

Newsletter of Bangkok-based projects by GIZ and PARTNERS

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Dear Readers,

This issue's main feature focuses on the success of the Lao-Thai-German cooperation in Good Agricultural Practice (GAP). As usual, there are updates on the progress of our projects and activities including workshops and seminars that aim to share ideas and good practices as well as build networking at both national and regional level.

And with the end of the 2014 World Cup, we are also pleased to include an article on the success factor in a football game that uses a concept similar to 'Capacity Works', which was developed by GIZ for the achievement of project implementation.

If you have questions, please contact the newsletter team.

Best regards,

The newsletter team

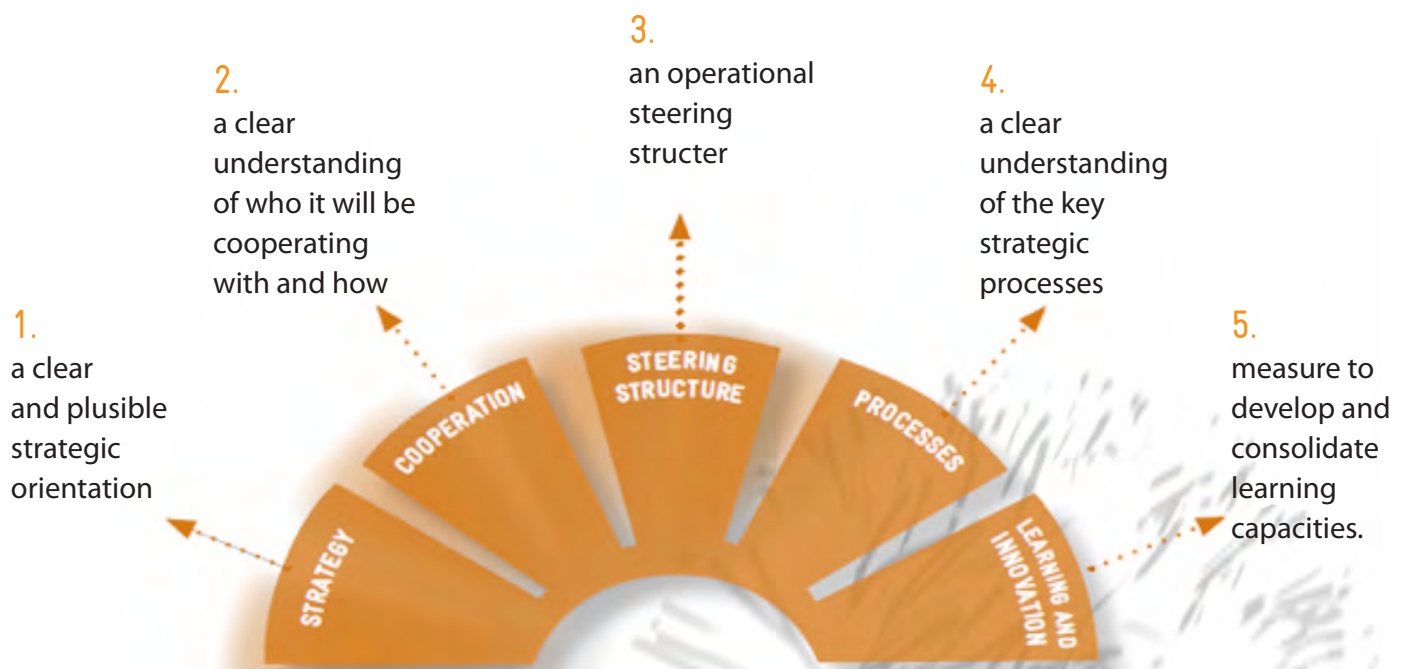
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How to become a good project manager or win the FIFA World Cup

By Vorathep Songpanya GIZ Office Bangkok

Over ten years ago former GTZ has analyzed over 2500 projects to gather information on good project management practices in development cooperation. It found out that management tools which were used are related to five success factors. Over 40 tools together with several sets of guiding questions for project managers have been put together along the five success factors. It was the birth of Capacity Works - a management model used by GTZ/GIZ since then. The five success factors are: strategy, cooperation, steering structure, processes, learning & innovation.



“ The essence is: A project is often strong in one or more of these factors to succeed, missing or lacking one of them can make a project stuck or fail. ”



Looking at how a project is being designed and implemented along these 5 factors – is how we can identify weaknesses and develop improvement measures in a systematic manner.

What do these things have to do with Messi, Neymar, Neuer, Robben & Co.? Quite a lot. Whatever we can describe also as a project, Capacity Works can help to analyze it - at least we get an idea what is going on, why things are going well or not going so well - and why not? A football game is like a 90+ minutes long project with a very clear goal, right?



Success factors to win a football game

- Effective and efficient game strategy and tactics
- Excellent teamwork and networking in the field
- Just-in-time steering and improving during the game
- High-quality routine processes and skills
- Innovative, creative, unexpected moves and moments...and luck.

The following matrix gives you a simple idea about Capacity Works – no matter you are dealing with projects or analyzing the strong and weak points the football teams in Brazil.

Success Factor	Managing Projects	Winning the FIFA World Cup
1. Strategy	We have a plausible cause-and-effect hypothesis or result chain model in order to design and plan in the right and effective approach. We do 'A' to create 'B' which then create 'C' (changes) and so on. To do so, we have to understand the stakeholders, i.e. their situation and problems very well. What works at home or in one place, always needs adaptation to function well in new environment – although the overall logic and rationality remains the same. A project strategy needs also to be monitored and often needs correction during the project – before it is too late.	Game strategies and tactics have evolved all the time, e.g. the basic formation 3-2-2-3, 4-3-3, 4-4-2, 4-2-3-1 etc. However, a real good team today does not have only one main strategy or tactics, but can develop for the next game modified strategies and approaches to fit to the next competitor. If for example Germany would have played against France (1-0) with the same strategy they have won against Algeria, they probably would have failed. Furthermore, changing the tactics during a game become often decisive and necessary to win. If the change comes too late, a team often has no time to correct the score.
2. Cooperation	A project can easily fail, if we miss to ensure sufficient cooperation from someone or an organization which are important key stakeholders. This we all know very well. At the same time, a project depends also on good internal cooperation within e.g. the project team, among units of our organization, partner departments or cross-ministries or even among different projects and donors. Many projects do not reach their full potential outreach because cooperation on wider network, policy and framework levels are not well thought out.	Needless to say, that a team of 11 individual stars - who ranks much higher than another team - still can lose, because their teamwork is weak. In this year's World Cup, one can observe that many "weaker teams" were compensating their weaker skills with excellent teamwork - e.g. when they jointly prevent the stars of the other side from scoring. Moreover, substitutes are becoming more important in the tournament, as they are needed - not only in the game, but also outside. Some say, teamwork is most important and outrun superstar orientation.
3. Steering Structure	Monitoring, steering and directing are core tasks of project management. But often, it needs a steering structure which involve external views and expertise. Therefore, it is highly recommended to set up a steering body on higher level and involve wider stakeholders. Together they have a bird's view on the project and often also can function as a channel for the project to communicate up the hierarchy policy ideas and recommendations.	What managers and directors are for projects, team managers or coaches are for a football game. During a game they need to see things from outside the field, which are often not seen by the players. In this year's competition, it was crucial that coaches were intervening to get their team on track as planned. It is often this crucial and right time intervening from outside the game which gives a team the right direction and finally the edge to win.
4. Processes	To succeed, work processes need to be optimized and synchronized. Besides key processes to achieve the results, we also have to take care of supporting routine and basic processes. When we organize for example a workshop - everyone needs to know what to do exactly, when and how...	Counter attacks, standard situations, passing balls - if someone walks to the left while the other passes the ball to the right. That is when certain processes are not well "inhaled" yet. We often hear: "they understand each other blindly". For many years Spain was on top because of their "Tiki-Taka" routines.
5. Learning & Innovation	Often a project also needs something new to succeed. New strategy, new approaches, new partner, new process to change, etc. This is best described by quotations referred to as of Albert Einstein: a) "Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." b) We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."	Until the others copied them or improve further or invent sth. new or modify sth. old to play against them. Fact is, there is no ultimate and only one way to win a football game. In order to surprise the opponent, you need not only to continue learning about them, but do something new to be at the top. A team can be much better in all above, and still can lose due to a genius moment - a single moment which changes the outcome.

Lao GAP– Another Step Forward for Agriculture Certification in Lao PDR

By Jiraluck Inwong

Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



Lao PDR has launched the national good agricultural practice or Lao GAP for fruits and vegetables which is in harmony with the ASEAN GAP. The move aims to strengthen competitiveness of farmers and small holders in fresh fruit and vegetable business in Lao PDR. The “Strengthening National GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) in Lao PDR” project under that Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation has, in part, provided support to establish the good agricultural practices standard (Lao GAP) for the past 2 years (May 2012-April 2014). The key project implementer, the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR receives technical support from the Department of Agriculture and the National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS), Thailand. Administrative and implementation support was provided by Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand and GIZ.



Trade Situation on Fruit and Vegetables in Lao PDR

It is widely known that ASEAN member countries are hastily preparing themselves in every dimension to join the ASEAN Common Market in 2015. Lao PDR is facing an important challenge on agricultural product development: the lack of good agricultural practices (GAP) standard that is in harmony with the ASEAN GAP, which will become the standard for intraregional fruit and vegetable trade in 2015. This will affect the potential and competitiveness of Lao farmers and small holders in fresh fruit and vegetable business because they will not be able to respond to the needs of both local and international consumers.



What is ASEAN GAP?

ASEAN GAP is the good agricultural practices (GAP) standard established to improve and standardize the production of fruit and vegetables in ASEAN member states. The standard is used for intraregional and interregional trade

ASEAN GAP covers 4 key aspects:

- Food safety
- Environmental impacts
- Workers' health, safety and welfare
- Produce quality

Project Objectives

The "Strengthening National GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) in Lao PDR" project aims to strengthen the competitiveness of farmers and small holders in fresh fruit and vegetable business and respond to market needs through the establishment of the good agricultural practices standard (Lao GAP), preparing Lao PDR for the ASEAN Economic community (AEC).



The project has support the Department of Agriculture, Lao PDR to

1. Establish the structure and management of Lao Certification Body (LCB) based on the international standard ISO/IEC17065. The main role of LCB is to inspect and certify that the agricultural production meets the Lao GAP standard.
2. Develop Lao GAP Standard and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for fresh fruit and vegetables that are in harmony with the ASEAN GAP. The standard and SOP were officially launched by the Department of Agriculture in 2013.
3. Strengthen the capacity of personnel and relevant authorities, enhance their knowledge, competency and provide training to improve skills and expertise, empowering them to become inspectors/auditors for the Lao GAP certification. Currently there are 15 trained and qualified inspectors/auditors for the process.
4. Establish service structure and disseminate knowledge and information on Lao GAP to facilitate access to the certification process for farmers and small holders in fruit and vegetable business; starting from certification application, promoting compliance to Lao GAP in the farm, regulation and procedures on farm inspection and certification and the application of Lao GAP logo on certified produce for trade and export



Example of fruit and vegetables currently under the Lao GAP certification scheme

Project Outcomes

More than 2 years of joint effort of the Department of Agriculture, officers, auditors and relevant private agencies, to develop the Lao GAP, Lao PDR is now ready to inspect and certify agricultural products. Currently 2 pilot farmer groups and 1 individual farm have been certified. As a result, more certified fruit and vegetables are available in the market. Moreover, another 10 farmer groups, consisting of about 200 members have volunteered to become pilot farmers, adopting the Lao GAP. They are in the inspection and certification application process. The Lao government has vowed to improve agricultural production to meet the requirements of the Lao GAP and constantly improve the certification system. Moreover, the government has developed a plan to publicize the Lao GAP to farmers, interested individuals, consumers and the public at large.

For additional information

Project Video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dwYYYYLT97o4>

A Workshop to Introduce Lao GAP Awarded Products

By Jiraluck Inwong

Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



On 28 May 2014, Department of Agriculture, Lao PDR, Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ jointly hosted a workshop to disseminate information on Lao GAP certified fresh fruit and vegetable in Lao PDR to policy makers, relevant authorities and representative of private agencies and business operators who are keen on trading Lao GAP products. The event took place at Rashmi's the Plaza, Vientiane. Information on situation analysis, production capacity, readiness of the certification process, technical advices on marketing, trade and investment policy in Lao PDR was presented. Moreover, the workshop facilitated business negotiation on Lao GAP produce between Thai and Lao producers. More than 70 Thai and Lao business-people, interested individuals and Thai and Lao media representatives attended the workshop. This is a good starting point for the Lao GAP publicity campaign to increase awareness of the public. Meanwhile the workshop provided opportunity for interactions among businesspeople, academicians, government officials, farmers and middlemen, facilitating future business negotiations and partnerships.



*Lao GAP logo approved by
the Department of Agriculture, Lao PDR*

The workshop demonstrated that Lao business operators are keen to expand their business and increase the production of Lao GAP certified produces to local and international markets. Moreover, they are ready to form partnerships with both Thai and Lao investors. Similarly, Thai business operators realize the business potential and are keen to conduct business with Lao PDR by purchasing produce from Lao farmers or developing joint ventures. The Lao government has also expressed the determination to promote business expansion and policy to facilitate production and trade of Lao GAP certified fruit and vegetables. This is a good sign for the future of agricultural development in Lao PDR. Willingness of stakeholders to promote and strengthen the Lao GAP standard and certified produce will continuously upgrading the production process.

“ Lao GAP: clean, safe,
environmental friendly
and ready for AEC ”

Lao GAP Certified Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Exhibition and Fare

By Jiraluck Inwong
Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



In May 2014, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR, JICA, TICA and GIZ held a “Lao GAP Certified Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Exhibition and Fare” to officially launch the Lao GAP standard and certified produce. Dr. Phet Phomphiphak, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR and Dr. Boontawee Sisupanthong, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Planning and Investment, chaired the event attended by 200 participants. The event took place at Lao GAP Conference Center and Demonstration Plots, Clean Agricultural Development Center, Vientiane District



▲ Dr. Phet Phomphiphak cut the ribbon together with all the partners to mark the launch of Lao GAP



▲ Deputy Director of Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and the Country Director of the GIZ Thailand joined the Lao GAP certified Fruit and Vegetable Exhibition and Fare

“ We have to adapt ourselves to changes in the age of globalization. We have to enhance competitiveness and walk at the forefront along with the global community...The success of the Lao GAP project under the Trilateral Cooperation Programme has shown that friendship, determination and collaboration from project partners to achieve the implementation goal had generated tangible results. This is a part of fostering the ASEAN Spirit, according to the motto of “One Vision, One Identity, One Community”

Ms Angsana Sihapitak,
Deputy Director of
Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)



“ The benefits of having Lao GAP in place are ”

1. Better health and safety for farmers because they are not exposed to hazardous chemicals,
2. Good environmental conditions, no chemical residues, no harm for animals in the vicinity of the farm and
3. Better crop weight

Mr. Somvang Inthawong,
Chairperson of Phonehong Agricultural Association

The fair program included a ceremony, chaired by the Director General of the Department of Agriculture, Lao PDR, to award the first 3 Lao GAP certificates to first group of farmers. There were exhibits on Lao GAP and, officially for the first time, display and sale of Lao GAP certified produce to executives and staff of relevant public and private agencies and general public. A panel discussion on “Sharing Experiences on Lao GAP Certified Farm” to share knowledge and experiences on how to comply with Lao GAP in the farm was held. Members of the panel discussion were representatives of farmer groups, Department of Agriculture and Clean Agricultural Center, Lao PDR and the Department of Agriculture, Thailand. To provide information and technical advices and to demonstrate on how to apply for the Lao GAP certification, farm inspection, farm practices; demonstration on farm inspection was conducted in a pilot farm by representatives of farmer groups, farm advisors and inspectors for more than 100 interested farmers and individuals. The information on Lao GAP and guidelines provided has created a strong interest among farmers and relevant agencies. Evidently, they are very keen and ready to respond to the Lao government’s policy on agricultural development, which aims to equally benefit farmers, small holders and consumers.

Cooperatives in Rural Vietnam Get Support in Strategic and Business Planning

By Jarukan Rassiri Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



The “Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam Project” under Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation supported 12 pilot cooperatives in their strategic and business planning during May-June 2014. A series of training sessions and participatory workshops with pilot cooperatives in rural areas of central Vietnam were conducted with the main technical inputs coming from the Thailand Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD) and GIZ. The activity aimed to strengthen the performance of the cooperatives through systematic and participatory analysis and planning involving cooperative management staff, member representatives and relevant cooperative promotion officers

Appointed working groups consisting of cooperative promotion officers from VCA and PCA were accompanied by two very experienced Thai experts from CPD for the workshops with the first 4 cooperatives in May 2014. During the whole of June, the working groups carried out the workshops with the rest of the pilot cooperatives by themselves, using lessons learned from the first 4 workshops conducted by the Thai experts. Ultimately, 12 pilot cooperatives were supported through this participatory and systematic process, which is very new to both the cooperatives and the cooperative promotion staff. All pilot cooperatives have now developed detailed analyses

of their performance, strategic plan, and action plan for the important missions to be undertaken within the coming year. The implementation of the strategic plan will be followed up and supported mainly by the cooperative promotion officers from VCA and PCA, with project support up to May 2015.

The participating pilot cooperatives are from the 4 selected provinces of Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Phu Yen. There are 3 pilot cooperatives in each, with different levels of performance and size and cover both agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. Some cooperatives’ performance is very advanced and their strategic plans are aimed at exporting to European countries and entering new markets. These agricultural cooperatives need to mainly improve their services and businesses for members, expand new business and obtain access to loans. There are also groups of villagers who are not yet operating within the cooperative structure and thus their aim is to improve their organization and products and register as cooperatives so that they can have their own brand and get access to loans.

This activity does not simply strengthen the cooperatives’ management in strategically assessing their performance and improve their planning/



implementation, but also supports VCA and PCA in experiencing such analyses as well as planning and coaching methods including follow up and monitoring. These skills and methods could be applied to other cooperatives outside the pilot model and scaled up to other provinces later on.

The project is financially supported by the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with a financial contribution from VCA Central Region.



Did you know?

- The Central and Western Highland of Vietnam covers 19 provinces.
- The region accounts for 35.3% of the population and 30% of the country's GDP growth, but has lower growth (average is over 13%) than other regions, with very low income per capita.
- The region has high poverty rates and mainly consists of poorer communities who live by agriculture and who are concentrated in remote and ethnic minority areas in the midland and mountainous districts.
- The region consists of around 5,350 cooperatives and SMEs



“ As the first step, we need to empower the cooperatives and make them realize the importance of their work. Then they must be supported to be able to understand their current situation very well so that they can improve it in a realistic and structural way. I think VCA and PCA staff understand this process well and can lead the workshops for further cooperatives.

Mr. Dusit Thongta, Director of
the Center of Cooperative Technology Transfer Development 5, CPD



“ Besides transferring our method which has proved quite successful in Thailand, I also learned a lot from my experience in Vietnam. There are many good practices in cooperative development we can exchange between the two countries. I see Vietnamese people have very high potential because they know what they want to achieve. We are only here to guide this new process and to structure it better.

Mr. Kamthorn Pohlamphong,
Chief of Nakhon Nayok Provincial Cooperative Promotion Office, CPD, Thailand

About the Project Intervention and the Pilot Models

Cooperatives and SMEs in central Vietnam are still limited in their business management and orientation (e.g. marketing system, product design skills, management capacity, cooperative business orientation and principles, resources efficiency know-how, skilled workers and quality control) which prevent them from performing and from providing sufficient benefit to their members, especially in a changing competitive environment with increasing private sector investment in the region. The project aims to improve the service and support structure for cooperatives and SMEs in this region through capacity building for the regional Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA), Provincial Cooperative Alliance (PCA) and the pilot cooperatives/SMEs in selected provinces. In order to ensure that the service and support structure is improved and serves needs in today's context, pilot cooperative models that VCA and PCA can utilize as learning venues and demonstrations for further upscaling are one of the project's important expected results. Performance analysis and strategic planning is the first step to identify problems, visions and goals of these pilot cooperatives before supporting them with further demand-driven activities.



“ At first we were very scared about joining this process and almost in tears because we are not well-educated and we don't know how to do strategic planning. But after 3 days, we felt that it was actually not difficult, we just needed to think step-by-step and realize what we lack. The guidance from the Thai expert, VCA and PCA was very helpful, and now we feel inspired to form ourselves into a cooperative and improve our performance.

Binh Anh Women Group, one of the pilot groups consisting of single, widowed and disadvantaged women, produces rattan weaving furniture structures. Some of their products are bought by local companies and sold to Ikea, the big furniture store from Sweden.

Media trip and On-Site Visit Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project and Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Lao PDR Project

By Warisa Sungkaprom Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



The “Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project” and “Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Lao PDR Project” under Lao- Thai- German Trilateral Cooperation Programme are moving towards the end of the project period. The 2 year project implementation (2012-2014) have achieved many interesting results with good practices which are useful for scaling up in other areas of Lao PDR and in the region. To disseminate project results and lesson learned to interested partners and general public, the Department of Water Resources and Department of Agriculture in Lao PDR, Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ jointly organized a media trip and project site visit in Lao PDR on 25-31 May 2014. The media trip program was as follows.

Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project

- Nam Xong River cruise in Vang Vieng to inspect the river environment and status
- Join the “Youth Network on Nam Xong Water Quality Monitoring at Pakpo Elementary School”
- Observing the installation of a household grease trap and visiting a simple household wastewater treatment unit in Hinheup district.

Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Laos PDR Project

- Visiting Lao GAP certified farm in Aeksang Village and LAICO sweet corn farm
- Attending “Public Relation Workshop on Lao GAP Certified Produce and Seal”
- Joining “Lao GAP Certified Fruits and Vegetables Field Exhibition”
- Attending the Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Lao PDR Project Steering Committee meeting



The objectives of the media trip and on-site visit activity were to produce and compile a collection of media products on the project results for knowledge management and public dissemination, to disseminate the project results and lesson learned and introduce Triangular Cooperation. Moreover, the activity has strengthened information sharing between Thai and Lao media representatives.

The media trip and on-site visit helps to promote Triangular Cooperation as a new development cooperation model promoting regional integration . Moreover, the activity clearly demonstrates Thailand's role as a donor in development cooperation. Several articles and news programs on project outcomes can be downloaded from the following links:

Modern Nine Television Channel 9

- Lao-Thai-German Cooperation on Agriculture
<http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=5385a7c1be0470481c8b4583#.U46LMSyKAcA>
- Open Door to ASEAN: Nam Xong, the Living Lifeline
<http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=5396f7efbe0470afa78b4572#.U5fSkTilrct>
- Open Door to ASEAN: Advancing Vegetable Production in Lao PDR
<http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=5399aa39be047002138b4570#.U5q82Dilrct>
- Lao PDR Urges Regional Agricultural Promotion Cooperation among ASEAN Members
<http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=53857e54be047062178b4569#.U46MzCyKAcA>
- Thansettakij, Bangkok Post and Vientiane Times
https://www.facebook.com/TrilateralCooperation?ref_type=bookmark

58 Measures for Delivering Goods and Protecting the Environment in Asia

By Nikola Stalevski Energy – Efficiency in Transport in the ASEAN region

Green Freight and Logistics in Asia

delivering the goods, protecting the environment



The regional workshop brought together over 100 participants from 17 countries and 30 organizations in the largest-ever event on green freight and logistics in Asia and the Pacific. During three dynamic days, participants identified 58 concrete measures to help Asia's freight transport sector save costs, energy and emissions.

The freight and logistics sector is expected to triple in volume by 2050, with most of the growth happening in the developing world. It will spur economic development, but also bring numerous challenges. In financial terms, logistics costs are still very high in the region, with over 15% of GDP more than double the EU average. The negative environmental impacts are also increasing, as emphasised by keynote speaker Mr. Bambang Susantono, Vice Minister for Transportation of Indonesia. Air pollution, resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions take a rising toll on public health and the environment. The impact of road transport is particularly severe.



▲ Mr. Bambang Susantono,
Vice Minister for Transportation of Indonesia

“ 2-5% of GDP ”
is lost to traffic
and related costs.

The workshops sessions set the ground for exploring answers to these challenges. The panel discussions on EU, US and Asian practices emphasised themes like partnerships, simple and cost effective solutions, strong champions, and multi-stakeholder approaches. Freight transport experts and representatives from global leaders in logistics (e.g. Germany's Otto and DB Schenker) informed the discussion with their experiences. The study tours of Singapore Port and Agility International Logistics provided hands-on learning and practical examples of efficient logistics. The participants used these diverse inputs to select and elaborate specific measures on logistics optimisation, modal shift and efficiency in trucks. According to the post-workshop poll, they improved their understanding of green freight and logistics considerably ('very familiar' increased from 19% to 58%).



**“Logistics is like football.
It's a team game.”**

Held in Singapore 25 - 27 June 2014, the event was organised by the project “Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector in the ASEAN Region”, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). As the first collaboration between GIZ and ADB in the transport sector, the workshop provided a good basis for exploring additional joint activities to promote sustainable transport and freight in Asia.

In the coming months, GIZ plans to organise several national workshops on green freight in ASEAN partner countries. The follow-up activities will capture the momentum of the regional workshop, in response to participant expressed needs and interests. By bringing key national stakeholders together, the experiences and knowledge gained from the workshop will be shared among a wider group. The template actions plans, selected measures, and background materials provide a good basis for country-specific solutions towards an efficient and low-emissions transport sector.

Lessons Learned from Study Tour to Germany on Ecosystem-based Flood and Drought Management

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



The Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds Project (ECOSWat) recently undertook a study tour programme to Germany. The objective of the study tour, which was held from 4-14 May, was to learn about ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) for flood and drought management based on German examples. The delegation was made up of 21 officials from Khon Kaen and Nakhon Si Thammarat provinces and included GIZ Thai staff. Participants were separated into 2 groups, executive and technical, and travelled to different parts of Germany.

Germany previously invested heavily in grey infrastructure but this was still unable to protect certain areas from flooding as well as resolve problems with drought. Green infrastructure (ecosystem-based adaptation measures) has since proved to be an alternative solution to dealing with these problems in a cost-effective and sustainable way. In Brandenburg, Prof. Dr. Matthias Freude, President of the Ministry of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection of the Federal State of Brandenburg, introduced participants to ecosystem-based measures designed to protect the local communities from floods. The system combines grey infrastructure (concrete water gates) with green infrastructure (dikes) along the Elbe and Havel rivers. This is a good example of how combining grey and green measures can achieve more for the people living along the river than just a single solution. Furthermore, the dikes serve as an eco-tourism site where local people can enjoy cycling and the beautiful scenery.

The same observation was made in Karlsruhe, where a combination of water retention areas and dikes protect the riparian communities from seasonal flooding, while also serving as a recreational area for families.

After 10 days of daily field trips, discussions and recommendations that saw the participants gain plenty of knowledge, the next step for the Thai delegates is to share the lessons learnt from Germany with their colleagues in Thailand and study how to adapt the German examples to flood and drought problems in Thailand. Forums for dialogue, along with training and workshops, will be launched in each project site – Bangkok, Khon Kaen and Nakhon Si Thammarat – to ensure a sustainable transfer of knowledge and capacity building.

**“ Ecosystem-based adaption ”
measures proved to be an alternative
solution to deal with the problems in
a cost-effective and sustainable way.
However, grey and green measures have to
be combined to achieve effective results.**



Successful Trials on the Use of BCA to Control Flea Beetles in Chinese Cabbage in Thailand

By Thomas Jaekel, Pouchamarn Wongsanga, and Duangruetai Surasakjinda
ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol)

“Results of the first trial demonstrated that BCA were similarly effective at a lower application rate in comparison to negative control. Thus, it is promising to deliver economic benefits to the farmers.”

During a series of Regional Experts Meetings on Biological Control Agents (BCA) organized throughout 2013, many ASEAN Member States (AMS) expressed their interest in conducting research and demonstration trials on the application of BCA for pest management. In Thailand, Chinese cabbage was selected as a priority crop as it is often becomes infested with flea beetles.

Flea beetles have been causing headaches to cabbage farmers for years. A heavy infestation can kill seedlings while moderate damage delays maturity, reduces yield and lowers crop quality making crops unmarketable. Reports indicate that larvae and adult flea beetle infestation is responsible for about 10 percent of yield losses.

In cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, the Royal Project Foundation, and Thep Watana Co., Ltd., the ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol) has been conducting field trials since January 2014 to test the effectiveness of the microbial and nematodes against flea beetle infestations in Chinese cabbage. Trials in a farmer's cabbage field in Huai Pong, Chiang Rai were conducted to compare performance of the BCA with a negative control (no pest control) and the farmer's own practices, which included the use of locally available pesticides. The results of the first trial conducted between January and March 2014 on the application of both BCA showed significantly better root growth of cabbage during the first 2-3 weeks compared to the negative control. Both agents targeted the larval stages of flea beetles, which cause most of the damage. Further development of cabbage plants through to harvest was similar with both BCA and pesticides, and significantly better than the negative



control. However, biocontrol was only applied three times in comparison to six chemical applications. The experiment thus demonstrated that BCA were similarly effective at a lower application rate, thus promising to deliver economic benefits to the farmer. A second trial is under way to confirm this finding.

The results of this field work will be helpful in developing application guidelines for environmentally friendly and safe management of this notorious insect pest in Southeast Asia.

Workshop to Promote the Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents in Cambodia

By Kim Seanvirak ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol)



In collaboration with the Cambodian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), and USAID through the Cambodia HARVEST Programme, ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol) organised a national workshop on the use and trade of biological control agents (BCA) on 22 May 2014 in Phnom Penh. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness and share experiences on the use of BCA in promoting sustainable agricultural production, identify the needs of relevant stakeholders concerning regulation, commercialisation and application of BCA, and encourage networking among BCA experts in Cambodia. Presided over by H.E. So Khan Rithykun, Director-General of the General Directorate of Agriculture, MAFF, the workshop was attended by representatives from state institutions, the private sector, local NGOs and individual consultants in the sector. Mr. Teffera Betru attended as a representative from USAID.

Commercial biological control agents are becoming increasingly important and gaining more attention due to their relatively low toxicity to humans and the environment, their potential for local production, and their compatibility with smallholder farming, which is the predominant form of agricultural production in Southeast Asia.

The workshop provided a good venue to exchange information about the global, regional and national experiences on the use of BCA. The implementation of ASEAN guidelines on the regulation, use and trade of biological control agents in Cambodia was discussed and a needs assessment conducted among core partners.

“ Commercial biological control agents are becoming increasingly important and gaining more attention. ”



Roundtable Forum on Occupational Safety and Health in Ports

By Yosthana Siphomsay Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region

Trade and international transport is growing steadily and expected to escalate at an even faster rate in the ASEAN region following the start of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. However, as the turnover at terminals and ports increases, so do the number of accidents. Many accidents can be prevented if adequate standards and procedures that comply with internationally recognized standards are implemented. In this regard, it is recognized that synergies between the ministries of Labour and Transport are beneficial in mitigating the safety and health risks at ports.

As a result of the ASEAN OSHnet Coordinating Board Meeting in Myanmar last April, members became aware that there was a need to create greater synergies between the Ministries of Labour (MoL) and the Ministries of Transport (MoT) in the area of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in ports. A Roundtable Forum was thus conceived to assess the existing gaps and design creative solutions for improving OSH in ports in ASEAN member states.

The Roundtable Forum on Occupational Safety and Health in Ports was organized in Singapore on 9 May 2014 as a joint initiative between the ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG), the ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health (OSHnet) and the ASEAN – German Technical Cooperation Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region project.

“ There was a need to create greater synergies between the Ministries of Labour (MoL) and the Ministries of Transport (MoT) in the area of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in ports.



While ports generally fall under the supervision of the MoT, it is acknowledged that the safety of port staff lies with the MoL. The Roundtable Forum initiated dialogue and agreements on potential areas of collaboration between the MoL and MoT of the participating member states in the forum (Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia and Brunei) on OSH in ports. Problems identified included a lack of OSH regulations, unclear jurisdiction of ministries and the competency and capacity of port workers. An expert representing the International Labour Organization (ILO) supported the dialogue and discussion. The participants realized that the port and national level authorities can make good use of best practices and instruments available in the region to improve the effectiveness of communication in improving OSH management in the ports.

The ILO pledged its support to the project, which will continue its planned activities in ASEAN ports to improve safety and health management over the next 17 months and beyond.

National Dissemination Workshop on Clean Air Planning for Smaller Cities

Project team of Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region



The GIZ project 'Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN region' (CASC) cooperates with the Indonesian Ministry of Environment's (MoE) Pollution division on improving air quality management in Indonesia. Through this collaboration, emissions inventories (EI) that include local pollutants as well as CO₂ have been elaborated for Palembang and Surakarta. Together with a set of measures aimed at reducing air pollution the EI results are summarized in a Clean Air Plan (CAP) for the two pilot cities. The Indonesian government has replicated the EI approach in six more cities (Banjarmasin, Batam, Denpasar, Malang, Surabaya and Yogyakarta), notably with their own funding proving their high interest, commitment and ownership in tackling this environmental challenge. GIZ provided technical assistance in the form of quality control and loan of equipment to support the measurements of the emissions.

A National Dissemination Workshop was convened in Jakarta on 11 June 2014 with about 80 representatives from various research institutions, local and central government agencies, local and international NGOs including the media.

The participants jointly:

- discussed the development of the EI approach in the 6 cities,
- shared international practices on air quality management and control and
- came up with the next steps upon the finalization of the CASC project which will come to an end in December 2015.

On this occasion, the EI teams also officially submitted the EI reports to the MoE; the most dominant sources of emissions based on their EIs are from transportation and industries. The progress of the CAP and EIs were viewed as a positive development by the participants. For example, air quality management measures have been included in Palembang's midterm regional development plan.

For further information,
please refer to www.CitiesForCleanAir.org

How to Improve Air Quality in Your City: Strategic Framework for Air Quality Management

Project team of Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region

In conjunction with the World Cities Summit, the regional workshop on **“How to Improve Air Quality in Your City: Strategic Framework for Air Quality Management”** took place in Singapore on 2-3 June 2014. The training is a flagship course and is one of five training modules developed under the regional training program, “Train for Clean Air” (T4CA). It aims to create awareness and provide decision-makers with knowledge and information on air quality management in non-metropolitan areas and secondary cities.

The twelve high-level decision-makers at the city, national, and regional levels from seven ASEAN member countries, namely Cambodia, Thailand, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Philippines, and Myanmar were welcomed by Ms. Sharon Chan, Technical Cooperation Deputy Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Singapore and Ms. Napaporn Yuberk, Regional Project Manager of GIZ.

The two-day workshop was facilitated by regional experts: Dr. SupatWangwongwatana, Coordinator of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), and Bluetrack Centre’s Erik Velasco, Ph.D., and Ms. Maria Chiara Metallo of Environ. It included a half-day site visit to the National Environment Agency (NEA), where participants were briefed on the policies and regulations on air quality management in Singapore. They also had the opportunity to visit one of the eleven ambient air quality monitoring sites in the country, which enabled them a first-hand glimpse of Singapore’s experience in air quality management.



▲ **At the roof top of building:**
The training participants visited one of the eleven ambient air quality monitoring sites in the Singapore.

The training ended with a visit to the Land Transport Authority (LTA), where efforts and initiatives to improve public transport and reduce emissions from the transport sector in Singapore were presented. Participants experienced the history and future of land transport in the country through LTA’s interactive Land Transport Gallery.

The activity was organized by the project ‘Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region’ which aims to empower local governments to develop and implement Clean Air Plans (CAPs) with the participation of the private sector, academia, and members of civil society. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ together with the ASEAN Secretariat.

Through a Grant Agreement funded by BMZ with Clean Air Asia and channeled through GIZ, Clean Air Asia is supporting its implementation and is helping ensure sustainability of outcomes beyond 2015. The training was co-organized with Clean Air Asia.

“ Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region Project’ aims to empower local governments to develop and implement Clean Air Plans (CAPs) with the participation of the private sector, academia, and members of civil society. ”

In-Company-Trainer Standard Development – workshops to be launched starting from September 2014

By Nalina Hiranprueck

Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region BB-Mekong

Following negotiations and planning with partners throughout the region, BB-Mekong is now ready to launch its workshops designed to develop Regional In-Company-Trainer Standard, the first of which is scheduled for 10-12 September 2014.

The quality of trainers plays a significant role in determining the quality of training conducted, and also greatly affects the calibre of both the students in apprenticeship programmes and the employees being trained. It is obvious that competent trainers are able to transfer knowledge and conduct training in a more efficient manner than those who are only semi-competent or incompetent. Regional In-Company-Trainer Standard is, thus, necessary to ensure that the training is effective and of maximum benefit to the trainees. It is anticipated that the standard would consist of regulations, training curricula and a certification concept.

Working on the concept that the standard should be tailored to requirements and needs identified in the local context, the project plans to conduct 4 workshops, in September, October, December 2014 and January 2015, to which stakeholders from the private and public sector from the countries in the Mekong Region will be invited to contribute ideas, reviews, comments, and agree on the standards to be used regionally. The processes would be moderated and developed by an expert team from Germany.

Once the regional standard is in place, the first training workshop to develop multipliers for In-Company-Trainers will be held, probably in February 2015, with In-Company-Trainer development courses conducted over the following months.



Regional TVET Expert Meeting

During 1-2 April 2014 a conference titled “Ensuring TVET Quality - Preparing for the AEC 2015” was organised by the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development with the objective of calling for a more demand-oriented approach to TVET* management in ASEAN countries, a harmonisation of standards and certification, and performance-based examination. Related organisations from countries in ASEAN were invited to join in the conference to discuss and determine the future of TVET in the region.

Dr. Kitti Limskul, Vice Minister for Education, Mr. Virachai Srikajorn, Director-General of the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute, Dr. Noppadol Piyatrapoomi, Acting Vice-Director of the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute, as well as representatives from Office of Vocational Education Commission and Department of Skill Development were invited by BB-Mekong to participate in the conference. Their contribution was very much appreciated during the event. The next Regional TVET Conference will be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR in 2017.

* Technical Vocational Education and Training

Improving Resource and Energy Efficiency through Supply Chain Management in the Asia Pacific

By Wilasinee Poonuchaphai

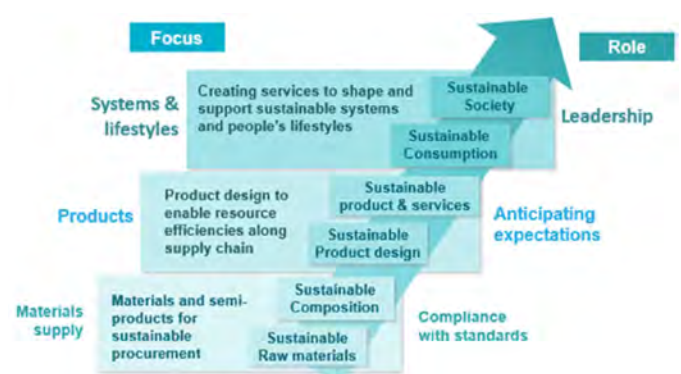
Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries

The 11th Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (11th APRSCP 2014), held in Bangkok on 19 and 20 May 2014, had as its subject “Paving the Way to the Future We Want in Asia and the Pacific”. As part of the APRSCP, GIZ and the Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption (CSCP, Germany) hosted a workshop session on “Improving Resource and Energy Efficiency through Supply Chain Management”. The session was organised as part of the EU-funded SWITCH Asia project “Greening Supply Chains in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries”. The objective was to share some good practices through three short presentations followed by an interactive world café discussion with the participants.

Two of the practice presentations covered the lessons learnt from the SWITCH Asia project on greening supply chains in the Thai automotive sector from an overall project perspective and company perspective (Calsonic Kansei Thailand Co. Ltd). These were complemented by a presentation on the international lessons by Mr. Dick van Beers, an expert from CSCP, which took a broader view of multiple industry sectors.

The presentations confirmed that there is a strong business case for both large companies and SMES to become involved in greening such supply initiatives as resource efficiency assessment, green procurement, product service system and influencing of consumer

choice. Overall, industries are not well aware of the benefits and available practical approaches to greening their supply chains. Many good practice examples exist in the Asia Pacific and internationally. It is important that these cases be further communicated to the private and public sector in a format that is customised to their needs and interests. International experience has shown that supply chain measures dealing with materials supply are increasingly implemented by industries, while supply chain initiatives focusing on sustainable product designs and meeting the needs of societal systems and people’s lifestyles remain relatively scarce. However, it is anticipated that the latter will become increasingly important and assist in making the required changes to the supply and value chains that exist today.



“ There is a strong business case for both large companies and SMES to become involved in greening such supply initiatives as resource efficiency assessment, green procurement, product service system and influencing of consumer choice.”

In the world café discussion the participants were split into groups to brainstorm on lessons learnt and views of the opportunities and barriers associated with greening the supply chain in the Asia Pacific. The results from the world café discussions highlighted the wide range of business and collaborative opportunities along supply chains, covering raw materials supply, production, consumption and end-of-life. The general view was that these opportunities are hindered by a number of organizational, technical, knowledge, institutional and behaviour-related challenges. Some illustrative examples of the world café results are presented in the table below.

Table: Results from World Café Discussions (Selection only and not all-inclusive)

	Supply Chain				
	Raw Materials	Production	Distribution and retail	Consumption	End of Life
Opportunities for Greening Supply Chains	Recycle materials and reduce new resource consumption.	Education and networking on resource and energy efficiency, and associated business opportunities.	Increase availability, visibility and access to green products in shops.	Education/ integrate SCP approaches into curriculum at high school or university.	Public and private partnerships on waste collection, reuse and recycling.
Key learnings from Greening Supply Chains	There is significant potential for using biodegradable raw materials.	Practical and real life case studies are essential to convince business, theory comes later. Government incentives are still required.	Retailers play a key role in greening supply chains. They are the connection between producers and consumers.	Consumers tend to love green or eco products in Asia, but they need to be made aware.	Need for increased enforcement and promotion of waste management policies, combined with the right incentives to business and consumers.
Challenges of Greening Supply Chains	Getting information from suppliers is often difficult.	Low environmental awareness and limited financial and human resources of SMEs.	There is strong need to harmonize of green eco-labels. Consumers are often confused about meaning of different labels.	Low consumer awareness on green products and willingness to pay more for green products. It is important that green products are price competitive.	Recycling of end of life consumer products is often not feasible due to product design (e.g. difficult to dis-assemble).

Participation of Automotive Parts Companies in Energy Management Programme Leads to 35 Million Baht Cost Reduction

By Muanchit Wichettapong

Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries



On 18 June 2014 the “Greening Supply Chains in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries” project held a meeting to report the implementation results of the automotive parts companies who participated in the 5th - 8th training classes. The meeting aimed to present the companies’ best practices and award plaques and certificates to recognise the achievements of the companies and staff participating in the Profitable Environmental Management (PREMA) Training Programme. Mr. Guglielmo Colombo, the Head of the European Commission to Thailand, delivered the welcome address and launched the meeting.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 24 companies. They presented the overview of implemented measures, most of which were aimed at reducing the production costs and using resources and energy efficiently. Included were 19 measures to reduce raw material usage in the production processes and 16 measures to reduce energy (electricity, fuel, LGP) consumption. These measures reduced a combined loss of 35,663,571 million baht/year, cut energy usage by more than 1,602,977 megajoules/year and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 171,513 tons CO₂ eq/yr.

Thus far the project has offered 12 PREMA training and consultative classes and has been successful in identifying more than 166 measures to reduce loss in the production processes, resulting in a saving of 78,465,834 million baht/year and a reduction of energy consumption of more than 8,809,552 megajoules/year.

Stakeholder consultation workshops on the proposed climate-friendly criteria of 5 product groups in Green Public Procurement of Thailand

By Thomas Lehmann Sustainable Consumption and Production for
Low Carbon Economy – Low-Emission Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling (SCP4LCE)



The Pollution Control Department (PCD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand in cooperation with GIZ recently organized stakeholder consultation workshops on the proposed climate criteria of printing paper, fluorescent lamps, photocopiers, printers and toner cartridges.

A total of 23 participants from partner organizations and the pulp and paper industries, e.g. Siam Cement Group and Double A Public Co., Ltd, attended the workshop on 27 March 2014 at the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) and discussed and agreed on the climate criteria of printing paper.

On 28 March 2014, approximately 20 participants from partner organizations and the lighting industries, e.g. Philips Electronics (Thailand) Ltd and Lamptan Lighting Technology (Thailand) Co. Ltd, attended the workshop at Sena Place Hotel and discussed and agreed on the climate criteria of fluorescent lamps.

For photocopiers, printers and toner cartridges, the stakeholder consultation workshop to discuss and agree on the proposed climate criteria was held at the Pollution Control Department (PCD) on 29 May 2014 and attended by more than 20 participants from partner organizations and relevant industries, e.g. Fuji XEROX (Thailand) Co., Ltd., Sharp Manufacturing (Thailand) Co., Ltd and Kyocera (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

The next steps, the proposed climate-relevant criteria of the above-mentioned products, will be adjusted taking into account the stakeholders' comments and submitted to the Technical Committee of PCD for further finalizing and integrating with Thai Green Public Procurement.

Regional workshop on Sustainable Public Procurement and Harmonization of Eco-labels in ASEAN

By Thomas Lehmann Sustainable Consumption and Production for
Low Carbon Economy – Low-Emission Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling (SCP4LCE)



The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and GIZ jointly organized a regional workshop on **“Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) and Harmonization of Eco-Labeling”** at Plaza Athenee Bangkok, A Royal Meridien Hotel on 21-22 May 2014. During the workshop, participants learned about the best practices on SPP and discussed key factors for successful SPP implementation as well as how to enhance regional collaboration on SPP as part of a broader SCP 10-Year Framework Programme. For the harmonization of eco-labels, the global experiences on development of common core criteria of eco-labels (Type I) and the opportunities and challenges were shared and discussed by the representatives from Global Eco-labelling Network (GEN), China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC), and Japan Eco-Mark, all of whom have many years of direct experience in the development of common core criteria. For the follow-up session, the participants

were divided by the country (Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia) to identify and develop the common core criteria for multifunctional printers and fluorescent lamps, particularly climate relevant criteria, as well as the verification mechanism. Initial agreement on the proposed common core criteria of the two products was reached by the end of the session. However, the agreed common core criteria will be further discussed and finalized with the relevant organizations in their respective countries.

The regional workshop was very successful, drawing more than 50 participants from governmental agencies and eco-label (Type I) organizations in Thailand and other ASEAN countries, including China and Japan. Many participants expressed strong interest in further cooperation on implementation of SPP and harmonization of eco-labels.

Seminars and trainings to promote Green Procurement in 4 regions of Thailand

By Niels Juul Busch and Ratchanok Suwatthanabunpot
Sustainable Consumption and Production, SCP Policy

The Pollution Control Department (PCD) together with the SCP Policy Project – Thailand recently organised 4 Roadshows and Training-of-Trainers sessions to promote Green Procurement (GP) to regional governmental offices and local authorities. The events took place in Chonburi (3-4 April), in Phuket (29-30 April), in Chiang Mai (15-16 May) and in Khon Kaen (3-4 June) and saw a total participation of more than 600 people.

In addition to the PCD's Green Public Procurement Promotion Plan and procurement regulations, the participants learnt more about the Life Cycle Costing (LCC) concept, which considers the environmental impacts of a product from cradle to grave. The Mayor of Phanat Nikhom Municipality, Vijai Amaralikit, the Deputy Mayor of Phuket Municipality, Kawee Tunsukatanun and the Deputy Mayor of Khon Kaen Municipality, Julianop Tongsopit shared their municipalities' experiences with Green Procurement and environmental protection activities. In this regard, PCD has produced a set of handy GPP handbooks in 3 volumes.

These can be downloaded from
www.SCP-Thailand.info.



▲ SCG, one of the participating companies

SCP Awareness Campaigns in Phanat Nikhom and Samui municipalities

By Niels Juul Busch and Ratchanok Suwatthanabunpot
Sustainable Consumption and Production, SCP Policy

“ The aim of information campaigns on Sustainable Consumption and Production is to find effective ways to communicate the idea of SCP to ordinary citizens.”

Together with the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP), the SCP Policy Project–Thailand is organising information campaigns on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the municipalities of Phanat Nikhom and Samui. The aim is to find effective ways to communicate the idea of SCP to ordinary citizens.

Waste minimization and reduction of plastic bags is the theme in Phanat Nikhom. The information campaign started in May and a dance contest based on the song about reducing plastic bags will be held towards the end of July. From 2-4 May, the Project set up a booth in Phanat Nikhom, offering such edutainment activities as quizzes and games to help participants learn more about the environmental impacts and life cycle of plastic bags.



▲ Games and activities during “Save Water Save Samui” event

In Koh Samui, a popular island with tourists, the theme is water saving. The information campaign was held on 1 June 2014 at Central Festival Koh Samui. Different campaign materials encouraging tourists to take part in water saving actions have been produced and will be distributed.



▲ Activities in the municipality of Phanat Nikhom

Green Industry Mark – Status of pilot activities

By Niels Juul Busch Sustainable Consumption and Production, SCP Policy

Together with the Department of Industrial Works (DIW) and the Green Industry Promotion Office (GIPO) under the Ministry of Industry, the SCP Policy Project - Thailand is assisting 10 leading companies to receive certification in accordance with the ministry's "Green Industry Mark". The certification system has 5 levels and the companies have to implement different kinds of environmental measures to advance through these. Two companies have reached the level four ("Green Culture"), namely the world's largest rice mill, C.P. Intertrade Co., Ltd. (CPI), and CPF (Thailand) Public Company Limited - (CPF), producer of fresh chicken meat and readymade meals.

The two companies will now prepare for level 5, where the challenge is to help their 1st tier suppliers to reach levels 2 or 3, and to conduct a survey in which 70 per cent of their neighbours express their satisfaction about the company (opinion survey). The SCP Policy Project - Thailand will help in training the suppliers and develop the methodology for the opinion surveys.



Royal Umbrella Thai Rice's factory in Ayutthaya is one of the pilot factories

German-Malaysian Port Project in Cambodia moves to a Second Phase – GIZ is back in Malaysia

By Hezlen Mohd Sali and Patric Hehemann
Trilateral Cooperation Programme with Thailand and Malaysia



“ More than 400 people ”
have benefitted from
the knowledge and training initially
provided by the German and
Malaysian project partners.



In 2012, Germany and Malaysia launched the first project of their triangular cooperation programme to support CSR in Cambodian ports, thus contributing to their sustainability, safety and productivity. Since then, several interconnected activities have been jointly implemented by GIZ and its Malaysian partners, Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) and Malaysian Maritime Academy (ALAM). These began with training courses held in Malaysia for stakeholders from the Cambodian port sector and was followed by a study on CSR strengths in Malaysian and Cambodian ports. A third activity focused on training courses inside Cambodia that in addition to providing professional knowhow, aimed to qualify participants as trainers themselves thus allowing them to pass on their newly gained knowledge to others. Thanks to these initiatives, more than 400 people have benefitted from the knowledge and training initially provided by the German and Malaysian project partners.

After the project was concluded, an evaluation mission was carried out in Cambodia in May 2014 and showed not just the success of the project but also the interest on the part of the stakeholders in an extension. A second phase of the project, named

“Safety, Security and Environmental Management in Cambodian Ports”, is currently being considered by GIZ and MTCP to follow on from the initial processes and foster deeper and more sustainable change in Cambodia's port sector.

Meanwhile, GIZ has re-opened a project office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in June 2014 to support the German-Malaysian trilateral project and foster intensified cooperation with both the public and private sectors. The Malaysian-German Triangular Cooperation Programme has been extended until 2015 and Malaysia is a cooperation partner on more than 20 regional projects. Furthermore, GIZ is cooperating with TÜV Rheinland on a 3-year Public-Private Partnership project (PPP) project on Road Safety and Eco-Driving.

Regional Workshop on “Integrated Resource Management in Asian cities: The Urban Nexus”

By Ruth Erlbeck Integrated Resource Management in Asian Cities: The Urban Nexus

The Regional Workshop “Integrated Resource Management in Asian cities: The Urban Nexus”, organized by GIZ in cooperation with UN ESCAP and ICLEI SEA was held from 25-27 June, 2014 in Da Nang, Vietnam.

The “Integrated Resource Management in Asian cities: The Urban Nexus”, hereinafter referred to “Nexus Project”, is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ in cooperation with UN ESCAP, ICLEI SEA and the Nexus partner cities.

The workshop was attended by more than 95 participants from Nexus Partner Cities from Indonesia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam as well as their respective ministries, meso-level organisations and private enterprises from Germany, the Philippines and Vietnam. Among the city representatives were the Honourable John Bongat, Major of Naga City from the Philippines and Mr. B. Badral, City Manager of Ulan Bator from Mongolia.

Although this was the third regional Nexus Workshop held to date, it was the first to be held in a partner city, namely Da Nang.

Da Nang was chosen for its strong support for the Nexus Project activities as demonstrated by Da Nang’s People’s Committee (DPC) and the Department for Planning and Investment (DPI) in their commitment to promoting Nexus project activities. The first Nexus demonstration project on wastewater vacuum sewer collection is ready to start in Da Nang and final approval is expected in the coming weeks.



The first day of the workshop focused on Nexus in Da Nang and came up with the conclusion that septic tanks are not a solution for urban agglomerations as they contaminate the ground and the ground water with coliform bacteria. The effluent, if it is collected, consists of diluted black water without sufficient faecal matter for energy generation.

A site visit on the second day of the workshop allowed participants to gain an insight into the planned Nexus Project, which was carefully and thoroughly prepared by GIZ in collaboration with DPI and the An Hai Bac Ward community in the Eastern Coastal Area of Da Nang.

Technology-wise, the workshop concentrated on innovative technologies with regard to wastewater management creating the link to energy, irrigation water and fertilizer/night soil generation (“closing the loop”) as well as on alternative concepts of solid waste treatment (Maximum Yield Technology/MYT) not requiring waste separation at source.

Bilfinger Water Technologies, WEHRLE Umwelt, the Fraunhofer Institute for Interfacial Engineering and Biotechnology (IGB) and the Helmholtz Association presented their approaches.



Offering the governance point of view, the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering (IAO), UN ESCAP and ICLEI SEA presented methods and results of city profiling and city benchmarking as well as the institutionalization of the Nexus approach.

GIZ Nexus emphasized that Nexus is about to become **“mainstream”** - at least in theory.

Nexus will be integrated with the formulation of indicators to measure the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

Several international Nexus conferences have been organised all over the world since the famous November 2011 Nexus Conference in Bonn held by the German Federal Ministries of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and of Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). Nexus was also taken to the Rio +20 UN summit in 2013.

The globally growing middle classes, in particular in India and China, have raised concerns with regard to existing consumption patterns, which will certainly create a shortage of food, water and energy by 2050 at the latest when the global population is estimated to reach 9 billion inhabitants.

Cultural changes and new concepts of wellbeing are required if this planet intends to feed 9 billion people worldwide by 2050.

Provocative hypotheses were also raised requesting that evidence of the Nexus pay-off be strengthened. Transaction costs of the Nexus approach will have to be considered in detail in the future as well as its trans-boundary aspects. The remaining constraints due to strong sectoral forces at the national level, which are still preventing the Nexus approach from becoming “mainstream” in real life, also require examination.

The technical and governance discussion was complemented by presentations of the Nexus Partner cities with regard to their Nexus projects, which are in different stages of preparation and guided by cross-sectoral Nexus Task Forces created by resolution of the major parties concerned. Baguio in the Philippines – not yet a Nexus partner city – joined the workshop to learn more about the Nexus vision and the technologies promoted within the approach.

Affordable housing was considered a perfect Nexus approach, focusing on integrated planning by considering basic infrastructure provision (water, wastewater & solid waste management including energy generation linked to urban agriculture) for housing and promoting inclusive cities integrating lower income groups.

The Ministries presented their concepts heading towards nexus framework conditions, and committed themselves to work even harder to foster integrated, cross-sectoral planning and create an enabling environment for economizing on the consumption of water and energy.

It was agreed that private enterprises are part and parcel of the Nexus approach – often already practised within the private sector – leading to a win-win situation if everyone join hands.

The next regional Nexus Workshop is scheduled for November of 2014 and will be hosted by the partner city of Ulan Bator in Mongolia, the coldest capital in the world.

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Sustainable Consumption and Production

- Effective in - company vocational training in the Mekong Region (Funded by Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - BMZ)
- The German - Thai Dual Excellence Education (Funded by the German Federal Foreign Office)
- Sustainable Consumption and Production: Policy Support Component Thailand (EU-SCP Policy)
- Sustainable Consumption and Production for Low Carbon Economy - Low Emissions Public Procurement and Eco - Labeling (Funded by Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety - BMUB)
- Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries (EU/BMUB)

Environmental and Climate Protection

- Strategic Alignment and Implementation of the Climate Change Policy in Thailand (BMUB)
- Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (BMUB)
- The Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/ South East Asia (ECO - BEST) (EU)
- Carbon Neutral Water Utility and Waste Water Project (BMUB)
- Global Initiative Disaster Risk Management (BMZ)

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

- Thai - German Programme on Energy Efficiency Development Plan: TGP - EEDP (BMUB)
- Renewable Energy Project Development Programme in South - East Asia (Funded by Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy - BMWi)

Agriculture and Food Security

- ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol - BMZ)

Sustainable Urban Development and Transport

- Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region (BMZ)
- Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region (BMZ)
- Energy - Efficiency in Transport in the ASEAN Region (BMZ)
- Integrated Resource Management in Asian Cities: The Urban Nexus (BMZ)

Regional Integration and South-South-Cooperation

- Trilateral Cooperation Programme with Thailand and Malaysia (BMZ, TICA, MFA, Malaysia)
- Alliance for Financial Inclusion (Funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)