



WASTE TO VALUE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Swisscontact's **Waste to Value project** strengthens the environmental performance in service sector SMEs by improving waste management practices, and access to green products, operational costs are reduced, incomes increased and green jobs created. The project further strengthens business operations and improves workplace safety for informal waste pickers increasing their income and quality of livelihood. Awareness raising among service sector SMEs and the wider population along with encouraging public-private consultation meetings in the Lao PDR in line with national and municipal government strategies.

Activities in the Chanthabuly and Xaysetha districts in Vientiane Capital, and the Vangvieng district in Vientiane Province benefit:

- Up to 600 service sector SMEs focusing on hotels, restaurants, cafes and mini-marts through reducing operational costs and strengthening their competitive advantage through environmental-friendly solutions.
- Up to 160 informal waste pickers through a safer work environment and improved business performance to increase their incomes.

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This project is part of the Swisscontact Development Programme, which is co-financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA and other donors.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

GREEN PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Promotion and support to develop and supply innovative green products and services to service sector SMEs, with a focus on hotels, restaurants and cafes that will strengthen their value proposition and competitive advantage through adopting these environmental-friendly solutions.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Improve resource efficiency and the management of organic and non-organic waste among targeted SMEs to reduce operational costs and increase the quality and quantity of clean recyclables. Informal waste pickers are also supported to improve workplace safety, business operations and market access to strengthen their livelihoods.

AWARENESS RAISING & DIALOGUES

Raise awareness on circular economy and increase communication between key project stakeholders from the public and private sectors to strengthen coordination and cooperation, with the aim to increase the demand for environmentally friendly products and services among SMEs and their customers.