

Project Update: March 2009

The progress of project is as follows at this moment:

1. The training workshops on the planting and culture the seaweeds and marine animals were organized. The skills of planting the seaweeds, culture the bivalves, molluscs, sea-cucumbers and sea-horses were transferred to the local communities of the Cam Hai Dong village by scientists from the Institute of Oceanography.
2. After attending in these training workshops. The local communities have started to plant the seaweeds(*Kappaphycus alvarezii* Doty, *Kappaphycus striatum* Doty in the buffer zone of seagrass area. These two kinds' seaweeds are economic seaweeds they will contribute to improve the living condition of the villagers by their great values in exportation for processing carrageenan. The seedlings of these two economic seaweeds have been bought from Van Phong bay (north Khanh Hoa province) and Son Hai(Ninh Thuan province) and are well developed in the Cam Hai Dong area. The harvest of seaweeds will carry out every 3 months. That is the source of income for local communities to increase their living condition.
3. Along with planting the economic seaweeds. Local communities were encouraged to culture the bivalves such as *Perna viridis* Linnaeus; Molluscs such as *Babylonia areolata* Link in the buffer zone of seagrass beds. The culture *Perna viridis* Linnaeus by used the column and monoline method; and *Babylonia areolata* in the buffer zone covered by net. All the breeding animals were transplanted from the farms of north Khanh Hoa province(Luong Son, Hon Khoi, Van Phong bay)
4. The culture the sea-cucumbers and sea-horses were carried out simultaneously in seagrass beds of Cam Hai Dong.
Almost valuable animals associated in seagrass beds, when they become adult, will live in this area. So there are nursery grounds. The mariculture activities by frame, column, monoline ...will protect of this areas.
5. The rehabilitated seagrass area was checked by transect and replanted the seagrass loss by local communities.



