



Sustainable Production and Consumption • Environmental and Climate Protection • Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy • Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security • Urban Development and Transport • Trilateral & South-South Cooperation • Capacity Development, Technology Matching, Policy Advice and Training

Newsletter of Bangkok-based projects by GIZ and PARTNERS

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Dear Readers,

We hope you have enjoyed your holidays during Songkran festival. Like almost every year, GIZ and its Thai partners are starting new projects in 2016. These include:

- Sustainable Freight and Logistics in the Mekong Region project (EU-funded)
- Refrigeration and air-conditioning sector / RAC NAMA project
- Global Support Project for the Preparation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)
- Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development

[For more information, please see our latest project profiles here.](#)

[For training and workshops, please see our training calendar for 2016.](#)

Best regards,

The newsletter team

Features & News

The Broader the Network, the Higher the Regional Success	2
Mutual Recognition Frameworks (MRFs) – An Initial Step toward Occupational Standard Benchmarking and Skill Development	4
Thailand and Germany Set Priorities for Further Cooperation on Climate Change	6
First NAP Expert Platform Meeting on Climate Projections	8
Calculating the Values of Nature	10
Innovative High-Tech for Thai Watershed Management at Low-Cost	12
Combatting Disaster: Use of Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to Survey River Basin Areas	13
GIDRM Hosts Side Event at the Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2016 Conference	15
Hotel Resilient Kicks Off the Standard Module Development Process in the Philippines	16
Inputs from Germany to Develop a Roadmap towards Risk Assessment Capacity Building in Thailand	17
And Action! – Nan, Phuket and Rayong on Their Way to Green Energy	18
ASEAN-German Cooperation Pushes Food Security and Good Nutrition	19
ASEAN Researchers Urge for More Training on Biocontrol Agents	21
Ayutthaya Team Wins “Farmers Love Soil” TV Contest	22
Synergizing Agricultural Projects in the Rice Sector for Higher Impact	23
GIZ Goes to SETA – Sustainable Energy & Technology Asia (SETA) Exhibition & Conference 2016	25
Muang Mai Market – The Largest Fresh Market in Chiang Mai	26
On the Path of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy towards Sustainable Development Goals	27
Lao PDR Plans to Expand its GAP Certification to 100,000 Farms by 2020	29
Shedding Light on Sustainable Development Goals Conference	30

The Broader the Network, the Higher the Regional Success

By Siriporn Parvikam & Ralf Hill

Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region Project



Group photo of all participants and guests of honour from Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Sixteen representatives of the business and public sectors from Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam participated in the 3rd Pilot Master Trainer Training in the ASEAN Region at LILAMA2 Technical & Technology College, now considered the Centre of Excellence for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Vietnam.

The training course, which ran from 4 to 22 April, was jointly organized by the **“Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region”** project and the **“Programme Reform of TVET in Vietnam”**, both implemented by GIZ. Cooperating partners are the General Directorate of Vocational Training (GDVT), the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) as well as the hosting vocational college LILAMA2.

The standard and curriculum were recently developed by 60 representatives of the business and public sectors of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The development process of the In-Company Trainer (In-CT) and curriculum was guided by the Project **“Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region”** with professional advice from competent German TVET institutions like Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BiBB).

With the In-CT standard and curriculum proving their quality and applicability in satisfying the need of enterprises in all kinds of business sectors, Indonesia and Malaysia have now joined the programme.

The cooperation between the business and public sectors of Vietnam is essential for a sustainable improvement in the quality of vocational training and qualified human resource development in enterprises.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cao Van Sam,
Vice-General Director of GDVT of Vietnam

This was the first Master Trainer training course for in-company trainers to be conducted in Vietnam and followed on from the 1st and 2nd Regional Master Trainer Training in Laos and the Philippines, also undertaken using the new developed standard and curriculum for In-Company Trainers from the project “Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region”. The 41 Master Trainers in the region have now been trained by the project and In-Company Trainer Training courses have been effectively delivered by the Master Trainers in their own national language.

The training course focuses on the building of necessary competencies for future Master Trainers for In-Company Trainers and aims to improve the recognition of high-quality cooperative training between enterprises and TVET institutes. This training course will also serve to ensure acknowledgement of the standard and curriculum by the business and public sectors in participating ASEAN countries.

To achieve these goals, Dr. Le Van Hien used his opening speech to address the important role of LILAMA2 in developing the cooperative training model for Vietnam and its initiative in hosting this event.

In his opening speech, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cao Van Sam, Vice-General Director of GDVT of Vietnam, noted: “The cooperation between the business and public sectors of Vietnam is essential for a sustainable improvement in the quality of vocational training and qualified human resource development in enterprises”.

Those topics were also underlined by Mrs. Bui Thi Ninh, Head of the Bureau of Employers Activities of VCCI and member of the steering committee for establishing the In-Company Trainer Standard in Vietnam.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cao Van Sam, Vice-General Director of GDVT stressed the need for cooperation in training between the public and private sectors in order to enhance the quality of vocational training.



Dr. Le Van Hien, Rector of LILAMA2 college, pointed out the important role of LILAMA2 in establishing the cooperative training model in Vietnam.



Mrs. Bui Thi Ninh, Head of Bureau of Employers' Activities of VCCI, mentioned the necessity of building a sustainable human resource capacity in enterprises through in-company training.



Representatives from GDVT, VCCI, GIZ Thailand and Vietnam as well as LILAMA2 pose for a photo at the start of the course.

Mutual Recognition Frameworks (MRFs) – An Initial Step toward Occupational Standard Benchmarking and Skill Development in GMS

By Nalina Hiranprueck Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region Project



With the aim of ensuring mutual recognition of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) standards in the region, draft **Mutual Recognition Frameworks (MRF) for 3 prioritised sectors** are being developed. Key stakeholders from all 5 GMS countries, namely Lao PDR, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, will not only develop comprehensive frameworks, but also tailor-make them to suit regional demands. Dialogue and comparison of the national standards and skill development scenarios of each country will help to benchmark and improve the TVET standards in the region.

Since January 2016, 2 of 3 regional workshops have been organised and attended by approximately 70 representatives from both public and private sectors.

The 1st Workshop on “Selection of Skill Areas and Defining MRFs Structure” in January 2016 aimed to select 3 sectors for developing GMS MRFs. Based on research carried out in 2015, participants selected **Food Processing, Logistics, and Machinery**. These sectors are significant to the economic development and need a high number of qualified workers. The experienced participants also ensured that the GMS MRF structure was the most practical and feasible.



The development of GMS MRFs is a significant step in benchmarking standards and qualification from GMS countries. Through the processes, we have learnt from other countries. We consider their existing competencies and qualifications and how they are doing it in each country. We look at theirs and look at ours. Then, we know where we can improve ourselves, both at national and regional level.

Ms. Hla Hla Yee, Private Sector Representative from Myanmar International Freight Forwarder Association (MIFFA)

At the **2nd Workshop** was organised in March 2016, stakeholders from both public and private institutions defined the sector-specific inputs for the GMS MRFs and made recommendations for the teacher and trainer standards.

The MRF drafts for the 3 sectors were developed after these 2 workshops, while the recommendations for the TVET teacher and trainer standards are being drafted based on the inputs from the 2nd Workshop. Both MRFs and standards will be finalised in the **3rd Workshop** in May 2016.

The project “**Implementing the Greater Mekong Subregion’s Human Resource Development Strategic Framework and Action Plan**” is run by GIZ. It is commissioned by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Thailand and Germany Set Priorities for Further Cooperation on Climate Change

By Pimkarn Kattiyavong and Imporn Arbutra

Support to the Development and Implementation of the Thai Climate Change Policy



"How can international cooperation best contribute to national targets?"

"How to accumulate contributions, bridge cooperation and overcome challenges?"

Using these questions as a guide, the 6th Thai-German International Climate Initiative or IKI Cooperation Meeting was conducted in March 2016 and attended by representatives from the Thai government and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). The aim was to improve the cooperation of projects in Thailand funded under the IKI of BMUB. Moreover, both governments exchanged their climate targets and priorities to set the scope for further cooperation. The meeting was jointly hosted by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and GIZ.

BMUB IKI profile in Thailand:

- 11 bilateral projects with a total fund of 25.8 million Euro
- 29 regional and global projects with a Thailand component

On the German side, the focus of the current call for proposals (March-June) remains within low carbon strategies, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA), renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) as well as Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). BMUB will also support adaptation projects within national adaptation strategies, e.g. ecosystem-based water and land-use management and biodiversity.



The IKI Climate Policy Project helps to drive our national climate policies to the sub-national and local levels. It is very important for us. With ONEP capacity alone we wouldn't be able to carry on such effective implementation.

Mrs. Angkana Chalermpong,
Head of the UNFCCC Focal Point, MNRE

On the Thai side, the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan as well as other related development and sectorial plans were presented, namely the 12th National Economic and Social Development Plan 2017-2021, the Green Growth Strategy 2015-2020 and the Environmental Quality Management Plan 2012-2016. Similar to the German focus, climate resilience will be achieved through a low carbon and sustainable development pathway. Building on the three pillars of adaptation, GHG mitigation and capacity building, the short-term goals of the plan include the development of an INDC roadmap. Eleven indicators have been determined to measure the progress of the defined short-term goals. The point was made that in order to achieve the targets, the private sector needs to be more involved in the near future.

The meeting is part of the agreement between the two countries made in September 2013 to organize annual exchanges on topics related to climate change from different sectors. During the visit of BMUB to Thailand, a field visit to Nakhon Si Thammarat was also organized. The delegation visited the work being undertaken on climate policy actions and ecosystem-based adaptation in watersheds.

Since 2008 the BMUB IKI has been financing climate and biodiversity-related projects in developing countries. This initiative is the key element of Germany's climate financing and funding commitment in the framework convention on biological diversity. So far BMUB has funded around 500 projects in more than 100 countries with a total amount of 1.7 billion EUR.

First NAP Expert Platform Meeting on Climate Projections

By Marie Rossetti Risk-based National Adaptation Plan (Risk-NAP)



“What are the gaps and ways forward in producing future climate projections in Thailand?”

“What are challenges in using future climate data for risk and vulnerability assessments in Thailand as well as interpreting them at the sub-national level?”

These and other similar issues were discussed on March 25 during the first Expert Consultation Platform for NAP preparation organized by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and supported by GIZ within the framework of the Risk-based National Adaptation Plan (Risk-NAP) project.

For the first phase of Thailand’s National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process, ONEP commissioned a national Vulnerability Assessment study aimed at assessing climate change impacts and vulnerabilities within the country’s major sectors including natural resources, tourism, agriculture and food security, public health and human security and settlement.

For the 1st draft of the NAP by the end of this year, various climate model experts have been invited to share their views on existing climate projections and climate modelling in Thailand. The meeting is part of a series of conferences and meetings planned for 2016, each with a different thematic focus around climate change adaptation in Thailand. They aim to enhance the inclusiveness and multi-stakeholder-based approach of the NAP process and bridge the scientific, policymaker and practitioner’s communities.



Four presentations on global and regional climate models, all articulating the challenges of downscaling these different models at the regional and local levels, were presented and discussed. *“The more we go local, the more uncertain are the projections,”* explained Dr. Atsamon Limsakul, Department of Environment Quality Promotion, adding that *“Modelling is one way to understand climate change.”*

**Modelling is one way
to understand climate change.**

Dr. Atsamon Limsakul,
Department of Environment Quality Promotion

Over the years, Thailand has collected a lot of climate data, running these through various models to produce national climate projections. Yet, the main challenge remains to pull all of these results together. *“There is no central database,”* Dr. Atsamon noted. *“Ten years ago we had very scarce data, but now we have to find a way to effectively manage all the data we have.”*

Two other key issues concern the usability of this data for local decision-makers as well as the choice of scale to identify vulnerability hotspots. On the latter, there was consensus on the fact that risk or vulnerability assessments should not be limited to provincial or administrative boundaries. *“We have lost our way because we have only looked at the provincial level and have not used GIS at the sub-district level,”* said Dr Rachaphat Ratanavaraha from Rajamangala University. Indeed, several experts stressed that to identify key climate vulnerabilities and select suitable adaptation measures, natural boundaries such as watersheds have to be considered, thus implying that risk assessments should be conducted at several levels and consider multiple layers.

Moreover, the experts all agreed to make better use of data and resources of the Thai Meteorological Department (TMD). As mentioned by the former Deputy Director General of TMD, Dr Somchai Baimuang, the department has recently received a government budget to acquire new climate models and tools. It will take a couple of months to run all the data through this new software, but the resulting projections should form sound evidence for climate change action.

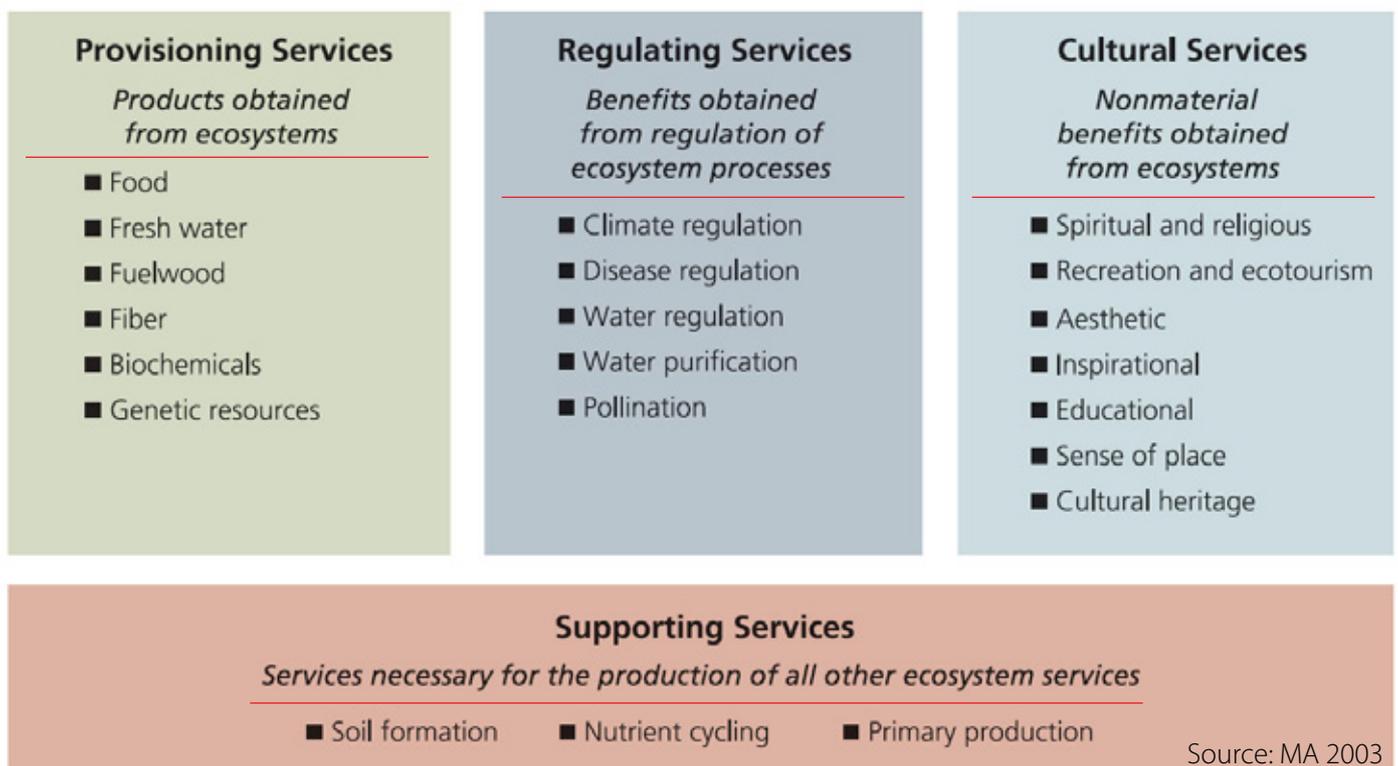
Calculating the Values of Nature

By Jaruwan Ngamsing *Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (ECOSWat)*

Oxygen and water are crucial elements for life and ecosystems which deliver these services for free. Additional services from ecosystems such as provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services are four pillars that man can use, yet ecosystem services, their benefits and their economic value are never explicitly acknowledged. For instance, obvious ecosystems in rural areas are down-valued compared to urbanised land values.

People all over the world are gradually suffering from the effects of climate change and these are deteriorating because of the unsustainable use of natural resources and land. An economic evaluation of ecosystems, their functions and services could raise awareness of their multiple benefits and give them a tangible value. This approach might motivate the public to be aware of the importance of sustainable ecosystems.

Ecosystem Services



I am always threatened by the word “economic”. I thought it would be more complex and very technical. However, after the training, I now know how to apply the method with my budget request process.

Participant from the workshop

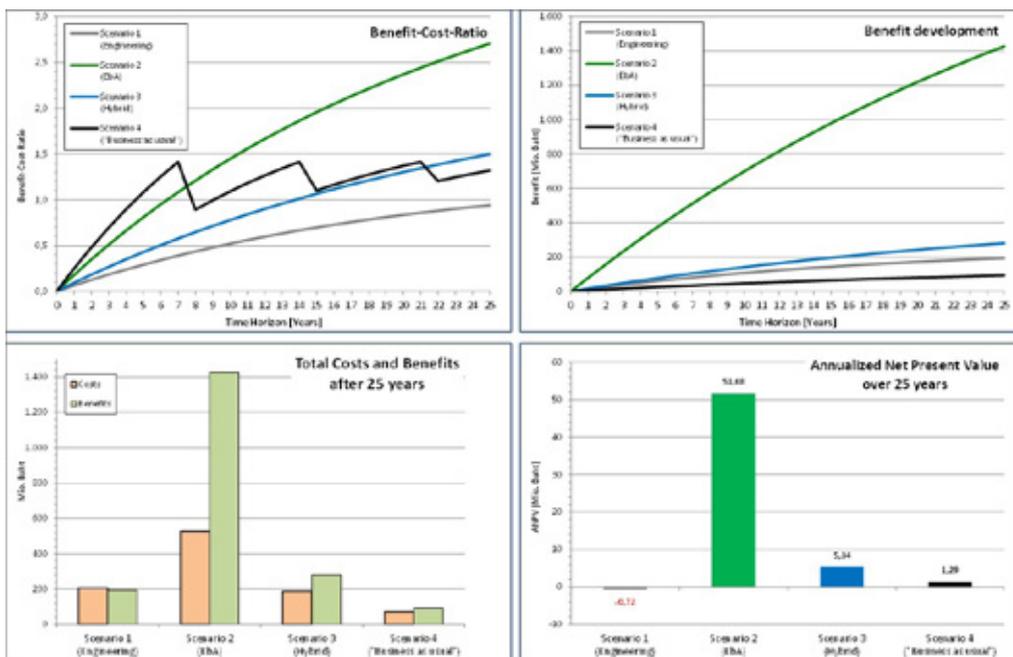
In this context, the ECOSWat project recently organized the workshop “Economic Evaluation of Ecosystem-based Adaptation Measures” to encourage better understanding of ecosystem values. During the three-day workshop, participants from public sector agencies, namely the Department of Water Resources (Central and Regional Offices), the Royal Irrigation Department and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning learnt the background of the Valuation of Ecosystem Services. Moreover, the proposed Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA or green measures) in the project pilot sites were economically evaluated and compared to grey infrastructures.

The results of the evaluation indicated that EbA measures achieve higher economic benefits even within a relatively short period. The longer the time frame, the higher the economic advantages of EbA measures. The benefit-costs ratio of EbA measures is up to five times higher than the ratio of traditional infrastructure. Furthermore, in general the investments in EbA are lower than the financial needs for grey infrastructure.



I can show this graph to my supervisors and even to the river basin committee. It is very simple and easy to understand.

Participant from the workshop



Innovative High-Tech for Thai Watershed Management at Low-Cost

By Ketpharima Sansud **Improved Management of
Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (ECOSWat)**



Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), also known as “**drones**” are a cost-effective technology for acquiring high resolution aerial imagery, spatial data, and data sensing. For instance, traditional mapping through field surveys, which is time-consuming and labour-intensive could be conducted by drones at a much lower price. Furthermore, drones can collect data from areas, which are difficult, sometimes even dangerous, to access by walking. On the other hand, satellite images have limitations of access, resolution, cloud cover and availability to end users in real time.

The drone technology is currently being used in developed countries for crop yield analysis and logistics companies are discussing how drones can be used for their services. In Africa drones are used for environmental survey and conservation. However, drone application in the area of watershed management is only now emerging.

The ECOSWat project is applying drone technology for improved monitoring of river behaviour, ecology and hydraulic systems. This will lead to better understanding and the additional information gathered by drones will improve the decision-making and design process.

In 2015 ECOSWat organized workshops on “**The Integration of Drones into the Thai Water Sector**” for the Thai water sector organizations. Representatives from the Department of Water Resources, the Royal Irrigation Department, the Hydro and Agro Informatics Institute, Walailak and Khon Kaen universities as well as from the private sector participated in these workshops.

Since then Walailak University has on several occasions applied the new knowledge and conducted flights in the Tha Di sub-river basin, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, for the Department for Water resources.

Between 19 and 23 March Walailak University surveyed areas in the Lum Pha Chi River Basin, Ratchaburi Province to gather aerial images and used the data to generate 3D models for improving the design process of proposed ecosystem-based adaptation measures, which seem to be suitable for preventing floods and droughts.

The use of low-cost innovative technology will undoubtedly improve the effectiveness of water management in Thailand.

Combatting Disaster: Use of Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or Drones to Survey River Basin Areas

By Pariya Wongsarot GIZ Office Bangkok



On March 21, 2016, the ECOSWat project welcomed a crew from Thai PBS Channel Thailand's TV show **"Getting Informed to Combat Disaster"** to film a segment on the survey of the Lum Pha Chi River Basin areas. The news item focused on the use of drone technology and the analysis of risks and impacts from floods and droughts in Lum Pha Chi River Basin areas, Ban Tha Epa, Chom Bueng district, Ratchaburi province.

The TV crew was provided with information about the project by staff from the Water Resource Regional Office 7, Dan Thap Tako Sub-district Administrative Organisation and the Lum Pha Chi River Basin Working Group. In her presentation, GIZ project staff member Jaruwan Ngamsing introduced the project, saying: *"This is a cooperation project between the Governments of Thailand and Germany aimed at improving ecosystem-based management of water resources based on the experiences of Germany in regard to its severe floods. However, despite investing 1 billion Baht in the building of infrastructure to address the issues, the problems remained and it was therefore concluded that working with nature might bring about sustainable solutions."*

The project dispatched experts from Germany to the Lum Pha Chi River Basin areas to identify the causes of floods and droughts and explore whether water catchment areas for use in the dry season could be developed and the water speed slowed in the event of floods.

Recommendations were given on the use of drones for area survey and analysis with 3D modelling images showing mountains, trees and rivers in case of flooding (water level) and droughts (amount of water catchment). Lum Pha Chi River Basin was selected as a pilot area due to the relatively high diversity in its climate, namely droughts in the hot season and severe floods in the rainy season. It is therefore appropriate to survey the areas and jointly solve the problems to the extent possible."

Despite investing 1 billion Baht in the building of infrastructure to address the issues, the problems remained and it was therefore concluded that working with nature might bring about sustainable solutions.

Jaruwan Ngamsing ,GIZ



Mr. Suthira Thongkao from the School of Engineering and Resources, Walailak University, demonstrated the use of drones for survey and primary data collection. He explained *"Due to the time needed and cost of aerial images, [aerial] surveys in relatively small areas tend to be very expensive. Drones are therefore the answer to imaging flights and primarily exploring the areas. For example, should we wish to survey canals, aerial imaging could not be undertaken from less than 50 to 100 metres above the ground. But drones can fly below that level and therefore take in-depth, high-resolution images that provide data for studying the changes in canals, erosion and depth of canals and the bed load of Lum Pha Chi River Basin."*

"Drones consist of a flying motor set, flight control CPU and, most importantly GPS, which helps determine locations so that drones can automatically perform imaging flights. Further components are a rotor blade, a box to hold a camera and a software program to plan flights based on data transmitted to fly and take images according to the plan. Technically, drones put together multiple smaller photo shots into one big image, using a camera that functions at all times of day. The drones are set to fly six metres per second, meaning that every six metres, a photo will be shot, using photogram software to put together images and process them into 3D models."

"I wasn't interested at first. But the approach has taken shape thanks to the support of GIZ. In the long term, drones are considered useful for research work in tracking changes, for example in terms of observation modelling to assess water flow. We lacked the data with such detail in the past."

Furthermore, GIZ has also trained us on safety measures and guidelines for area study before organising a flight." Mr. Suthira added.

Mr. Nuan Buathong, Village Chief of Ban Tha Epa, and the representative of residents suffering from droughts in the Lum Pha Chi River Basin areas said: *"The biggest problem now is water. This drought is the most severe we have faced in the last ten years. Farmers need water to grow crops, such as sugarcane and onions. It would be good if the project could help us with a water reservoir to store water for use when needed. Now we have more than 10 wells and irrigate by using water from the canal. But during this year's dry season, the existing water will probably not be sufficient. The vegetables we grow need water continuously. If the water runs out, the crop is over."*

The preliminary survey aims to build on survey results and design further steps for project implementation. The Department of Water Resources expects to draw up a work plan and budget to propose to the Government as a contingency plan to solve drought problems at Lum Pha Chi River Basin and to showcase this area as a model for other areas suffering from similar problems in the future.

GIDRM Hosts Side Event at the Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2016 Conference

By Hanna Maier Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM)



The 2nd Asia Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation was held in conjunction with the 16th International Convention on Melaka Twin Cities in Melaka from 2-4 March 2016. The conference was hosted by the Melaka State Government in collaboration with the Melaka Historic City Council and the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) and was organised by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) South Asia. More than 500 representatives from local government, institutions and communities as well as disaster and climate risk management experts and urban planners from around the world came together to discuss challenges and opportunities to strengthen climate resilience in urban areas.

GIDRM contributed to this year's conference with the side event **"Balancing efficiency and redundancy for Urban Resilience"**, which was held on 2 March in close cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The panellists from Thailand, the Philippines and India discussed how disaster resilience can be integrated into urban green growth, climate change and sustainable urban development goals.

The conference blog CityTalk features an overview and abstracts of all conference events.

For more information, check out:

• [Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2016](#)

• [Melaka Call for Action](#)

• [CityTalk](#)

Hotel Resilient Kicks Off the Standard Module Development Process in the Philippines

By Hanna Maier **Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM)**



GIDRM, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) and the Philippines' Department of Tourism (DoT) recently organized the Hotel Resilient Kick-off Workshop in Cebu City.

[The Hotel Resilient Initiative](#) was launched in 2013 to improve disaster risk management and strengthen resilience in the tourism sector. GIDRM has partnered with the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and its consortium members to develop a Multi-hazard Risk Management Standard Module for hotels and resorts.

At the kick-off Workshop the development process and draft framework of the Multi-hazard Risk Management Standard Module were introduced and discussed with governmental authorities and business leaders. It was also the first time for the Hotel Resilient Expert Group to come together. Its members represent the private and public sector and have long experience in tourism particularly with respect to looking at the links to disaster risk management.

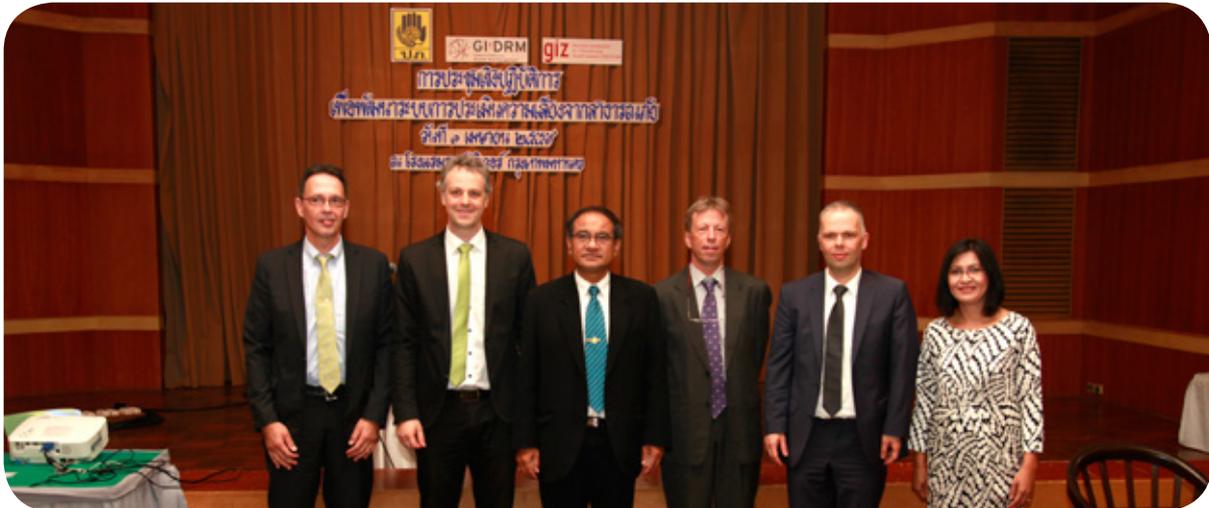
Expert Group member Ms. Rica Bueno, the Director of the Office of Tourism Standards and Regulations at the Department of Tourism in the Philippines, emphasised the timeliness of the Hotel Resilient Initiative and its relevance particularly for the Philippines. Deputy Minister Fathimath Thasneem of the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) in Maldives, who has also joined the Expert Group, called for **“bold ideas”** and **“robust action”** at the workshop in order to protect private and public investments in the tourism industry. Mr. Handloegten, Head of the Management Unit of GIDRM, emphasised the importance of involving the private sector and offering marketable solutions on disaster risk management.

Following the workshop, a team of representatives of GIDRM and the KIT visited the Philippines to conduct further interviews and collect data in Bohol, Cebu, and Manila. The team is cooperating closely with the **“Promotion of Green Economic Development (ProGED)”** project, which aims to promote climate change mitigation of businesses in the selected destinations.

The Multi-hazard Risk Management Standard Module will be further reviewed during the pilot phase in up to three different destinations in the Asia Pacific region later this year.

Inputs from Germany to Develop a Roadmap towards Risk Assessment Capacity Building in Thailand

By Napaporn Yuberk **Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM)**



Risk analysis is a prerequisite to disaster and climate risk prevention and mitigation planning, and also a foundation for risk-assessment capacity building. Over the years, different sectors have applied and developed different methods to assess risks. These methods vary according to the scope of interests, purpose of the study and availability of data. However, knowledge and know-how of risk assessment instruments are as yet limited to such technical people as researchers, GIS and remote sensing specialists, irrigation engineers, civil engineers and specialists in environmental management, agriculture, energy, science and technology. The risk assessment tool is also not very user-friendly for local government entities dealing with spatial planning, public investment decisions, critical infrastructure providing, and private enterprises.

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), under the Ministry of Interior, has a coordination role, ensuring that all relevant stakeholders from various sectors e.g. government, education, private and civil groups, take part in the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Plan 2015.

In this respect, DDPM, led by the Deputy Director General Mr. Kobchai Boon-orana with technical support from the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) of the German Government coordinated by GIZ, organized a workshop on the “**Development of Risk Assessment**

Method for Resilient Thailand” on 31 March and 1 April 2016 in Bangkok. Three German experts were invited by DDPM to share their hands-on experiences. Dr. Andre Walter and Mr. Peter Lauwe from the German Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK), under the Federal Ministry of Interior, presented Germany’s integrated risk management procedure, its regulations and structures and provided a lecture on the risk analysis tools for civil protection and critical infrastructure. Mr. Olaf Neussner, DRM Specialist, introduced the suitability map methodology developed by GIZ in the Philippines.

The following questions were discussed:

- What does a risk analysis/risk assessment involve?
- Why does Thailand need a risk assessment?
- What are the gaps in conducting a risk assessment in Thailand?
- How to improve risk assessment in Thailand?

GIDRM and its partners will further support DDPM in developing the “**National Risk Assessment Capacity Building**” roadmap for Thailand looking at technological, geo-physical and climate-related hazards.

And Action! – Nan, Phuket and Rayong on Their Way to Green Energy

By Katrin Lammers Renewable Energy Project Development Programme in South-East Asia



Thailand's provinces have high potential to meet their energy demands from renewable energy (RE) sources. This is the final outcome of an analysis provided by the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy (ISE) commissioned by GIZ.

Nan can preserve its forested mountains and reach higher energy independence from neighbouring Laos by installing such RE plants as biogas plants or rooftop solar panels. The study shows that Nan can increase its electricity supply up to 100 percent with RE by 2036.

Phuket - a magnet for tourists and resorts – has a calculated potential for a 40 percent RE share in 2036 even though the energy demand is comparatively high. Potential RE installations for this province are mainly rooftop solar panels. These will create another benefit apart from energy savings: a green image that will push Phuket to become more involved in eco-tourism.

Rayong, the power house of Thailand, is supplying itself and its neighbouring provinces with electricity mostly generated from gas and coal-fired power plants. Even in this province, which has a high electricity demand and a huge number of installed fossil fuel-run power plants, the potential for RE in 2036 is calculated to be 40 percent.

All of these can serve as showcases for other provinces in contributing to Thailand's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) in fighting climate change. Thailand wants to expand its leading position with regard to renewable energy (RE) installations in Southeast Asia and the Ministry of Energy (MoEn) is thus supporting the provinces in the development of their RE action plans with the aim of integrating the communities with the modernisation process. This represents a major challenge as most of the community leaders are lacking detailed information about renewable energy potential and opportunities in their area. For this reason, the project **"Support to the Development and Implementation of Thai Climate Change Policy"** has been asked to provide support by sharing experiences from Germany and initiating a discourse on energy transition from conventional to sustainable energy supply systems among others.

The RE scenarios for the three above - mentioned pilot provinces have been set up by the Fraunhofer ISE to showcase how the provinces can reach high shares of renewable energy in their energy mix to mitigate climate change, provide a cleaner environment and increase local value creation.

In March and April, the community leaders will get together at provincial committee meetings and set their RE goals based on the developed scenarios as a milestone on their way to a sustainable energy supply. The task now is to develop RE roadmaps to achieve the set RE targets.

ASEAN-German Cooperation Pushes Food Security and Good Nutrition

By **Rojana Manowalailao** ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN SAS)



According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), one in ten people in ASEAN is hungry and 9.6 per cent of people living in Southeast Asia are under-nourished. While many ASEAN countries have made significant improvements in poverty reduction and securing adequate food, others are still struggling to produce safe and nutritious food that meets dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, according to a definition agreed at the 1996 World Food Summit.

Food and nutrition security has been on the global agenda for decades. However, putting sufficient, affordable, nutritious and safe food on the table for all remains a true challenge. This does not take account of the fact that food production will need to increase by at least 60 percent to provide food security for the 9 billion people that will make up the world population in the next 35 years.

Aiming to improve food and nutrition security in the region, ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN SAS) has been providing technical support to ASEAN Member States on policy framework, implementation of production technologies and market linkages for the past two years. The project is geared to increasing awareness and understanding of food security and nutrition and the **“ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework”** among the Member States and is pushing for implementation of national policies and strategies in line with the AIFS Framework as a solution for long-term food security in the ASEAN region. The AIFS Framework was adopted by the ASEAN leaders in 2009 and reiterated in 2014.

With this aim in mind, policy dialogues on food security and nutrition and the AIFS Framework in Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand were organized in 2015 to discuss key challenges, issues, roles and the responsible agencies concerned as well as the contributions made by Sustainable Agrifood Systems towards food security.

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

(1996 World Food Summit)

In contributing to food security and nutrition, training on food and nutrition security for regional practitioners and government officers in Lao PDR and Thailand was also conducted in 2015. The objective was to raise awareness and understanding of food and nutrition security and strengthen the capacity of the personnel at the regional and national levels in developing and implementing effective policies and strategies addressing this security.

Mr. Cheattho Prak, Deputy Director-General of the General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Cambodia, noted that before the training he was only concerned about producing sufficient food to meet the demands of the country.

"I am now more aware that food security is also about having a sustained variety of nutritious and safe food. For example, children must know the kind of food they should eat, how to select it and cook it, and eat properly," he said.

ASEAN SAS has also implemented pilot projects with the public and private sectors to showcase successful crop protection and pest management models through the use of Biological Control Agents (BCA) and Integrated Pest Management. These practices sustain the livelihoods and competitiveness of local agriculture for the future development of regionally coordinated and national policy and strategy recommendations.

In Indonesia, for example, ASEAN SAS has partnered with the agro-tourism Taman Simalem Resort (TSR) and with the Islamic University of North Sumatra in providing knowledge and skills to local farmers on the use of bio-inputs, and giving certification support for organic production. About 70 farmers have adopted organic practices and received "**Organik Indonesia**" certification. The income of organic farmers has increased by 180 percent since the establishment of the partnership as a result of growing organic fruits and vegetables.



Ersemina Munthe, a member of the Treasure of Farmers Group – Organik Indah Lestari said: *"Our yields have increased and we earn higher income because we have changed from traditional farming with chemical inputs to organic practices. We also have a contract with TSR that provides us with the support needed for organic farming and buys our produce at a guaranteed price."*

In addition to providing continuing support in terms of policy and strategy development at the regional and national levels, in 2016-2017 ASEAN SAS will be focusing on public-private partnerships to complete the sustainable value chain needed to promote the use of bio-inputs, soil and nutrient management, best production technologies, and successful business models that contribute to the future of sustainable agrifood systems.

Read more at: www.asean-agrifood.org

ASEAN Researchers Urge for more Training on Biocontrol Agents

Story and photos by Rojana Manowalailao ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN SAS)



After participating in the 'Regional Training on Regulatory Laboratory Practice on Biological Control Agents (BCA) and Biofertiliser', Vietnamese researcher Ms. Quyen Ngoc Dung, approached the organizers. *"I am interested in how you make food for worms,"* the researcher from the Division of Pesticides, Weeds and Environment of Plant Protection Research Institute said, adding as a rider that the replication of this technique might not work in her country due to limited lab equipment and technical-know-how. *"We still need to greatly improve our skills and knowledge on biocontrol agents in terms of the laboratory, regulation and registration,"* she explained.

Ms. Quyen Ngoc Dung was one of 15 participants from four ASEAN Member States – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam – attending a five-day regional training session in Bangkok in December 2015. Organized by the Department of Agriculture, Thailand, in collaboration with ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN SAS), the training was designed to intensify learning experiences and technical skills through lectures and discussions on biocontrol agent regulation and registration, hands-on laboratory practices, and a visit to a biocontrol agent production factory.

Researchers from the other three nations were in full agreement with their Vietnamese colleague that laboratory equipment as well as technical knowledge and skills all require significant improvement if

sustainable agrifood systems, regulation and registration of biocontrol agents in their countries are to be achieved.

"There are a lot of counterfeit biocontrol agent products in Cambodia and the registered biocontrol agent products do not match the claims on the labels. Hence, we need to improve our facilities, and technical know-how to analyse the biocontrol agent products, and we need advisory assistance," said Peov Meas, Chief of the Biotechnology Laboratory of National Agriculture Laboratory, General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia.

Souphaxay Oudomsen, the researcher from the Plant Pathogen Unit of Plant Protection Centre, Lao PDR reflected the same needs. In Lao PDR, more than 60 percent of biocontrol agent products and biofertilisers are imported and these products will have to be registered. However, due to a lack of proper knowledge and skills, registration and quality control is difficult.

Ms. Thi Thi Aung, the researcher from the Plant Pathology Section, Department of Agricultural Research, Myanmar, cited an example. *"For the technical point of view, we must know the sample, such as an amount of fungus or a population of bacteria, and identify, isolate and test efficacy. And to do this, we need training,"* she said.

Read more at www.asean-agrifood.org

Commercial biological control agents are becoming increasingly important in modern, sustainable agriculture. They have gained the attention of agricultural administrations because of their relatively low toxicity to man and the environment, the potential for local production, and compatibility with smallholder farming, which is the predominant form of agricultural production in Southeast Asia.

Source: 'ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents'

Ayutthaya Team Wins “Farmers Love Soil” TV Contest

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA)



The YSF Team or Young Smart Farmers from Ayutthaya Province was declared the winner in the “Farmers Love Soil” edutainment reality TV contest at the closing ceremony held recently by BRIA Thailand in collaboration with the Rice Department, the Land Development Department, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, BASF (Thai) Limited and Farm Channel (Thailand) Co., Ltd., at the Rice Department.

“Farmers Love Soil” was organized to celebrate the designation of the year of 2015 as the “International Year of Soils”. The contest promoted better soil and nutrient management, production cost reduction, good agricultural practice (GAP) and preservation of fertile rice fields.

The YSF Team received a trophy and cash prize. The “Love Don Chedi” Team of Suphanburi Province was the runner-up. Both teams were trained in soil management, soil testing for nutrient analysis and fertilization. They were required to pass on the knowledge to their networks of farmers in the communities during a period of three months. Their activities were covered by Farm Channel.

The Rice Department is pleased to be involved in “Farmers Love Soil”, an initiative of the public-private partnership to bring knowledge about sustainable rice production to farmers in a fun and interesting way.

Mr. Anan Suwannarat,
Director General of the Rice Department

The jury was headed by Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai, former Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The judging criteria were based on how well the two teams managed their networks, how their technical solutions contributed to effective soil and nutrient management and reduced production costs as well as how well they transferred the acquired knowledge to their peer farmers. Viewers at home also sent SMS to vote for their favourite teams.

Farmers nationwide learned from the programme such useful subjects as soil sampling for analysis, soil testing, bookkeeping, stubble management, bio-extract use, land preparation, better seed management, water management, fertilization and site-specific fertilizer recommendations, which were broadcast on Miracle Channel every Friday, 06:00-06:30 hours, from September 25 to December 11, 2015.

“Farmers Love Soil” was a sequel to “Farmers Love Safety,” which BRIA, the Rice Department, BASF and Farm Channel successfully put on in 2014 to entertain and educate farmers about responsible use of crop protection products. In future, BRIA will highlight seed management and Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

BRIA seeks to promote sustainable growth in agricultural production and improve rice value chains. This public-private partnership collaboration provides farmers with better knowledge on the use of production inputs and access to markets.

Synergizing Agricultural Projects in the Rice Sector for Higher Impact

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA)



GIZ and partners implement a range of projects dealing with agriculture. To further strengthen the regional rice sector and reduce poverty, BRIA (Better Rice Initiative) will work closer together with its two sister projects:

ASEAN SAS (Sustainable Agrifood Systems) and RIICE (Remote sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging economies) ASEAN SAS (Sustainable Agrifood Systems) ensures long-term food security in ASEAN and improves the livelihoods of farmers.

"Food security requires sustainable production systems that supply safe, healthy and affordable food to meet people's increasing demand while protecting natural resources."
Dr. Yotsawin Kukeawkasem, ASEAN SAS Component Leader for Market Linkages.

It focuses on three areas:

- Develop a policy framework for a sustainable agrifood sector.
- Promote the use of sustainable inputs and crop management practices.
- Promote sustainable value chains in collaboration with the private sector.



GIZ implements a portfolio of projects in agriculture at regional level to contribute to world food security and poverty reduction.

With a sustainable agri-food system, farmers can, profitably, supply quality and safe food to healthy people.

Dr. Yotsawin Kukeawkasem,
ASEAN SAS Component Leader for Market Linkages

Dr. Yotsawin, ASEAN SAS Component Leader for Market Linkages, offers advisory support on value chains and market linkages to BRIA. He believes bringing in more private partners should benefit smallholder farmers. Last year, BRIA signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Olam International and Deutsche Bank (DB). Olam International is a global leader in supply chain management of agricultural products and food ingredients and should considerably contribute to a more competitive rice sector, enhanced market linkages and an improved rice value chain. John Deere, the world's largest agricultural machinery company, should help raise rice production and productivity while BRIA can tap into the financial expertise of DB for Agricultural Value Chain Financing (AVCF). The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) standard, which BRIA and Olam support, will set sustainable environmentally-friendly standards for rice production with traceability.

The livelihood of smallholder farmers living in rural areas depends heavily on agriculture and natural resources and farmers face different types of risk in each day. Agricultural risk management is therefore also important. Dr. Yotsawin explains that farmers may reduce agricultural risks through various measures such as diversification, crop insurance, contract farming, adopting new technologies, forming farmer groups or cooperatives or compliance with international standards.

Crop insurance not only protects against losses but also offers the opportunity for more consistent gains. In this regard, BRIA will work with RIICE (Remote sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging economies) to enhance farmers' understanding of crop insurance and particularly to encourage their participation in the **"area yield index insurance pilot,"** which RIICE will implement in Suphanburi and Ubon Ratchathani Provinces, two BRIA project sites in Thailand to better manage production risks.

GIZ Goes to SETA – Sustainable Energy & Technology Asia (SETA) Exhibition & Conference 2016

By Farida Moawad Energy Efficiency
and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector in the ASEAN Region

Organised by the Thai Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Transport, Sustainable Energy & Technology Asia or SETA aims to become an annual multi-day event fostering knowledge-sharing and networking between international governmental and industrial energy and technology experts. The Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector in the ASEAN region (in short, Transport and Climate Change: TCC) team took part in the first SETA exhibition and conference, which was held at the BITEC on March 23-25, 2016.

TCC contributed to SETA 2016 by not only providing up-to-date information on project activities in the field of sustainable transport to interested booth visitors, but also by organising three different sessions under Transportation and Alternative Fuels, covering the major areas in which the TCC project is working with the aim of increasing energy efficiency and climate change mitigation in the land transport sector.

Session 1: Fuel Efficiency Policy for the Transport Sector in the ASEAN Region

Alex Koerner – who is currently supporting a fuel efficiency report on Thailand and Vietnam for TCC – gave an overview of common fuel economy policies implemented by different countries around the world. He stressed the importance of pursuing technology-neutral instruments to achieve the most efficient outcomes, and also argued that technology improvements will lead to less fuel consumption and more energy and CO2 savings.

Session 2: Green Freight and Logistics

After Mr. Sumit Pokhrel from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) presented the GMS Green Freight Initiative, Roland Haas, director of the ASEAN-German Cities, Environment and Transport programme, detailed the significant potential for saving logistics costs in the ASEAN region. As such, TCC has been carrying out green freight activities in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines,



Malaysia, and Vietnam. In particular, a new project on Sustainable Freight and Logistics in the Mekong Region, funded by the EU, supports small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in increasing their fuel efficiency, improving their safe-handling and accessing finance. The project also promotes truck labelling, green freight action plans and carbon foot printing.

Session 3: Towards Energy Efficient Two-Wheelers in ASEAN

Although two-wheelers, especially motorcycles, make up about half of the vehicle population in the ASEAN region, little policy attention is given to them. Malaysia-based Dr. Horizon Walker Gitano-Briggs – who is preparing a Stocktaking Report on Malaysia for TCC – discussed how two-wheelers consume much less fuel than cars and are thus more fuel-efficient. Motorcycle-only infrastructure such as motorcycle lanes and overpasses in Malaysia further improve two-wheeler ridership safety.

The sessions provided insights into the individual issues of fuel efficiency measures, green freight and two-wheelers. TCC has just entered its second project phase (2016-2018), and is thus continuing to promote sustainable transport development in the ASEAN region.

Visit our website for [further information on presentations and proceedings.](#)

Muang Mai Market

The Largest Fresh Market in Chiang Mai

By Rashane Sala-Ngarm *Integrated Resource Management in Asian Cities: Urban NEXUS*



Chiang Mai Municipality has requested technical assistance from the Nexus project in conducting a feasibility study on the sewerage problems and possible solutions in Muang Mai Market. Preliminary data collection in preparation for the full feasibility study has been concluded.

Muang Mai Market is one of 16 fresh markets in Chiang Mai and is the biggest and only wholesale market. Its sewerage system is a combined open system and is not functioning. The open system is susceptible to solid waste and organic waste entering and blocking the pipes. Moreover, the sewerage pipe network is only partially laid and does not cover the whole market area.

Wastewater and solid waste are generated from distinct sources and activities. These include meat, poultry, seafood preparation, preparation of fruit and vegetables and stall cleaning, preparation and consumption of food, waste water from cleaning the market floors and streets, as well as from public restrooms.

The above mentioned waste water and organic solid waste is often discarded into the drainage system causing serious blockages within the sewage system. A rain shower can cause flooding in several areas of the market within minutes. The contaminated water along with the rats and other disease carriers such as cockroaches and mosquitoes living inside the sewer, as well as the meat, seafood, and fish being exposed to flies and sometimes also soaked in formalin, cause serious hygiene problems. Moreover, wastewater from the market is being released into the nearest natural water way. Muang Mai Market has now become

one of the main contributors to the contamination of Mae Kha Canal which was once essential to the livelihood of Chiang Mai people. The released waste water contaminates the natural water way and affects the communities and establishments downstream as well as the overall image of Chiang Mai. This in turn will have a negative effect on tourism and reduce other economic and development gains of the city.

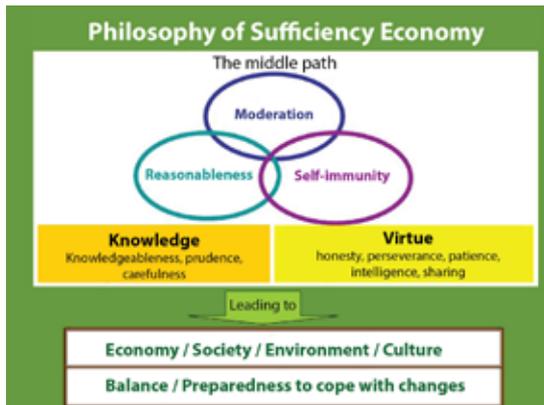
Another serious concern is encroachment of roads and walkways. Commercial building owners built extended roofs and stalls which cover the sewerage channels as well as narrow the market streets. These encroachments prevent traffic flow and prevent proper repair and maintenance of the sewerage system, as well as making it difficult for ambulances and police cars to enter in case of emergencies.

The market ownership structure also makes it difficult to deal with the management problems. Altogether 3 ('big market') owners own 3 licensed fresh markets in Muang Mai Market, namely Muang Mai Market Company (MMC), Muang Samut Market Company (MSC), and Chao Nua Market Company (CNC). All together there are roughly 500 authorised vendors in the area. These 500 vendors are either authorised under the 'Fresh Market' license of the 'big market' owners or hold their own 'Storage and Sales' licenses. Another 500 vendors (including commercial buildings and street vendors) are operating without licenses.

A detailed feasibility study is under preparation to obtain accurate data for the design and cost estimation of sustainable technical and governance solutions.

On the Path of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Experiences from the Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme

By Warisa Sungkaprom and Jiraluck Inwong Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



source: www.unis.unvienna.org

Through the implementation of Thai-German trilateral cooperation Programme since 2008, Thailand and Germany have jointly applied their development experiences and technical know-how to support third partner countries in the Southeast Asian region. Currently, the third partner countries include Lao PDR, Vietnam and Timor-Leste. The support will possibly be extended to other countries in the region, for example Cambodia and Myanmar.

The Trilateral Cooperation Programme meets the development needs of each country, based on the sustainable development principle

Project design, planning and implementation adhere to the principles of results-based project management, capacity development for people and systems, as well as sustainable development, linking economic, social/cultural and environmental dimensions. Consequently, the projects are consistent with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The latter are international development goals, covering a period of 15 years until 2030.



source: www.oknation.net

Sustainable Development Goals

These are the development goals set out by the United Nations following the expiration of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015, shifting from the 3-pillar sustainable development concept to a new sustainable development concept linking economic, social and environmental dimensions and focusing on building partnerships among all sectors at the national and international levels. Seventeen development goals and 169 targets are included.

Examples of consistencies in the Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme with “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”

- The Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in the Western Highland and Central Region of Vietnam project is aimed at developing the capacities of people and economy (SDG 8), promoting vocational development and boosting income with a view to eliminating poverty and improving the well-being of local people (SDGs 1, 2 and 5).
- The Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management project in Lao PDR is aimed at developing and conserving water resources and watersheds (SDGs 14 and 15), upgrading the local economy (SDG 8) and encouraging residents to conserve water resources for improved hygiene and the well-being of the community (SDGs 5 and 6).
- The Strengthening National Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) in Lao PDR project focuses on creating standards for the production of vegetables and fruits for the safety of consumers (SDGs 2 and 3), enhancing quality and adding values of agricultural produces, as well as driving forward the economy through expansion of commercial markets (SDG8).
- The Sufficiency Economy and Business Promotion in the Agricultural Sector (in Timor-Leste) project aims to develop agricultural extension systems (SDGs 4 and 16) in order to increase agricultural productivity, both for household consumption and vocational development (SDGs 2 and 3). It also aims to develop market mechanisms and promote value addition for agricultural products in order to increase income for targeted farmer groups (SDGs 1 and 5), based on the sufficiency economy principles and sustainable agriculture (SDGs 12, 15 and 17).

Once the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are defined as the global development agenda, both Thailand and Germany will put all their efforts into implementing all forms of development cooperation to achieve the goals. This will be done through the joint pursuit of effective tools and methods that can be applied to further cooperation, while recognizing the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy as another concept that can be applied.

Thailand believes in the universality of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy. It can be compared with vaccines that create immunity against “diseases” resulting from imprudence, uncertainty and decadence from negative economic, social and environmental impacts. Thailand is very pleased to share examples of how the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy can be applied in practice.

Excerpt from Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha’s speech during the inauguration ceremony of “G-77 Bangkok Roundtable on Sufficiency Economy: an Approach to Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals”



source: www.ftnnews.com

This year, Thailand is the Chair of the Group of 77 (G-77: coalition of developing nations). It has raised the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, which is the royal initiative of His Majesty the King of Thailand, as a concept that can be applied to the development work in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this regard, Thailand is promoting the adoption of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy by various projects in different countries, such as Cambodia, Timor-Leste and Lesotho, following successful outcomes that are ready for sharing and further expansion to the international communities.

Development based on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy:

Development based on the middle path, carefulness, moderation in performance, reasonableness, creation of immunity for oneself, as well as the use of knowledge and virtue for planning, decision making and action

Lao PDR Plans to Expand its GAP Certification to 100,000 Farms by 2020

By Pimpilas Nuntiphon Khoeiram Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



The Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation is considered important because its scope of work is in accordance with the Lao PDR's strategic plan, particularly in relation to the establishment of a Lao GAP Certification Body in preparation for integration with the AEC. With the efforts of the Lao Department of Agriculture alone, success might not be achievable.

Mrs. Inthanongsith Kommamuang, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture (DOA)

Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao PDR, Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ organized a Project Management Committee meeting and carry on workshop in Vientiane on March 30-31 to present the results of and exchange experiences gained during the second phase (October 2014-March 2016) of Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation project. This will further lead to the development of concepts and proposed activities in the roadmap for a good agriculture practices (GAP) in Lao PDR.

Roadmap for a Good Agriculture Practices in Lao PDR

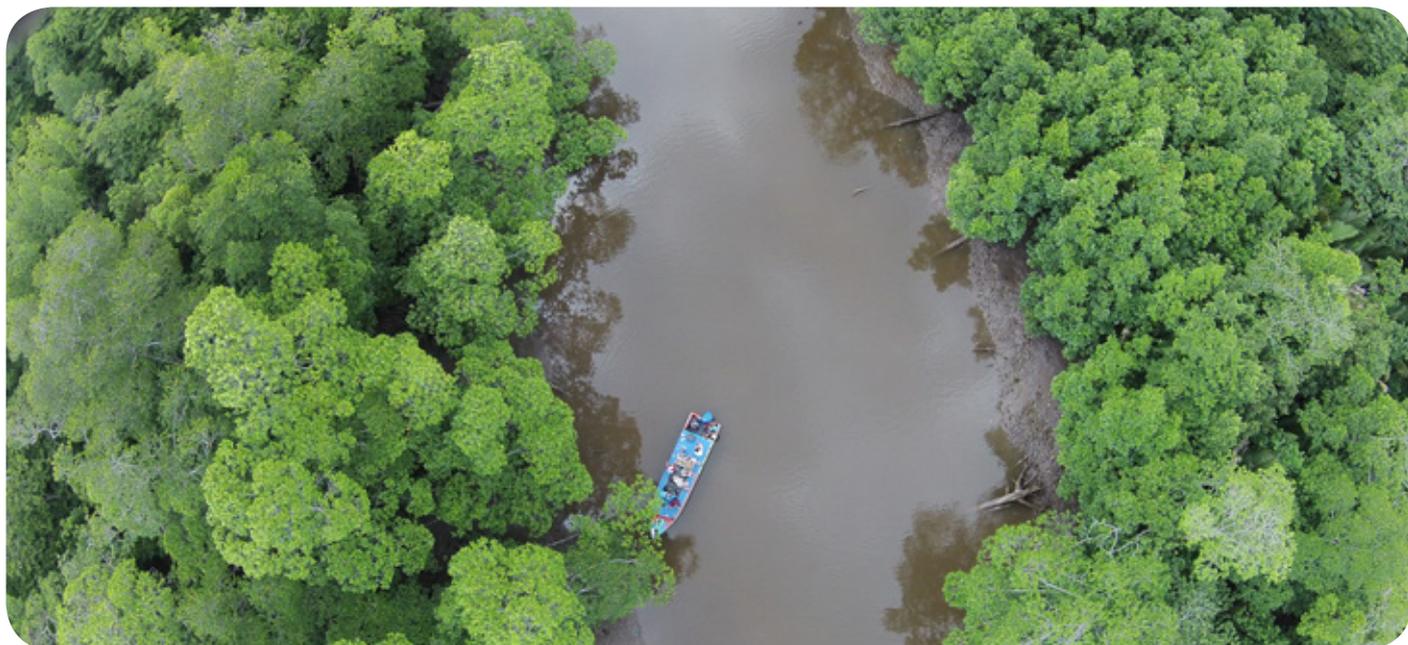
Roadmap involves the transformation of DOA's strategy (2015-2025) to concrete action. This will help the key players to determine guideline for GAP implementation in order to increase the number of farmers and areas receiving Lao GAP certification by 3 percent, accounting for 100,000 farms by 2020. The draft roadmap, which is primarily set as a mid-term 5-year plan (2016-2020), focuses on the following 5 main activities.

- Determination of Lao GAP certification areas
- Upgrade of Lao GAP to national standards
- Upgrade of national Lao GAP certification to meet international standards
- Dissemination of Lao GAP knowledge
- Measures to promote Lao GAP nationwide

After receiving comments on the main activities under the draft roadmap, the Lao Department of Agriculture will present it to all players concerned for review and consideration. It will then be put into practice.

Shedding Light on Sustainable Development Goals Conference

By Anusara Tanpitak Sector Network Natural Resources and Rural Development Asia (SNRD Asia)



More than 250 national and international GIZ experts will gather in Bangkok to discuss technical priority areas linked to the newly adopted United Nations 30 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Calling for more audacious and inclusive development patterns, the SDGs seek to usher development institutions in an unprecedented clear action plan.

In response to this, a joint conference of two Sector Networks in Asia cutting across the areas of environment, natural resources and rural development will be held from 30 May – 3 June 2016. A keynote speech will be delivered by Dr. Shamshad Askhar, Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, on the joint conference day, to lead off the discussions.

Seen as drivers of change, development workers will be engaged in a meaningful dialogue. In essence, the event should help fine-tune the work of German Development Cooperation in realising the SDGs.

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Editors:

Vorathep Songpanya
Pariya Wongsarot

For further information on the articles and all news related information please contact

Pariya Wongsarot
Public Relations Officer

German International Cooperation, GIZ Office Bangkok

193/63 Lake Rajada Office Complex (16th Floor)
New Ratchadapisek Road, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110
Tel: 02-661-9273 Fax: 02-661-9281 –2

E-mail: pariya.wongsarot@giz.de

Website: www.thai-german-cooperation.info

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- Remote Sensing - based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging Economies



Climate Change

- Advancing and Measuring Sustainable Consumption and Production for a Low - Carbon Economy in Middle - Income and Newly Industrialized Countries
- Global Support Project for the Preparation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
- Risk - based National Adaptation Plan
- Support to the Development and Implementation of the Thai Climate Change Policy
- Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation Thailand



Energy

- Renewable Energy Project Development Programme in South - East Asia
- Thai - German Programme on Energy Efficiency Development Plan



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