also does not have such wastewater collection and treatment system leading to high risks of environmental contamination.

In July 2018, the IUCN's advisory mission to Ha Long Bay expressed their concern over the projected growth of visitors to the site and concluded that if effective management of visitors and waste is not strengthened, the impacts on aesthetic values will cause a significant threat to the OUV of the property.

With an aim to solve the pollution risk from waste water discharged from tour boats and tourism activities, Ha Long Bay Management Board in collaboration with IUCN will organise a ***Workshop on Technology and Management Solutions to wastewater from tour boats and tourism activities in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago***. This activity is part of the Ha Long Bay- Cat Ba Alliance Initiative funded by US Agency for International Cooperation (USAID).

2. Workshop Objectives:

- Share and update information about new, modern, and appropriate wastewater treatment technologies that meet Vietnam's national technical standards and other regulations on environmental protection in Quang Ninh and Hai Phong;
- Discuss potential design, operation, management, and monitoring solutions of the collection and treatment of wastewater from tour boats and other tourism activities at Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago based on international and domestic experiences;
- Connect professionals, scientists, and businesses working in the field of equipment supply and consultancy on wastewater treatment and management with tour boat owners operating in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago and government agencies in charge.

3. Participants

Around 100 people from central government agencies, Provincial People's Committee and related departments (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Tourism, Department of Transport, Port Authority) of Quang Ninh Province and Hai Phong City, Ha Long Bay Management Board, Management Board of Bays within Cat Ba Archipelago, cruise companies, boat owners operating in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago, scientists, domestic and foreign businesses operating in the field of equipment supply and consultancy on wastewater treatment and management and media.

4. Contents of the Workshop

The workshop has three main sessions:

- Session 1: Current status of the water environment at Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago and updated regulations and new policies related to waste water treatment from tour boats and environmental protection in Quang Ninh and Hai Phong City;
- Session 2: Appropriate technologies to treat wastewater from tour boats and tourism activities in Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago
- Session 3: Design, operation, management, and monitoring solutions of the collection and treatment of wastewater from tour boats and other tourism activities at Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago based on international and domestic experiences.

5. Required information in presentations

The proposed technology to treat wastewater from tour boats and tourism activities should meet the following requirements:

- The technology needs to meet Vietnam national technical standards on on-boat wastewater treatment system according to Circular No. 53/2018 / TT-BGTVT dated October 28, 2018 (effective from July 1, 2019), technical standards on domestic wastewater QCVN14:2008/BTNMT of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment under Decision No.16/2008/QD-BTNMT dated December 31, 2008 and other regulations

on environmental protection of Quang Ninh Province and Hai Phong City. Please indicate whether the technology has been tested and certified by Vietnam Register Agency and attach certificates (if available);

- The technology should be suitable to install on tour boats (both wooden and steel vessels). For wooden vessels, the treatment equipment should have limited length by width size at 1m x 1m in order to pass through the engine room gates and can disassemble for easy delivery and installation on small boats. Please send details of the machine's specification, pictures, or introduction video if available;
- Technology can be domestically produced or has been approved to be imported from abroad.
- Technology that has been widely piloted and tested in Viet Nam is preferable. Please specify locations and businesses which have used the technology.

For presentations on design, operation, management, and monitoring solutions of the collection and treatment of wastewater from tour boats and other tourism activities at Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Archipelago based on international and domestic experiences, concrete measures and steps should be identified with details on:

- Where have the solutions been applied and the results to date;
- Provide details of required equipment, infrastructure, and policy support;
- How to coordinate and monitor the compliance of boat owners

6. References on status of water quality in Ha Long Bay

- [Dr. Le Tuan Anh \(2015\). *Situation Analysis of the Water Quality of Ha Long Bay, Quang Ninh Province, Viet Nam: A social study from tourism businesses' perspectives*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN, 46pp.](#)
- [Report of IUCN's Advisory mission to Ha Long Bay in July 2018](#)

7. Contacts

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