



Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Phnom Penh

Press Release

German Ambassador visits COMPED Compost production facility and Steung Meanchey Waste Disposal site

The German Ambassador, Frank M. Mann, on June 13, 2008, paid a visit to the Cambodian Education and Waste Management Organisation COMPED which is operating since 2000 as officially registered non-governmental organisation. The aim of COMPED is to cooperate with the authorities in dealing with the waste crisis in Phnom Penh, organise activities to save the environment and to exchange experiences with farmers in particular by improving agricultural soil by using compost.

COMPED had in the past been supported by the Thüringisch-Kambodschanische Gesellschaft e.V. (Friendship Association Thuringia-Cambodia), the Bauhaus University of Weimar and the „Agraria del Parco di Monza“ organisation of Italy. Under a project funded by the European Union environmental guidelines in the field of solid waste management and a centre for environmental education were established.

With the Steung Meanchey solid waste repository soon to be closed a lot remains to be done in the field of recycling, waste minimisation and the use of organic waste for compost. A very promising field is the use of methane gas from the waste deposit for electricity generation after having been sealed. Another important field is the restoration and reclamation of the Steung Meanchey landfill which will be effected in partnership with the Municipal public works Company Erfurt (SWE) and International Environmental Consulting, Erfurt (IEC) and supported by the Ministry for Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Environment of the German Federal State of Thuringia.

The German Ambassador remarked during his visit that household and industrial waste may still serve as important secondary raw materials for many different uses. The separation of different wastes such as glass, paper and card boxes, plastic, tins and aluminium can generate employment and income for many families. In addition: Compost is a valuable product which can increase the yield in gardens and agriculture.

For additional information call:

Mr. Sam Phalla
Manager of Compost Project
+855 (0) 23 222 963
website: <http://www.comped-cam.org>

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