

## **The final contest “Ring the Golden Bell – Learn about Arsenic” in Nam Dinh Province.**

By Thanh Tam

Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011, updated 14:18.

On 10/07/2011 at My Tan Secondary, My Loc district, Nam Dinh province, the Center for Water Resources Information - Economics in collaboration with Lien AID held an awards ceremony for the finals of the "Ring the Golden Bell – Learn about Arsenic" Contest. The contest was held as part of a joint initiative carried out by both organisations to pilot household arsenic treatment models in the Nam Dinh Province, coupled with an IEC (Information, Education and Communication) campaign on arsenic in the water.

The aim of the project is to educate children and people about the harmful effects of high levels of arsenic in the water, and to create awareness on the importance of clean water.

In September and October 2011, a writing competition, a painting contest on the environment and a final contest, “Ring the Golden Bell – Learn about Arsenic” at school and district levels were organised by My Tan Secondary and My Trung Secondary, My Loc District, Nam Dinh Province.

From those competitions, the Organizing Committee has conducted award for participating students who have the most outstanding achievements. The first prize of the "Ring the Golden Bell – Learn about Arsenic" contest was given to Phan Sy Thuan, a student of class 8C, My Tan Secondary.

Speaking at the awards and closing ceremony of the “Ring the Golden Bell – Learn about Arsenic” contest at district level, Mr. Tran Manh Hung, the Principal of My Tan Secondary, said that the competition is a useful extracurricular activity which helps students further their understanding of the harmful effects of arsenic - "silent killer". From this competition, the kids will be active propagators of water use, and ensure hygiene standards for each family and society, contributing to a healthier world.

The Center for Water Resources Information - Economics is implementing the project "Arsenic treatment models and IEC campaign on Arsenic" funded by Lien AID. The project aims to raise awareness and pilot household arsenic treatment models for contaminated groundwater in the Red River Delta.

The project has completed the construction phase of these household arsenic treatment models in two villages Hong Ha I and Hong Ha II (My Tan commune, My Loc district, Nam Dinh Province). The second phase of the project which includes organising IEC campaigns and workshops is currently ongoing.

### **Media Coverage**

Press on Water Resources, Vietnam:

<http://www.monre.gov.vn/v35/default.aspx?tabid=428&CateID=5&ID=108832&Code=T3FB108832>

Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE), Gia Lai Province

<http://tnmtgialai.gov.vn/index.php?cires=News&in=viewst&sid=1860>

Department of Nature Resources and Environment (DONRE), Vinh Phuc Province

[http://tnmtvinhphuc.gov.vn/index.php?nre\\_vp=News&in=viewst&sid=3096](http://tnmtvinhphuc.gov.vn/index.php?nre_vp=News&in=viewst&sid=3096)