

Dear Reader,

In spite of the current situation, we hope you have found time to rest during the Songkran holidays. So far, Thai-German as well as Southeast-Asian-German technical cooperation projects based in Bangkok have not been affected. However, we hope that the situation will return to normal soon. Sustainable development - economical, social and environmental - in Thailand and throughout the region can only be achieved if a certain level of political stability is in place.

In the meantime GTZ has started a new 3-year project: a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with MERCK concerning environmentally sound management of chemical wastes in the region. During the 1st quarter, there were several activities outside the core activities, such as the Thai-German eco-industrial forum on Map Ta Phut, the visit to Mae Moh coal mine and EGAT power plant or the regional meeting on human resources management in auditing institutions.

We hope you will enjoy this edition. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact us. Your comments are most welcome.

With best regards
 Your Newsletter Team

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Initial Review on Safety, Health and Environmental Management in Eight ASEAN Ports

Nine ports in five countries are now actively participating in the project '**Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN region**'. The ports involved in the project share many similar problems such as reception and handling of ship-generated waste, handling and storage of dangerous goods and traffic management. However, we recognize that each port is unique and needs tailor-made solutions and support from the project to progress at its own pace.

For the project to provide adequate support to each of the ports, it is important to establish a baseline, which is the current status of safety, health and environmental (SHE) management performance. An Initial Review is being carried out in each of the participating ports to assess the current status. This is done in close cooperation with the Partnership for Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), with whom the project concluded a cooperation agreement in 2009. The objectives of the Initial Review are to:

- 1) review the position and status of SHE management;
- 2) identify and discuss bottlenecks and deficiencies of existing systems and procedures;
- 3) identify the most important SHE risks, aspects and impacts of port operation processes;
- 4) discuss and recommend a preliminary strategic action plan / work program of the project - based on the results of the Initial Review.

Up until now eight ports in five countries have been reviewed and for each of the ports, recommendations for improvement have been developed: Port of Sihanoukville and Port of Phnom Penh (Cambodia), Port of Tanjung Priok and Port of Tanjung Perak (Indonesia), Port of Iloilo (Philippines), Bangkok Port, Laem Chabang Port (Thailand) and Saigon Port (Vietnam).



In Thailand, the Port of Bangkok has started to update and rewrite its SHE regulations and procedures and Laem Chabang Port has decided to do the same. The project provides information, guidance and quality control for this activity in both ports. We expect other ports to take on the issue of obsolete SHE regulations and procedures in the near future. The project will then facilitate interaction between the Port of Bangkok and the other ports, which will enable them to benefit from the experiences of the Port of Bangkok.

In February 2010, Sihanoukville Port signed an agreement with PEMSEA for the development and implementation of a Port Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (PSHEMS) in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding standard developed by PEMSEA. In March 2010 PEMSEA started to train and prepare staff members of the port authority for the step-by-step development and implementation process of the system.

During the next two months the project will focus on the finalisation of the work program for each port, the development and delivery of a general awareness course and a function-specific course on the handling and storage of dangerous goods in port areas, a traffic management study for the Port of Bangkok and completion of the final Initial Review in the Port of Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines.

First Regional Workshop Strengthens Ports Network



During 21-22 January 2010, the "**Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region**" project organized its first international workshop in Bangkok, hosted by the Port Authority of Thailand (PAT), in which

experts and port managers discussed the strategy, approaches and activities of the project in close cooperation with the Partnership in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA). The workshop resulted in a mutual understanding among participants about the approach and the objectives of the project. It also facilitated the exchange of experiences between all participants who gained insight into the main problems and possible solutions for sustainable port development.

52 representatives of ASEAN Ports Association, GTZ, PEMSEA and the port authorities of Bangkok and Laem Chabang (Thailand), Saigon (Vietnam), Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville (Cambodia), Tanjung Priok and Tanjung Perak (Indonesia), Cagayan de Oro and Iloilo (Philippines), Dili (Timor-Leste) participated in the workshop.

Business Membership Promotion Project Held an Inception Workshop

In February 2010, The Business Membership Organization (BMO) Promotion Project, a collaborative project by the Board of Trade of Thailand (BOT), the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) and GTZ, held an inception workshop to inform stakeholders about the project's information and action plan and to discuss project priorities. The workshop was attended by more than 50 representatives from project partners and relevant agencies, including the Thai Tapioca Starch Association (TTSA), the Thai Organic Trader Association (TOTA), the Solar Thermal Association (STA), the Thai Rice Exporters Association, the Thai Bioplastics Industry Association (TBIA), the Thai Chamber of Commerce Chiangmai, the FTI Chapter Nakhonpathom, the Department of Business Development (DBD) and the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce. Experts from Singapore and Germany shared their experiences on BMOs in both Asia and Europe along the five main components of BMO development:

- 1) Mission and vision building
- 2) Membership development and income generation
- 3) Advocacy
- 4) BMO management
- 5) Information services



In addition, they conducted a baseline survey and situation analysis of each participating BMO. Based on the five areas and the results of the need analysis further training and coaching workshops will be conducted. Members of the board, executives and the working groups of participating BMOs under the Thai-German Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness (T-G PEC) will receive capacity building support, particularly on the management and infrastructure of their BMOs, to strengthen their roles in public-private partnerships in the future.

First Workshop of the Eco-Efficiency Benchmarking Initiative Phase II



In December 2009 GTZ has launched the second phase of the Eco-Efficiency Benchmarking by conducting a survey on production efficiency, energy/resource consumption, loss and waste utilization in the production process in 11 participating factories. In March 2010, GTZ held the first workshop at the Thai Tapioca Starch Association (TTSA). The objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- 1) To report the results of the baseline survey and production efficiency data collection. The data will be used in the analysis to compare eco-efficiency of energy/resources use,
- 2) To report the results of the first benchmarking (carried out during December 2009 - January 2010)
- 3) To review the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) data collection, data recording, data analysis, reporting format and method and to discuss obstacles affecting project implementation
- 4) To share lessons learned on "Approaches to Improve Eco-efficiency of Energy/resource Utilization" among tapioca production experts

The workshop will be held consecutively on a quarterly basis for one year to monitor the implementation of eco-efficiency improvement measures and to strengthen the capacity of personnel in the Thai tapioca industry.

Thai Organic Exporters at the World's Largest Organic Trade Fair

BioFach, the world's largest and most important organic trade fair, was held in Nuremberg, Germany from 17-20 February 2010. There were 2,534 exhibitors from 119 countries worldwide including Thailand. The 7 participating Thai organic exporters were: Merit Food Products, Top Organic, Riverkwai, Southeast Asia Organic, Green Net and Promgungwahn. The Department of Export Promotion (DEP), the Thai Organic Trade Association (TOTA) and GTZ jointly supported the 7 Thai exhibitors, which included a pre-event training, a joint reception, a Thai cooking demonstration, a seminar on "Sourcing Organic Products from Thailand", business matching at the event and a study trip to organic farms in Dottenfelderhof and Weingut Hamm afterwards.

During the fair, much interest was shown by international importers for Thai organic products. Information gathered from fair participants indicated that Thailand's organic exports are projected to reach US\$ 2.3 million in a year. Of particular interest are coconut juice, coconut milk, soy sauce, biscuits, soap, tapioca



flour and sugar. However, Thai rice, asparagus and coconut milk still face strong competition from the United States, Mexico and Sri Lanka respectively. In order to expand production and export to international markets, Thai organic exporters need to continuously develop new products, maintain production standards and improve trade negotiation skills, in order to retain current and to recruit new customers.

BioFach 2010 & Fish International: Organic Shrimp



At the BioFach 2010 exhibition in Nuremberg, Germany which took place between 17-21 February 2010, GTZ provided support to Sureerath Farm for giving a presentation on "Organic shrimp farming and produce from Thailand" to promote Thai organic shrimp.

A discussion with Naturland resulted in the positive conclusion that Sureerath farm would be able to increase stocking density from 15 pcs./m² to

approximately 30 pcs./m² as the result of the farm's closed loop system (no discharge of waste water outside the farm). The new calculation will be based on total pond surface rather than only grown-out ponds. This would generate higher yield and increase competitiveness in terms of pricing for Sureerath and other new farms.

With regards to business discussions, there were positive responses from current and potential clients for organic shrimp. Deutsche See, one of the current clients, requires more delivery of produce as soon as possible as they expect to run out of stock in April. Also, produce quotations were requested from prospective customers. Interestingly, a number of importers of conventional shrimp in Bremen have expressed their interests in expanding their product range to cover organic shrimp, organic Pangasius and Tilapia. These developments underline positive trends in the organic seafood industry.

Thai Delegation Visited Longan Orchards in Australia

In December 2009 GTZ led delegations from Maejo University on a trip to Queensland, Australia to study longan cultivation techniques, growing conditions, climate, farm management and post-harvest treatments. Officials of the Regional Industries Development Office and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI) escorted the team to visit eight longan orchards.

Cultivation and orchard management of the eight orchards are fairly similar. Initially the ground is leveled to provide truck and machinery access, which reduces the use of scarce and expensive labor. To facilitate the irrigation system, herbicides are applied under a canopy. Remarkably, despite intensive pesticides application, the farmers are able to supply longan to Sydney's central market. The key lies in the pesticides' quality, which meets farm safety certification requirements. Every orchard must be certified.



Most farmers in Australia have comprehensive operations, including their own packing houses and cold storage facilities. Regarding logistic service providers, produce from several orchards are loaded onto the same truck and transported to the market, which reduces transportation costs and eliminates intermediate suppliers. Through this system the scope of the intermediate supplier network has been restricted, and these will be eliminated from the supply chain if they are unable to provide added value for the produce.



Another key finding from this field trip is the importance of pruning.

Australian farmers place utmost importance on pruning and include its practice in the action plan after each harvest. Farmers normally divide their orchards into two sections and alternate between pruning by machine and

trimming by hand/machine. These cultivation practices are able to improve longan yield significantly and the average yield is about 150 kg/tree.

Governmental agencies, for example DPI, play a key role in providing technical support for farmers. Besides technical data on crop production, plant diseases and insect pests, DPI provides accurate recommendations based on growing conditions and local climate. Moreover, technical support teams are available to provide on-site assistance to farmers. In summary, Australian longan orchards are very advanced and professionally managed. To share the lessons learned and enable Thai farmers to apply them in their longan orchards, the Maejo team reported their study trip experiences in an article published in the February edition of the House Agricultural magazine.

Chiang Mai to Follow Its Own Vision and Goals for Clean Air

The city of Chiang Mai is a pioneer in setting a common vision and goal together with its citizens. With technical assistance from the project on Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region, city held its first roundtable meeting on 27th January 2010.

More than 200 people from various key stakeholder groups took part in a workshop held on 15-16 February in Chiang Mai. Among them were representatives from universities, youth associations, transport associations such as the *Song-Tieo* cooperative (who operated a passenger transport system using red pickups), cyclist groups, handicapped associations and other NGOs as well as representatives from local government authorities and agencies, provincial and national authorities, the army, and traffic police.



Both policy and technical issues were disseminated at the workshop as an input for formulating the common



vision of the Clean Air Plan (CAP). The City Mayor, Mr. Tassanai Buranupakorn, stressed the need for local policies and actions to prevent air-quality problems in the city as and also addressed his concern on adaptation measures to cope with global warming impact. Meanwhile, the Deputy Director General of Pollution Control Department (PCD), Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, presented information on air-pollution in Chiang Mai as an input for the process of vision and

goals formulation. Prof. Dr. Pongthep Vivattanadej and Prof. Manot Pothaporn (Chiang Mai University) provided the audience with findings on health and socio-economic impacts from air pollution.

Nearly 30 out of the 220 participants were invited to sit in the “Fish Bowl”, a seating arrangement which allows full participation of all stakeholders. Diverse interests and opinions were comprehensively reflected in the “Fish Bowl” on the common vision and efficiently complemented by comments from the rest of the audience. Following an extensive afternoon discussion the audience agreed and mutually announced the vision statement **“A city of clean air through collaboration among all people”**.

The interesting aspect of the vision formulation was that the audience clearly identified clean air as a community and not just the city authority's responsibility. As a next step, active citizens representing the major stakeholders were invited to formulate the goals based on the Vision.

Private-Public Initiative - Environmentally Sound Management of Chemical Wastes in South East Asia (SEA)

GTZ together with one of the German largest multi-national companies, Merck Limited, have started to implement a 3-year Public Private Partnership (PPP) project on the *Retrologistics* of chemicals and its packaging. This regional project, which covers Thailand, Indonesia and The Philippines, is considered to be a strategic alliance between the private sector (Merck) and official development assistance (working on behalf of the German Government represented by GTZ). The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of the company Merck with the support of GTZ shall lead to an enhanced system and framework conditions to collect, recycle and dispose chemical wastes and the contaminated packaging in a safe and environmentally friendly way. In March, the first workshop with concerned Thai stakeholders took place. Merck (as the supplier of the chemicals), customers (as users of the chemicals and generators of hazardous waste), and service providers (working in the field of transportation, recycling and disposal of hazardous substances) met together with representatives of the Thai government, the Department of Industrial Works (Min. of Industry) and the Pollution Control Department (Min. of Natural Resources and Environment) and GTZ to discuss the status quo on the collection and treatment for these



materials. The first workshop has shown to the participants that the existing system of *Retrologistics*, introduced by Merck with some of their customers, is working well, but outreach to further customers and the implementation of such a system as business as usual is still facing certain barriers. The project will address these barriers more specifically and will work out a strategy to improve hazardous waste handling in Thailand. A regional workshop with representatives of Thailand, Indonesia and The Philippines is planned for April to exchange more on appropriate solutions.

Guidelines for Integrated (Energy, Environment and Safety) Efficiency in Industries



Under the project “Energy Efficiency in Medium-Sized Enterprises”, a joint project by the Department of Industrial Works (DIW) and GTZ, guidelines for integrated (Energy, Environment and Safety) efficiency improvement in industries are being developed. The five pilot sectors include glass, ferrous

casting, aluminum casting, canned food and textiles.. Thai technical experts, specializing in relevant fields, including production technology, energy, environment and safety, from governmental and private agencies, industrial associations and academic institutions are

involved in the reviewing process and provided comments to improve the drafts.

The guidelines are based on “Best Available Technique – BAT” as defined by the IPPC Directive – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control of the EU. The guideline development process is as follows:

- 1) Conduct situation analysis of the Thai industry on production technology, energy consumption, environmental performances (air, industrial effluents and wastes) and safety procedures in the workplace
- 2) Review Thailand’s laws, regulations and standards on energy, environment and safety
- 3) German experts conduct factory visits and provide on-site consultation
- 4) Review BAT guidelines/measures to select and adapt them for the Thai industrial contexts

The draft reviewing process is now underway. The first reviewed draft, started in mid-February, was the guideline for the ferrous casting industry.

GTZ and ONEP Held a Meeting on Energy Efficiency in Buildings

The Climate Protection Policy Project, a joint project between the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and GTZ, held a meeting to share experiences on energy efficiency technology for buildings from 1-5 March 2010.

Mr. Siegfried Heise and Mr. Josef Hochhuber, German experts on climate change policy and energy management from the Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Public Health and Bavarian Environmental Protection Agency, shared experiences with Thai representatives from both public and private sectors, including the Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE), the Association of Siamese Architects (ASA), the Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT), the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the Khon Kaen Governor and provincial officials, the Environmental Office Region 10, as well as Amari Atrium Hotel and Imperial Queen’s Park Hotel, the two hotels awarded with the green leaf certificate. During the five days meeting, the German experts learnt about the Thai initiatives to regulate and



promote energy conservation. In return, they shared the development process of the new manual for energy efficient office buildings in Bavaria, in which the “10 commandments” for energy efficient office and industrial buildings were issued. In addition, the German experts discussed measures to regulate, promote and support environmental management to enable application of the energy efficiency approaches in Thailand.

For further information about 10 commandments for energy efficient office and industrial buildings, please see link below:

http://www.thai-german-cooperation.info/download/The-10-Commandments-on-Energy-Efficiency-in-Buildings_EN

GTZ and BMA Held a Meeting on Climate Change and City Planning

GTZ and BMA had meeting on 5 March 2010 at the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration Office. It aimed to discuss on the sharing

information and planning of city development integrated with environmental and climate change aspects.

GTZ shared the Berlin Environmental

Atlas and the types of data for city planning and environmental management. Dr. Wongpoom Wanasin, Advisor to the Vice Governor of BMA as well presented that currently the Department of City Planning are in the process to develop the 3rd Revision of Bangkok Comprehensive Plan. BMA also established a center calls "City Development Institute: CDI" which it develop and support research and knowledge of integrated urban management. Consequently, the Berlin case is very impressed to the BMA. Because they have developed the next city plan that integrated with Environmental and Climate change aspects. In addition, BMA was assigned to have plan and implementation to



pursue the Global Warming Action Plan 2007-2012. BMA intended to have collaboration with ONEP and

GTZ, in order to establish the public involvement and participation from all sectors, and develop the city planning to cope with the Green



House Gas emission and global warming adaptation. As a result, the meeting was mainly mentioned for further collaboration between ONEP, BMA, and GTZ under the Climate Protection Policy Project, regarding to the cooperation and technical support related to climate change during they have revision and public hearing under the Bangkok Comprehensive Plan 3rd Revision project. The development of city and community planning of BMA will be more sustainable and consequence to the national level as the ONEP is the climate change focal point.

GTZ Joined the 3rd Thailand Environmental Education Forum 2010

The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) held the 3rd Thailand Environmental Education (EE) Forum, with the theme "Sharing for change: we are living together" on 28-29 January 2010 at Pullman Khonkaen Raja Orchid Hotel, Khonkaen. It aimed to increase EE network and collaborative partnerships supporting and utilizing EE for advancing sustainable development in Thailand. Over 300 participants joined the event with booths from public and private organizations such as PTT, Kasikorn Bank, Thailand Education Foundation.



GTZ also invited Mr. Burghard Rauschelbach to share some German experiences on environmental education

and awareness raising issues. In the panel session on "Environmental Education has no Frontiers", he



emphasized that even Germany - with its over 30 years' experience in environmental education, the achievements are still limited. Therefore, he encouraged the Thai organizations to develop and create further environmental education activities.

GTZ also presented success cases on "Sustainable City Development" and the Thai-German Climate Protection Policy Project also presented its activities at a booth.

Three Major Palm Oil Mills to Develop Certified and Sustainable Palm Oil

On 2nd March 2010, GTZ and 3 major oil palm mills: Univanich Palm Oil Plc., Suksomboon Co. Ltd. and Southern Palm Oil Industry (1993) Co. Ltd. signed an implementation agreement of the project “Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy” which aims to develop certified and sustainable palm oil for export, particularly to European Union countries.

The agreement is an activity under the “Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy” project (2009-2011), implemented by GTZ in cooperation with the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE).

Mr. Daniel May, Project Director, said “Thailand has large oil palm planting areas, which have high potentials and opportunities for mutual productivity improvement between smallholders and palm oil mills. To achieve the goal, good relationship between palm oil mills and smallholders has to be established, enabling them to cooperate in the quality-oriented production improvement and certified palm oil production. GTZ will



provide technical support to enhance the industry’s production capacity, particularly smallholders’, to sustainably improve their livelihoods and socioeconomic status. The Thai palm oil refineries are ready to become both palm oil producers and exporters to European markets. However, they have to adjust their production process to comply with EU palm oil import rules”.

GTZ and OAE Expand the Study on GHG Emissions from Palm Oil Industry in Thailand



The “Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project”, implemented by the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE) and GTZ, is conducting a study on “Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from palm oil industry in Thailand”. The comprehensive study will start from the production of palm oil to the processing of palm oil into “bio-diesel”. To disseminate the study information and to develop a practical study framework in the Thai oil palm and palm oil industry context, the project held a series of meetings with all stakeholders.

The first meeting, held on 20 March 2010 for palm oil crushing mills and relevant agencies, was aimed to provide background information of the GHG emissions from palm oil industry study and to recruit interested mills. Mr. Krisada Chavananand, president of the Palm Oil Crushing Mill Association of Thailand, Asst. Prof. Dr. Arun Hunpongkittikul and Dr. Charongpun Musikavong, experts from Prince of Songkla University were invited

to share their knowledge and views on potential benefits for participating palm oil mills.

To complete the whole picture, including the processing of palm oil into bio-diesel in the study, OAE and GTZ held the second meeting on 24 March 2010 for palm oil refineries, bio-diesel plants and other relevant agencies. Mr. Sanin Triyanond, president of the Thai Bio-diesel Producer Association, Mr. Suriya Ayachanon, advisor of Chumporn Palm Oil Industry reflected the palm oil sector’s perspective on future GHG emissions regulation and potential benefits from this study. Asst. Prof. Dr.Thumrongrut Mungcharoen, an expert from the National Metal and Materials Technology Center (MTEC), shared the calculation methods for GHG emissions. The 2 well-received meetings are important steps of the study to involve all stakeholders in future development.



Farmers Meeting to Select Project Participants and Develop Sustainable Palm Oil Production Plan



On 11 February 2010 the “Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy” project by GTZ and the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE) held a joint meeting with the Univanich Palm Oil Public Company

Limited, the Department of Agricultural Extension (DOAE) and the Oil Palm Research and Development Center, Prince of Songkla University, to select farmer groups to participate in the pilots and to develop a plan for sustainable palm oil production.

The farmers groups were keen to comment on the project’s vision, work plan and situation analysis, citing both positive and negative factors influencing sustainable palm oil production. In addition, representatives from each group presented action plans resulting from their group work.

The meeting was successful in recruiting 94 interested farmers. Univanich Palm Oil Public Company Limited and the project will jointly implement the developed action plan with participating farmers groups.

GTZ and the Thai RSPO National Interpretation Working Group Conducted Public Consultations

After the completion of the first draft of the RSPO Principles and Criteria by the Thailand RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) National Interpretation Working Group; GTZ, the Thai Oil Palm and Palm Oil Association, the Palm Oil Crushing Mill Association, the Palm Oil Refinery Association and Commercial Biodiesel Production from Palm Oil Club jointly held public consultations in Bangkok, Chumporn and Krabi during February and March 2010.

The aim was to provide venues for business operators, farmers, oil palm growers, academics, government officials and other stakeholders, including interested persons to comment on the drafted principles, indicators and guidelines. Gathered comments will be incorporated in the development of the final draft.



Public consultation is a step towards RSPO certification establishment in Thailand. A practical certification system will strengthen international competitiveness of Thailand’s sustainable palm oil.

Thai-German Forum to Promote Sustainable Industrial Development



On 26 February 2010, GTZ organized the Thai-German forum on Sustainable Industrial Development. Mr. Kosol Jairangsee, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Dr. Raphael L’Hoest, Counsellor Deputy Head of the Department of Economics and Commercial Affairs, German Embassy Bangkok delivered the opening addresses.

The aim is to share information and experiences on eco-industrial estates, integrating economic, social, environmental and climate change aspects. In the morning session German experts shared their experiences of restructuring and modernizing chemical and other industrial estates in Germany., including waste management, land use, city planning, community involvement and information services. Further case studies from Thailand, India, Tunisia and Turkey have been presented, e.g. on zoning concepts, integrated

environmental management, community participation and waste exchange among factories.

In the afternoon part, based on a short assessment and expert interviews conducted by a Thai-German expert team, comments and recommendations for the Map Ta Phut case have been made. The results have been well received by all participants.

Participants were then divided into groups to work on the vision and strategies for the sustainable development of Thai industry, focusing on four areas: 1. Environmental Standard and Pollution Control, 2. Enforcement and Monitoring Systems, 3. Public Information & Participation, 4. Regional and Town Planning.. More than 40 representatives from the Ministry of industry, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Public Health, Department of Industrial Works, Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand,



Provincial Industrial Office, local administrative offices and the Thailand Environmental Institute participated in the forum. They actively discussed, shared comments and identified approaches towards sustainable industrial development in Thailand and solutions to improve the current situation.

Germany Welcomed Thai Delegates and Shared Experiences on Climate-Friendly Tourism Management



Between 9-14 March 2010, GTZ, under the Climate Protection in Tourism Project, led a team of Thai delegates comprising the Trat Provincial Governor, representatives of Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (DASTA), Green Leaf Foundation and Trat Tourism Association, on a study trip to Germany to learn about climate-friendly and eco-conscious tourism. The Thai delegates visited environmental and nature conservation centers in national parks along the North Sea coast, known as Wadden Sea National Parks. Wadden Sea or Wattenmeer is a large intertidal zone, covering almost 10,000 km² along the northern coast of Germany and the Netherlands and the western coast of Denmark. The coastal wetland is rich in biodiversity and is one of the world's most important marine habitat and breeding grounds.

The group first visited the Klimahaus in Bremerhaven, which is situated on the 8th degree of longitude. Klimahaus contains simulated geographical models and climate zones of 9 cities in countries along the 8th degree of longitude. The exhibits enable visitors to learn how people adapt their livelihoods to cope with different climatic conditions. Next, at the Wattenmeerhaus in Wilhelmshaven, many interactive exhibits were viewed which are designed to promote curiosity and self-learning. Most of the display

materials are real artifacts to promote original real-life earning. The team also visited the Carolinensiel Museum, a community-run marine knowledge center. The museum provides information services to both tourists and community members. Due to its location below sea level, information provided by the museum includes key environmental data which affects local livelihood, e.g., tide levels, tourist activities during low tide and high tide, etc.

Following this visit, the group took the ferry to the Isle of Spiekeroog, where they visited the environmental education center in Wittbülten and conducted a tour of the island. The 10 km² Spiekeroog is a part of the Wadden Sea National Parks. To preserve the island's environment and ecosystems, the number of tourist beds is limited to 350. Another important issue is solid waste management. The community collects organic waste and uses it to make compost. Dry waste is transported back to the mainland for treatment. Island inhabitants travel either by foot or bicycle because



gasoline-driven vehicles are prohibited. Electric vehicles are used for public duties such as waste collection. The delegates met with the Wilhelmshaven National Park rangers and listened to a briefing on participatory park management, with public, private and community involvement. Afterwards they met with the Mayor of Dötlingen to learn about energy efficiency and

renewable energy from biogas and solar energy. The meeting between the Mayor and the Thai delegates was reported in two local newspapers.

In summary, there are several key lessons learned from this study trip. Firstly, there are many types of creative presentation which stimulate visitors' (particularly young visitors') curiosity, self-learning and nature conservation awareness. Secondly, the German authorities work with passion. Finally, to ensure sustainable management of tourism destinations and national

parks, the government must give high priority to stakeholder participation in every implementation step.

Additionally, the community must be strong, firm and eager to participate in determining its own future. Before departing for Thailand, the delegates attended the ITB Berlin 2010, the world's largest tourism fair, to learn about the fair's format and eco-tourism trends. This was a part of the preparation process for the presentation of the Climate Protection in Tourism Project at ITB Berlin 2011.

GTZ and a German Expert Visited the Mae Moh Mine and Power Plant



On 24th March 2010, GTZ delegates from the German Climate Initiative in Thailand together with Mr. Klaus Warnatz visited Mae Moh Coal Mine and Power Plant in Lampang, which is operated by the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT). Mr Warnatz, a German expert, has extensive experience in the restructuring and modernization of mines and power plants in Brandenburg, a part of former East Germany. Besides electricity generation and environmental management processes, the delegates observed ecological rehabilitation of the mine and were convinced with the efficiency of the operation and standard compliance. Additionally, they discussed the application of alternative energy technologies to increase energy security with EGAT executives and staff. Afterwards the team visited the exhibits in the museum building, a renowned knowledge center on open-cast coal mining technologies. On the following

day, 25th March, the delegates met with Mr. Thanakorn Poolthawee, EGAT Assistant Governor/Fuel Management Division, to comment on the potential of Mae Moh as "an international knowledge center on open-cast coal mine management" and a knowledge center on energy, climate change and technologies for electricity generation, distribution and efficiency. Moreover, they discussed prospects of increasing electricity generation from renewable energy sources, improving power plant efficiency by the co-incinerator



technology (using waste as the energy source to reduce coal usage), improving electricity security through decentralized generation units (a cost-effective and widely-used technology in Germany) and additional services for consumers such as advisory services on energy efficiency, and other subjects

OAG Promotes Regional Cooperation on Human Resources in Audit Institutions



Representatives from Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) of 5 different Southeast Asian countries meet in

Bangkok during 29-31 March 2010 for a regional seminar on "Human Resource Management in Supreme Audit Institutions" to discuss the role of human resource management in their respective national contexts and capacity development in Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs).

The seminar, organised by The Office of the Auditor General of Thailand (OAG) and GTZ, include delegates from selected Southeast Asian countries as well as from Germany, Sweden and the Republic of Korea to share experiences on lessons learned from reform approaches in order to explore options for continued regional exchange through professionals' network and community of practice.



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