## **VPC receives environment award**

The Vietnam Environment Awards, initiated in 2001 by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, were bestowed on six organizations and eight individuals on 29 May 2003, among which was the Vietnam Productivity Center (VPC). Since 1998, the VPC has organized a host of Green Productivity-Integrated Community Development (GP-ICD) projects nationwide. Although most GP projects in APO member countries are implemented in the industrial and agricultural sectors, Vietnam was the first to apply the GP concept at community level. The GP Program of the VPC is therefore different in nature and scope, with the support and direct involvement of various governmental agencies, local citizens' groups, and individual villagers. Receipt of the collective award reinforces the commitment of the VPC to environmental improvement. It also underlines the achievements of GP-ICD in Vietnam and highlights the success of environmental projects initiated and supported by the APO.



Vietnam Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Mai Ai Truc (R) presenting the award to Nguyen Thi Bich Hang, VPC Managing Director