



The oceans play a crucial role on our planet, impacting both the global environment and human life. The various natural elements of the ocean, including currents, water temperature, marine chemistry, marine biology, and marine ecology, all have a significant influence on our world. In fact, over three billion people around the world rely on marine biodiversity for their livelihoods in coastal regions. However, the current state of our oceans is concerning, with 30% of the world's fish stocks being overexploited and unable to sustainably produce yields. Additionally, the ocean absorbs approximately 30% of the carbon dioxide emissions produced by humans, leading to acidification of more than 26% of the world's oceans since the beginning of the industrial revolution. Furthermore, marine pollution, primarily originating from land-based sources, has reached alarming levels, with an average of 13,000 pieces of plastic debris found per square kilometer of ocean.

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In this context, DNC regularly organizes workshops, training, and expert consultations on environmental protection, with a focus on water resources. These activities involve discussions and exchanges, aimed at proposing solutions to maintain the local aquatic ecosystem. Additionally, the university collaborates with local authorities to fulfill their responsibilities in preventing changes to the aquatic ecosystem. This includes entering into agreements with local authorities to clearly define relevant responsibilities. Through these efforts, DNC effectively carries out specific tasks in accordance with regulations.

# WATER POLLUTION REDUCTION POLICY

DNC implemented several measures to prevent polluted water from entering the water system. These measures include:



- Construction of a separate drainage system for domestic wastewater and industrial wastewater
- Planting trees to prevent rainwater from washing away pollutants.
- Using wastewater collection pits to prevent waste from entering the water system.
- Regularly inspecting and maintaining the water system to detect and promptly address issues.
- Additionally, during orientation sessions, DNC teaches students on the importance of protecting clean water sources and preventing polluted water from entering the system. Students are instructed on how to use clean water efficiently and how to properly sort and dispose of waste.

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# WATER CONSERVATION POLICY

In all restroom areas, there are signs encouraging water conservation, reminding people to turn off water when not in use. These signs are placed in areas like sinks, where water waste is most likely to occur. Currently, faculty, staff, and students at DNC are all adhering well to this regulation.



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# CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION POLICIES WITH FOCUS ON WATER CONSERVATION

Before building new structures or renovating existing ones, DNC has organized workshops on policies for construction and renovation, emphasizing water conservation. Regulations require adherence to construction standards, prioritizing efficient and economical water use. This includes using advanced technology and equipment to reduce water consumption during construction and subsequent operation of the facility. DNC actively promotes the installation of rainwater collection systems and water-saving irrigation systems on the university's main campus. DNC aims to use recycled water in its buildings and minimize water usage through the implementation of water-saving flush systems, smart faucets, and water-saving devices.

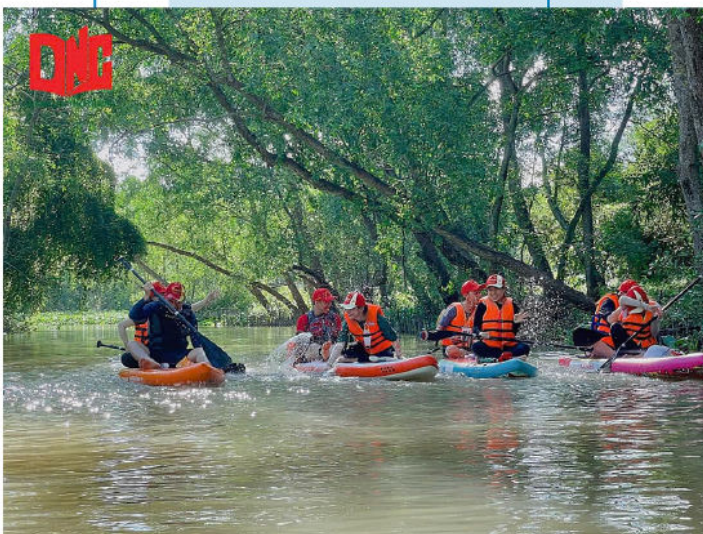


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## COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO MAINTAIN AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

In addition to gaining practical experience through study tours to other regions, DNC also works closely with local authorities to fulfill its mission of preserving aquatic ecosystems. One successful collaboration has been with the GreenHUB organization on their "For a River Without Waste" project, which has made a positive impact in the Con Son tourist area and the Cai Rang Floating Market. The project has implemented pilot systems for collecting and transporting waste from local residents' boats at the market and in Con Son. In just over six months, the project has collected and transported 338 tons of low-value waste to the city's waste processing center.



## RAISING AWARENESS OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM MAINTENANCE

DNC educates students on the significance of safeguarding water environments in their living and learning areas. This is achieved through various initiatives such as regular clean-up efforts of rivers, canals, ponds, and lakes to prevent pollution sources from impacting local water environments. These activities are carried out through campaigns like Green Sunday and Summer volunteer campaigns. The efforts also involve maintaining cleanliness in public spaces, clearing village roads, unblocking drains (which must have covers), and preventing untreated wastewater from being discharged into ponds and lakes without proper drainage systems.



## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON SUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION OF MARINE RESOURCES

In a paper published in the proceedings of the International Conference on Natural Sciences and Environment 2020, which took place on December 27, 2020 at Dong Thap University, the scientific article "Payments for Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Services: Lessons from Previous Experiences" highlights the crucial role of marine ecosystem services in promoting sustainable development strategies. The paper discusses both the successes and challenges faced in implementing marine ecosystem services in Vietnam, and offers solutions for effectively enforcing marine ecosystem service policies in the country.



# ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS



To improve and restore aquatic ecosystems, it is crucial for both the community as a whole and individuals to recognize the importance of taking action towards sustainable development. DNC has implemented various initiatives, including promoting awareness, conducting scientific research, and integrating reports and specialized topics into environmental courses. In order prevent changes in aquatic ecosystems, DNC has intensified awareness campaigns targeting students, faculty, and staff members.

The Youth Union and Student Association of DNC integrate these efforts into environmental protection movements, with achievements recognized through evaluations of student conduct. For courses related to the environment, thematic reports, presentations, and topics are incorporated in a manner appropriate to each specific subject.



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