

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION IN LARGE CITIES

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Currently there are 795 cities in Vietnam, of which, 2 cities (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) are the special cities; 3 cities (Hai Phong, Da Nang and Hue) are Class I cities directly under the central government; 14 cities are Class I cities; 25 cities are Class II cities; 41 cities are Class III cities; 84 cities are class IV cities and 626 cities are Class V cities.

The volume of water used for the cities in Vietnam is from several hundred to thousand millions of m³ per year, of which, about 50% of water supply amount is from groundwater. The abstraction of groundwater has contributed significantly to the socio-economic development of the country, improving the quality of people life. However, groundwater abstraction and urbanization have created many adverse impacts to groundwater resources such as: depletion, increased pollution, salt water intrusion of groundwater resources and land surface subsidence.

Recognizing the importance of groundwater resources for socio-economic development in our country's cities now and for many years to come, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 323 / QD-TTg dated 18/02/2013 approving the project "Groundwater protection in large cities". Following the decision of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment issued Decision No. 1557 / QD-BTNMT dated 30 August 2013 approving the content and budget for the groundwater protection project. Phase I will be implemented in 09 key cities: Ha Noi, Thai Nguyen, Hai Duong, Quy Nhon, Vung Tau, Buon Me Thuot, Ho Chi Minh City, Can Tho and My Tho.

The project was implemented by the National Center for Water Resources Planning and Investigation with the participation of the following organizations: Division of Water Resources Planning and Investigation for the North of Vietnam, Division of Water Resources Planning and Investigation for the Central of Vietnam; Division of Water Resources Planning and Investigation for the South of Vietnam; Center for Quality and Protection of Water Resources; Water Resources Data Center; Center for Water Resources Technology and Department of Water Resources Management. The project was implemented from 2013 to 2017, basically completed in 2018.

The presentation will present the main results and several recommendation of and from the above-mentioned project.