

Newsletter of Bangkok-based projects by GIZ and partners
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Dear readers,

The theme of this edition is Climate Protection and we are pleased to provide you with updates on the progress of the Climate Change Policy project and the Climate Protection in Tourism Project. Both projects have reached the end of the first phase and are now in their extension periods. You will also get to know more about the Sustainable Consumption and Production for Low Carbon Economy - Low Emissions Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling project, which was officially launched in September. The project aims to incorporate climate relevant criteria with existing eco-labels and to strengthen Green Public Procurement. And of course, we still keep you updated on the current activities of our bilateral, trilateral and regional cooperation.



With best regards,
The newsletter team

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Special Feature

Climate Change Policy Project



Climate change affects both humans and ecosystems. It is negative impacts, such as drought, turns some areas into deserts while the melting of the polar ice and glaciers causes the sea level to rise.

Objectives

The duration of the first phase of the project was 3 years (January 2009 – March 2012) with financing coming from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). GIZ and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) jointly supported the Climate Change

These impacts affect food security, increase the fluctuation and severity of natural disasters and cause the rapid spread of disease in the tropics. For this reason, participation from every stakeholder in climate change prevention is essential.

Coordination Office (CCCO) in the development and integration of Thailand's climate change policy. The project then received additional funding to implement the second phase (April 2012-September 2013) to support integration and implementation of the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012 – 2050.

Work Plan and Project Activities

In the second phase of the project, GIZ and ONEP jointly formulated the work plan and launched pilot implementation at 3 levels: At the ministry level through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand and the Ministry of Industry; at the provincial level in Rayong and Nan provinces, and at the local level in Klaeng and Nan municipalities. The project will cooperate with the Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning (DPT) and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration in project implementation. Rayong Province and Klaeng Municipality were chosen as the pilot sites because of the rapid growth of the

industrial, tourism and agricultural sectors in the province. In addition, Rayong Province and Klaeng Municipality have high potential for climate change mitigation. They provide good opportunities for pilot implementation, which will be expanded to other municipalities in the province.

Nan was chosen because of its strong communities and civil society organizations. Home to several areas of high biodiversity and rich in natural resources, Nan is affected both directly and indirectly by climate change. For this reason, Nan is another province that has high potential for climate

change mitigation. Participation of stakeholders is essential in developing a practical policy and plan and thus the project held a meeting to allow key agencies and organizations in the pilot ministries and provinces to brainstorm and discuss ideas for the formulation of the project work plan. The objectives of the meeting were to share information, situations and important climate change issues. Moreover, the project held colloquiums and study trips to observe implementation of climate change policy in Germany. These activities were aimed at strengthening the knowledge and capacities of partner agencies in management and the adaptation of technology to suit the local contexts.

For the climate change policy, strategy and adaptation measure development in pilot provinces

and municipalities in 2012, the project held workshops and conducted site visits, as well as provided consultations by multidisciplinary experts from Germany in the fields of city development and city planning, water management and flood prevention, waste management, biodiversity, industrial management and private participation. These activities aimed to share information and knowledge with stakeholders in the pilot project sites and reach conclusions on the visions and goals of the plans that are appropriate to the Nan and Rayong contexts, and also to develop guidelines to align and integrate the national plan with the provincial and local plans. Management tools, training courses and institutional building to serve the needs of participating provinces and municipalities will be developed in 2013.

National Level	Ministerial Level	Provincial Level	Local Level
ONEP/CCCO	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand and Ministry of Industry	Nan Province Rayong Province	Klaeng Municipality Nan Municipality
Climate Change Strategies	Climate Change Strategies	Analyze Provincial Development Plan	Analyze Municipal/TAO Development Plan
Study Climate Change Hot-spots	Training on climate change for coordination units	Provincial Climate Change Policy/Adaptation Plan	Local Climate Change Policy/Adaptation Plan
Information Exchange (Vertically and Horizontally)			
Coordination between Ministries and Departments			



Climate Protection in Tourism Project



Almost 13% of Thailand's GNP comes from the tourism sector, which involves a workforce of more than 4 million and about 12-14 million foreign and 50 million Thai tourists annually. However, rapid economic development in the past two decades has led to environmental and natural attraction

deterioration. National parks and coastal areas have been affected, resulting in unsustainable tourism. Climate change also affects tourism destinations and natural resources. However, with proper management, the tourism sector can be eco-friendly and contribute to climate protection.

Objectives

Climate Protection in Tourism is jointly implemented by GIZ and the Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (Public Organization) – DASTA and financed by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). The 3 year

(2009-2011) project was later extended to February 2013. The goal is to integrate climate change into the tourism management plan and to develop the Ko Chang Cluster Area into a climate friendly tourism model.

Work Plan and Project Activities

During the first phase, the project strengthened personnel capacities and introduced climate change mitigation and adaption measures in tourism management plan development. The intervention developed the Sea of Trat into a climate friendly tourism model in Thailand. The carbon footprint of the Ko Chang Cluster Area was calculated and the emissions of 19.74 kg CO₂ equivalent/tourist/day were applied in the participatory tourism planning and impact assessment. Project stakeholders were involved in the development and promotion of carbon footprint tools.

The project systematically worked on energy consumption and waste management. In the 2011/2012 Fiscal Year, DASTA employed joint experiences and lessons learned from the project

extension plan to develop Ko Maak into another low carbon tourism model, based on energy efficiency and CO₂ emissions reduction concepts. In addition, DASTA has applied a low carbon tourism policy in the Pattaya Cluster Area.

Training to strengthen knowledge of community-based solid waste management reduced the amount of solid waste on Ko Chang, which had overflow problems, by 20%. The project also promoted biogas technology in organic waste management by installing 1 m³ reactors in 23 tourism establishments to get rid of food scraps. This activity reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 7.3 million 74 kg CO₂ equivalent per annum. The Profitable Resource and Environmental Management (PREMA) workshops aimed to



promote efficient and sustainable resource consumption and reduce service costs of 1.5 million baht for tourism operators. The 7 participating hotels have applied for the Green Leaf Certification.

On stakeholder involvement, the project and Suranaree University of Technology jointly studied Ko Chang's transport management system, resulting in the park and ride policy advocacy. The intervention lessens traffic jams in Ko Chang during long public holidays and also reduces energy consumption and emissions from transport. In addition, the project, DASTA, Tourism Authority of Thailand, Trat Tourism Association and Green Leaf Foundation jointly held an exhibition and colloquium to disseminate and share experiences on low carbon tourism at the ITB 2011 Fair in Berlin, Germany. The activities aimed to promote climate friendly tourism to a wider audience.

To sustainably transfer knowledge on climate friendly tourism management, the project, in collaboration with the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, the Professional Tourist Guide Association of Thailand and the Thailand Community Based Tourism Institute, developed 3

curricula: Development of Tourism Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Public Officials, Climate Friendly Tourism for Tour Guides and Operators and Community Based Tourism and Climate Change Mitigation. The three curricula were provided to officials of governmental agencies and local administrative offices, including the Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Kasetsart University, Trat Administrative Organizations and academic institutions that offer tourism management courses (Kasetsart University, Payao University, National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), Silpakorn University, Mahidol University and Dhonburi Rajabhat University).

In the second phase, the project will concentrate on organizing colloquiums and developing additional low carbon management strategies by cooperating with Payao University, Maejo University, Green Leaf Foundation, Trat Tourism Association, Tourism Authority of Thailand and German experts on sustainable tourism development. The project will also continuously publicize strategies and apply carbon footprint tools to strengthen local capacities in the future.



Special Interview

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya

Secretary General, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP)

1. Please describe ONEP's role in the project

The objectives of the project match Thailand's climate change policy, which is to promote a green economy and sustainable development. As regards international policy, Thailand is a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Although Thailand is not required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Thailand has voluntarily responded. For these reasons, ONEP has collaborated with GIZ on the climate change policy project to facilitate climate change implementation and build the capacities of personnel, both ONEP's and those in other agencies. Training programmes and the sharing of experience will be applied to assigned tasks, including water and biodiversity management, city development and application of city planning as a climate change mitigation and adaptation tool,



renewable energy development, energy efficiency promotion, and so on.

2. In what way has ONEP collaborated with GIZ in the development of climate change policy?

On policy development, ONEP jointly supports the drafting process of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050 to ensure that it covers every aspect of climate change, based on the participation of stakeholders from the public, private and civic sectors. The draft will serve as the framework for immediate and long-term integration of climate change issues in relevant plans. On policy implementation, ONEP is the coordinating unit and onsite co-implementer. ONEP jointly plans every

step of project implementation, facilitates operating mechanisms and onsite mobilization. Moreover, ONEP enhances awareness and communicates with relevant units at the ministerial, provincial and local levels. So far we have received substantial cooperation from stakeholders. Besides compiling approaches and lessons-learned, ONEP aims to replicate the project to produce tangible results and benefits from climate change policy development.

3. Why did Thailand choose Rayong and Nan as the pilot sites in the second phase of the project?

Rayong was chosen because of the rapid economic growth in the industrial, agricultural and tourism sectors. The province has diverse natural resources and environments. Klaeng Municipality is the model of a low carbon city. It has high potential for climate change adaptation. Nan has abundant natural resources and forests. Land use is also high. Besides strong civic organizations and networks, the

province has a unique culture and lifestyle. The two provinces are affected by climate change, directly and indirectly, but in different ways. That's why the project intends to develop plans, policies and solutions that are suitable for their social and economic development based on stakeholder participation.

4. In which areas has ONEP supported the 2 pilot provinces? What is the level of local stakeholder participation?

As a policy and planning agency, ONEP has coordinated project implementation and conducted site visits with GIZ to jointly plan, provide advice and strengthen knowledge and understanding of climate change as well as facilitate the drafting of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050. This is to ensure that provincial and local climate change plans are compatible with the Climate Change Master Plan that ONEP is implementing. Both Rayong and Nan have given high priority to the project. They are ready to integrate the Master Plan with their implementation plan and “the provincial agenda”. They have invited stakeholders

to share data, comments and approaches to mobilize climate change policies and implementation plans in several areas, including city development and city planning, water management and flood prevention, efficient energy consumption and renewable energy, and so on. Besides formulating implementation plans, they have conducted programmes to build personnel and institutional capacity and provide knowledge, technical approaches and strategies related to natural resources and environmental management, to facilitate climate change adaptation.

5. What is Thailand’s next move in climate change implementation? In your opinion, is the policy feasible?

In the future, Thailand’s GHG emissions will increase, corresponding to economic growth, energy consumption and population increase. Thailand must implement measures and develop policies to effectively control and reduce GHG emissions. The “Climate Change Policy” project, a cooperative project between ONEP and GIZ, is a local pilot project that other agencies, provincial and local offices can adapt to suit their contexts. This will lead to practical implementation of the Climate Change Master Plan. However, cooperation

from stakeholders, including public and private agencies, civil society and the people, is essential for an efficient and successful project. If GIZ provides continuous support to climate change implementation, expanding implementation and pilot sites to cover every region, Thailand will greatly benefit from the move. This will be a practical sharing of lessons-learned from Germany to Thailand and proper adaptation for the context of Thai society.



Mr. Somchai Chariyacharoen

Mayor of Klaeng Municipality, Klaeng District, Rayong Province



1. Prior to the project support, what was status of Klaeng Municipality?

Before joining the project, Klaeng Municipality was ISO 14000 compliant and implementing the low carbon city programme. After joining the project, we gained new perspectives on stakeholder collaboration.

2. Why did Klaeng Municipality participate in the project?

We wanted to build on existing knowledge, gain new perspectives on the operations of other sectors, benchmark our current operation with theirs and apply lessons learned to the internal administration of Klaeng Municipality.

3. When Klaeng Municipality was selected as a pilot site, what types of assistance did the project provide?

When Klaeng Municipality was selected to participate in the GIZ project, I was first given the opportunity to host German technical experts in Thailand. I then joined a Thai delegation on a visit to Germany. I benefitted from the joint learning and the sharing of work experience at the governmental, regional and local levels and also learned from the local administrative offices. Of particular interest was the knowledge gained from German experts in various

fields. GIZ coordinated and supported me in learning about city management, in formulating a climate change mitigation plan and in choosing appropriate alternative energy for Klaeng Municipality. When comparing the experiences with our operations in Thailand, I observed and gained new ideas that can be applied to improve Klaeng Municipality and the efficiency of our management.

4. Has the support contributed to any change in Klaeng Municipality?

I had the opportunity to learn about alternative energy, especially biogas energy. Raw material, for example, corn, is used in the fermentation process to produce biogas for power generation. During cold weather, Germany uses biogas energy to generate heat for the fermentation process. That's an

achievement. Moreover, I learnt about power generation using wind turbines and effective management techniques. These lessons are very useful in developing sustainable resource use simultaneously with environmental preservation in Klaeng Municipality.

5. Do you have any other problems? What else should the project and community people jointly solve?

Klaeng Municipality still faces local risk/disaster management problems, for example flooding, transportation of hazardous chemicals through the municipality, and so on. Urban planning is another

area that should be dealt with. If the project has any tools or best practice in risk management, these will significantly improve safety in the municipality.

6. Any recommendations?

Above all else, I've witnessed GIZ staff's determination and attempts to attain the project's objectives. Besides the coordination while we were in Germany, GIZ has demonstrated dedication and commitment

throughout the project implementation period in Thailand. I am impressed and willing to support, learn from and cooperate with GIZ in the future.

Tips & Tricks



1. One of the areas most prone to tropical storms in the world is the island of Luzon in the Philippines. On average, the island experiences 10 typhoons each year.

2. The world's highest 12-month rainfall record belongs to Cherrapunji in northeastern India, considered the wettest place on earth. Ironically, Cherrapunji experiences severe water shortages due to pollution and deforestation. As a result, inhabitants must walk for miles to obtain potable water.



3. A 2007 report from the U.S. Geological Service estimated that as a result of the decline in sea ice, today's population of about 22,000 polar bears would decrease by two-thirds by the year 2050, even with moderate projections for future climate change.

4. Floods and droughts will become more common. Rainfall in Ethiopia, where droughts are already common, could decline by 10% over the next 50 years.

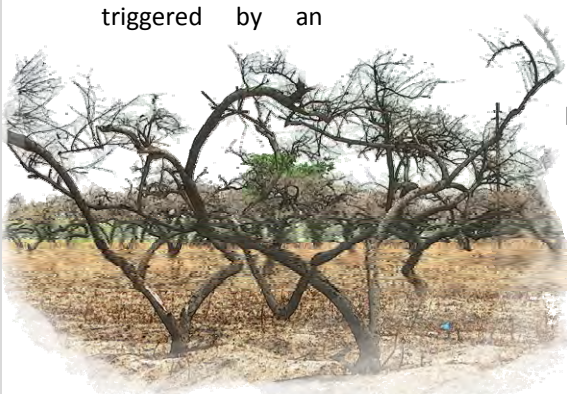


5. Researcher Bill Fraser has tracked the decline of the Adelie penguins on Antarctica, where numbers have fallen from 32,000 breeding pairs to 11,000 in 30 years.

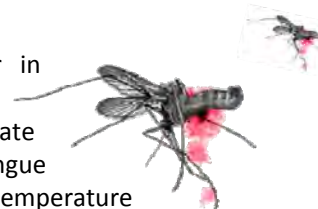
6. Thailand was hit by severe drought in 2010. During January-March 2010, 45 provinces faced severe water shortages. The drought hit area reduced to 32 provinces in the following year, due to increased rainfall.



7. Major flooding in Bangkok and the central plain at the end of 2011 was triggered by an unusually high level of rainfall (32% higher than the annual rainfall average). The worst flooding ever in history caused over 130 billion baht in economic damage and losses.



8. Prevalence of dengue hemorrhagic fever in Thailand: It was found that increase of dengue vector mosquitoes, induced by climate change, corresponds to higher numbers of dengue hemorrhagic fever cases. The rise in global temperature affects the spread of the disease.



**Worldwide Data sources: World Meteorological Organization, weatherreports.com, the BBC, myforecast.com and worldweather.org*

**Data source in Thailand: The Second National Communication under UNFCCC by ONEP Study on Climate Change Impact, Vulnerability and Adaptation of Key Sectors (2011), which can be downloaded from http://www.onep.go.th/images/stories/file/NC_adaptation.pdf*

RMUTT, Burapha University and GIZ Hold a Regional Conference on Strengthening the Competence of Vocational Teachers



Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi (RMUTT), Burapha University and GIZ were the joint organizers of a regional conference aimed at enhancing the practical competence of vocational teachers from China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. The conference, which was held in Bangkok on August 9, 2012, was an activity of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Vocational Teacher's Training and Education in Asia (RCP), supported by vocational education institutions in the 6 countries to enhance the productivity and quality of vocational teachers.

Mr. Sakda Kongpetch, Deputy Education Minister, chaired the opening ceremony of the conference. Experts from educational institutions in RCP member countries joined the discussion and shared experiences on best practices to improve the competence of vocational teachers and institutions in preparation for the AEC, which will pave the way for the free flow of skilled labour between ASEAN countries.

The conclusions drawn from the conference indicate that Thailand faces a skilled labor shortage due to an inadequate number of vocational teachers. A number of existing teachers need skill development while new vocational teachers are still lacking in both skills and experience. These factors affect the development of a quality workforce to meet labour market needs. In addition, vocational students lack language proficiency and skills.

Thailand must accelerate its efforts to strengthen vocational education and raise the ratio of vocational students to general students. Currently vocational students account for just 39 per cent of the total student population.

Vietnam gives high priority to vocational education development by recruiting teachers with basic vocational knowledge and practical skills and establishing in-school counseling units for vocational students. Vietnam has set a target to increase the ratio of vocational students from 45 per cent to 50 per cent.

Currently only 30 per cent of Laos' students are vocational students. The country aims to increase the ratio to 50 per cent in 2013. Laos has issued a decree to ban the establishment of a university and only the setting up of vocational institutions is allowed. The Lao government also aims to raise the salaries of vocational teachers two- to threefold by October 2012 to encourage talented and qualified individuals to become vocational teachers.

The outcomes of the conference show that ASEAN countries recognize the importance of vocational education in developing a skilled workforce. RCP will strengthen collaboration among educational institutions in teaching, research and curriculum alignment and the project will also apply appropriate German vocational techniques to participating countries.

Development Partnership between GIZ and SGF in Fruit Juice Industry in Thailand is on the Go



The "Development partnership between GIZ and SGF International e.V. Project" is now up and running in Thailand. SGF International e.V. Sure Global Fair (SGF), an international federation of the fruit juice industry headquartered in Germany has more than 600 member companies in 60 countries. SGF represents the interests of its members in securing legal, industrial quality and safety standards of all juice products according to legal and industrial standards requirements.

In Thailand, the abundance of raw materials guarantees good production and export potential for fruit juices, concentrated fruit juices, purees and pastes. This corresponds to both the high demand for high quality agricultural products in Europe and the growing demand of Thai consumers. With the supply chains in the fruit juice industry becoming progressively more international, quality control and traceability are becoming increasingly important for raw material suppliers.

SGF is already active in Thailand with current members standing at 10 companies, most of them dealing with processed pineapple. The project's objective is to support additional Thai fruit processing companies to participate in the voluntary control system to improve the safety and quality of their products in accordance with national

regulations and internationally recognized standards. SGF is the initiator of a system of industrial self-control called International Raw Material Assurance (IRMA), which covers authenticity control, hygiene audits, safety controls, traceability, code of labeling, code of conduct and research. A pool of auditors, laboratories and testing organizations is being established and trained in order to improve the services in the area of food safety.

By taking part in the SGF voluntary control system, Thai suppliers will improve the quality and food safety and thus the market ability of their products. This improves the image of SGF members among consumers, for whom the sustainable production of juice products is a concern. This, in turn, leads to more demand for raw materials by European fruit juice producers, to higher exports of fresh and processed fruit and, through the creation of new jobs, to an improved income situation for employees in the Thai fruit juice industry. National supervisory authorities can use the project results for drawing up and implementing legal requirements and industrial standards, developing a national monitoring system for food safety, and thus improving health-related consumer protection in other industries as well.

Gender 2012 – An Essential Aspect of GIZ's Work

Gender mainstreaming is an important aspect of GIZ's work. Today, it is widely recognized that the inclusion of gender approaches in project work is essential if sustainable outcomes are to be achieved. GIZ bases its gender concept on that of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), which affirms that "women must have an equal and independent share in the political, economic and social development of their countries and benefit from such development".

During the last quarter of this year, two of GIZ's regional projects under the 'Cities, Environment and Transport in the ASEAN Region' programme will undertake a gender assessment under the leadership of Ms. Eva Engelhardt, an international gender expert from Germany. The two projects, 'ASEAN - German Technical Cooperation Sustainable Port Development' and 'ASEAN - German Technical Cooperation Clean Air for Smaller Cities', will be assessed based on gender performance and gender applications in applicable project implementation. Recommendations for any gaps identified with regard to gender will be provided through a summary report by the gender expert.



Another GIZ - Thailand project, 'Sustainable Consumption and Production for Low Carbon Economy - Low Emissions Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling', is scheduled to take part in the assessment in 2013. The gender expert will also facilitate a Gender Mainstreaming Workshop targeted at both national and international staff within the country.

The purpose of this workshop is to strengthen the capacity of GIZ staff in developing gender concepts, using analytical tools, integrating gender mainstreaming with project activities and in practical applications to the development projects of GIZ.

Roundtable Discussion on the Findings and Proposal for Chiang Mai Public Transport System



As the authority with overall responsibility for the Chiang Mai Clean Air Plan (CAP), Chiang Mai Municipality hosted a roundtable discussion workshop on the "Findings and Proposal for a Public Transport System for Chiang Mai" on August 17th,

2012. The ASEAN-German Technical Cooperation "Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region" project deployed a team of regional and national specialists to provide technical input to the workshop. A total of 32 participants from Chiang Mai University's Faculty of Engineering, Chiang Mai Municipality, Lanna Red-Songthaew Co-operative, the Sunday Bicycle Club, the Department of Land Transport of Chiang Mai and the Pollution Control Department participated in this event.

The workshop aimed to build a mutual understanding of the findings and proposal for the improvement of the existing transport system among key stakeholders at the local and national level. The event facilitated discussions and

suggestions and provided an opportunity for additional input from all the stakeholders on the current public transport system, alternative routes and the plan for improving public transport in Chiang Mai.

The proposal recommended that the Chiang Mai authorities focus on improving efficiency and effectiveness of a priority single bus/song thaew operation route, along with non-motorized forms rather than introduce other mobility modes. The proposal was the subject of intense but positive discussion, with participants coming up with a pilot

operational plan to improve the bus/song thaew services in Chiang Mai.

It was concluded that improvements should be made to the existing bus system. Lanna Red-Songthaew Co-operative, an important stakeholder, also indicated their willingness to improve efficiency of the song-thaew service and to support better air quality.

The stakeholders signed off on an immediate action plan and committed to move forward with their tasks according to this action plan.

GIZ and Rice Department Jointly Support the Production of High Quality, Chemical-Free Rice



On September 10th, 2012 GIZ, through the “ASEAN Biocontrol for Sustainable Agri-food Systems” project, and the Rice Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, jointly hosted a workshop to strengthen cooperation on high quality rice development. Mr. Chairit Damrongkiat, Director-General of the Rice Department, chaired the opening session and delivered the keynote speech.

The workshop aimed to share knowledge, experiences and skills on plant disease and pest control, particularly on the application of biocontrol for rice protection, production and yield improvement. The technology promotes the production of high quality, chemical-free rice.

The workshop was well received by participants, who were made up of insect pest and plant disease specialists and experts from the Department of

Agriculture, GIZ and the Rice Department. The workshop focused on forging cooperation in the area of biocontrol research and development and promoting biocontrol agents for rice disease and pest management among farmers. It is hoped that farmers can apply the knowledge to improve the efficiency of rice production.

The “ASEAN Biocontrol for Sustainable Agri-food Systems” project, implemented by GIZ, is an international collaborative project between Germany and ASEAN. It aims to develop sustainable agricultural and food production policies and strategies by promoting the use of biocontrol agents and sustainable crop management in ASEAN countries, particularly in the production of rice, which is one of the world’s main staples. The Rice Department and the Department of Agriculture are the two main national agencies responsible for rice research and development.

Cambodia Port Sector CSR Pilot Project Gets Underway



Triangular cooperation is a partnership in development cooperation between a traditional donor from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC), a new donor who is not a member of the OECD-DAC and a beneficiary country. All three partners make specific and complementary contributions that create measurable value added for the beneficiary country.

The Malaysian-German Triangular Cooperation Programme has now started with a triangular pilot

project in Cambodia on “Training for Sustainable Development in the Port Sector and Corporate Social Responsibility in the Port Sector”. From September 3 to 5, 2012, GIZ and the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Malaysian Maritime Academy (ALAM) and the Maritime Transport Training Institute (MATRAIN) jointly organized a Fact Finding Mission for the pilot project to Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville in order to identify training needs and target groups and match these with available courses in Malaysia.

The purpose of this project is to support capacity development in the port sector through training of port personnel and the training of trainers, as well as to establish a horizontal learning platform in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) between ports in Cambodia and Malaysia. This bottom-up approach is in line with the internationally increasing awareness about CSR, one of the conditions for long-term sustainable value creation. The implementation of the pilot project will start in October this year. Projects in Timor Leste and Myanmar are planned for 2013.

Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management

On August 29, 2012, GIZ, the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and the Department of water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao PDR organized a practical Inception Workshop in VangVieng, Lao PDR to update the Nam Xong Profile. The workshop aimed to identify the status of the Nam Xong river including the behaviours of water users and make recommendations for community-based river basin management. Technical support was received from Thailand’s Department of Water Resources, Kasetsart University and the National University of Lao PDR.

More than 40 participants representing all the stakeholders in the Nam Xong sub-river basin attended the workshop. They exchanged ideas, discussed and analysed the status and problems of



Nam Xong river, which is an important branch of the Nam Ngum River and flows through one of the Lao PDR's main economic areas. The sub-basin population is highly dependent on clean water for agriculture, industry and tourism-related businesses.

The Thai and Lao experts put their experience to good use in stimulating a high level of participation from community members and the technique of using a Mind Map for brainstorming attracted great interest.



The core problems of the Nam Xong river basin were identified as follows:

1. deteriorating water source
2. insufficient amount of consumable water
3. decreasing number of plant and aquatic organisms
4. accumulating waste and pollution
5. deforestation in the water source areas

The primary cause is the rapid growth in the sub-basin and the lack of an efficient water resources management plan. The water users have shown

little concern for the mutual benefits of proper water usage and were not aware of how the Nam Xong water problems could affect their lives and living standards. The results from the workshop will be used as reference information to improve the Nam Xong river profile for further water quality monitoring and for the development of regulations and standards to better manage the Nam Xong sub-river basin.

From August 21-23, the project organised a workshop on integrated water resource management for the Nam Xong task force (NXTF) members. This is an important part of setting up and managing the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Committee (NXRBC) and the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Secretariat (NXRBCS), the first sub-river basin committee in Lao PDR. The objectives of this workshop were for the NXTF to gain knowledge and understanding of the principles of integrated water resource management and to be able to apply these principles to improve their local water resources. The workshop comprised theoretical explanations and group discussions for participants to exchange ideas and experiences with Thai and Lao experts (Professor Khamkengeng Khamvongsa from the Department of Civil Water Resources Engineering programme, the National University, Lao PDR; Assistant Professor Dr. Kitichai Rattana, an Ecology professor from the Department of Forestry, Kasetsart University; and Dr. Pornsuk Jeevasuwan, Director of Water Quality Information Analysis and Statistics from the Department of Water Resources). Examples of applying integrated water management in Thailand and Lao PDR were also discussed as a case study for the improvement of the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin management.

Training in Posaa (Mulberry Bark) Harvesting Technique

As part of the Paper Mulberry Supply Chain Project*, GIZ, the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), the Industrial Promotion Centre Region 1 (IPC1) in Chiang Mai and the Sayaboury Department of Industry and Commerce (DoIC) in Sayaboury Province, Lao PDR, conducted training on the improvement of Posaa plantation and harvesting techniques for Lao officials who will themselves become trainers.

The training was conducted from May 15 to 19, 2012, in Sayaboury's Hongsa district with the aim of developing training capacity. The Lao trainer team was made up of involved government officials in Hongsa and Ngeun districts. Dr. Permsak Soupapornhem, a posaa specialist from the Chiang Mai Field Crop Research Centre, Thailand Department of Agriculture (DOA) along with staff from IPC1 and DoIC facilitated the training.



The training focused on generating skills in posaa plantation and harvesting techniques, as well as how to organise extended training sessions. The Lao trainer team learned both theoretical and practical skills for posaa plantation (seed selection, plot preparation, intercropping and maintenance), harvesting (debarking, scratching, boiling and drying techniques) as well as how to prepare, organise and deliver further training. The training of trainers is an important process for the sustainability of the project because it provides the Lao trainer team with the necessary methodology and comprehension to independently conduct further training and outreach to other villagers.

From June to August, the Lao trainer team who underwent the three-day training in May, conducted extended training on posaa plantation and harvesting techniques for 304 farmers in 10 target villages in Hongsa and Ngeun. The objectives were to strengthen capacity in the quantitative and qualitative improvement of the posaa bark and to provide information on posaa trade and the potential paper processing plant investment in Sayaboury. The trainers were fully confident in their skills and conducted the training independently. The participants acquired skills in the techniques to improve plantation and harvesting and became aware that improved bark quality leads to better trading prices and income. The participants also understood the opportunity for gaining better value if the processing plant becomes established in Lao PDR.

**The project aims to upgrade the Paper Mulberry Supply Chain to enhance rural cross-border economies in Northern Thailand and Lao PDR, by shifting more value to the Lao farmers through raw bark quality improvement, a cross-border trade MoU, the establishment of a paper processing plant in Sayaboury, and the promotion of family-base paper products.*

Capacity Building for Lao Implementing Agencies on 'Results-Based Management'

From June 25-29, 2012, GIZ and the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) held a workshop-seminar on 'Results-Based Management for Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation' in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The workshop was organized under the Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation to support capacity building for related implementing agencies in managing small-scale trilateral projects using a results-based management approach in planning, reviewing and evaluating these development efforts.

Participants included the project manager and officers from the ongoing projects in Laos, namely the Paper Mulberry Supply Chain Project (implemented by the Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion and Development Office); the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project (implemented by Lao Department of Water Resources); and the Strengthening of National Good Agricultural



Practice (GAP) Project (implemented by Lao Department of Agriculture). GIZ's senior officers were made up of the main trainers with support provided by TICA and GIZ staff. Officers from some Thai implementing agencies also participated to provide technical content for the exercise and



group work. The workshop featured lectures but focused mainly on group work using actual

situations from the 3 projects. It provided practical tools for planning, managing and monitoring development projects and budgets as well as techniques for PR, communications and workshop facilitation, including the concept and principles of trilateral cooperation, which is a new trend in international development.

Twenty-five officers from the Lao implementing agencies have been trained in results-based planning and management and are now able to apply the methods to their projects and daily work. The participants have also gained an understanding of the principles of the Thai-German trilateral cooperation as well as basic skills in PR and communication and how to facilitate a workshop using a participatory approach.

GIZ and OAE Succeed in the Implementation of the Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project

On August 21, 2012, Mr. Apichart Jongskul, Secretary-General of the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE) and Mr. Daniel May, Project Director of the Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project, GIZ, delivered speeches at the closing ceremony of the Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project, held at the OAE Building to celebrate the success of the 3.5-year (December 2008 – June 2012) project implementation. GIZ and OAE executives and the chairpersons of the Thai Oil Palm and Palm Oil Association, the Palm Oil Crushing Mill Association, the Palm Oil Refinery Association and the Thai Biodiesel Producer Association attended the event along with the media.

The collaborative effort between GIZ and OAE has resulted in 40 million baht increased revenue per year in production improvement for the Thai palm oil industry. Besides successful mobilization of the RSPO sustainable palm oil production policy based on economic, social and environmental criteria, the project has assisted mills and smallholders' groups in target areas to comply with RSPO standards by working with oil palm experts and relevant agencies in the development of manuals and guidelines to improve yield and product quality, reduce production costs and protect the environment.



Moreover, the project has supported smallholders in applying for RSPO membership and certification. Four smallholders' groups have applied for RSPO membership: the Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production (Univanich-Plaipraya) Community Enterprise Group, the Nuakhleng-Khaopanom Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production Community Enterprise Network, the Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production (Suksomboon) Community Enterprise Group (Chonburi) and the Suratthani Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production Community Enterprise Network. The 4 groups, which operate in compliance with RSPO criteria and indicators, were audited by external certification bodies and awarded the first RSPO certified independent oil palm smallholders' groups.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has lauded this project as a global case study for collaborative efforts on bio-energy and food security.

Although the collaborative project has concluded, the effort to assist smallholders and mills in RSPO certification will continue. OAE will expand the project's benefits to strengthen oil palm production capacity in the Ministry of Agriculture's designated

oil palm areas, namely, the southern and eastern regions of Thailand. OAE will also promote the establishment of smallholders' groups for RSPO certification to increase palm oil marketing channels to European markets, which demand environmentally friendly products, enabling smallholders to gain higher returns than the current palm-oil prices.

Progress in 'Green Cooling' Reforms

Reforms in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector in Thailand are beginning to bear fruit and could make an effective contribution to global mitigation efforts. These are the first results of an ongoing baseline study on refrigeration, air-conditioning and insulation foam production in Thailand. Supported by GIZ Proklima and financed by the International Climate Initiative of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the baseline study on the inventory of ozone depleting refrigerants and hydrofluorocarbons, which have high global warming potential, is currently under development.

Potential for sub-sectoral reforms

In this context, the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO), the Department of Industrial Works (DIW) and GIZ Proklima invited stakeholders from relevant industries, research organizations, associations and ministries to participate in two workshops at which the potential



for sub-sectoral reforms was presented. The two workshops took place on July 26th and 31st in Bangkok and the concepts of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) were explained to the audience.

High potential for cost-effective reforms

There seems to be a high potential for cost-effective reforms, particularly with regard to energy savings, for example in the supermarket sector. With the results of the study becoming available later this

year, Thailand will have the relevant data to make an informed decision on submitting a NAMA in one of the sub-sectors of refrigeration, air-conditioning or insulation foam production.

Further information concerning "green cooling for a warming world"

GIZ's Proklima programme is addressing these and related environmental issues on the various applications of cooling and foam blowing technologies. These are available for transfer to our partner countries to assist them in developing "green growth economies". Proklima's services

comprise policy advice and capacity development for governments, training and qualification, as well as pilot projects for industry partners to facilitate green technology transfer and help to promote a sustainable future.

Germany Cooperates with Thailand in Working towards Green Public Procurement



On August 17 and 18, 2012, the project 'Sustainable Consumption and Production for Low Carbon Economy – Low Emission Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling (SCP4LCE)' held a two-day workshop at the Pattaya Marriott Resort & Spa, Chonburi together with its key partners, the Pollution Control Department (PCD), Thailand Environment Institute (TEI), the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (TGO) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).

The objectives of the workshop were to gain an overview of green public procurement (GPP) and eco-labeling in Thailand, elaborate the project's main activities and the timeline, and identify the roles, responsibilities and contributions of each partner. The workshop was successful in achieving a better understanding of the project.

The next step was the official launch of the project, which took place on September 18 at the Dusit Thani Hotel, where the plans to expand eco-labels in Thailand and in selected ASEAN countries to

cover climate protection criteria as well as strengthen GPP in Thailand were announced. Ms. Araya Nuntapotidech, Deputy Director General, PCD and Dr. Ulf Jaeckel, Head of Division, Product-related Environmental Protection and Standardization, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) delivered speeches at the event.

The event also brought together senior government officials and relevant private sector agencies to work on building mutual understanding on the implementation of the SCP4LCE project. A technical colloquium was held on climate friendly eco-labeling in the region to discuss how eco-labeling and GPP could serve as effective market forces for sustainable consumption and production, global competitiveness and climate protection.

The conclusions drawn from the event indicated that climate-friendly public procurement and the integration of climate relevant criteria with existing eco-labels are two key elements for establishing a low-carbon economy. The project will also develop and strengthen climate-friendly GPP by developing appropriate tools to foster climate friendly GPP and undertake a baseline study on impact assessment regarding CO₂ emission reduction. Another focus will be on the dissemination of the Thai GPP strategies adapted to climate aspects of selected ASEAN countries.

It is expected that: 1) the competitiveness of Thai suppliers for climate-friendly products will improve; 2) the proportion and number of climate-friendly products in GPP in Thailand will increase; 3) Thai eco labels will become aligned with such world renowned eco labels as Blauer Engel and EU; 4) consumers' awareness of a climate friendly society will be raised; 5) policy plans for climate related eco-labels will be available in Thailand and other selected ASEAN countries; and 6) Thailand's leading role in the SCP/Low Carbon Economy in the region will be strengthened.

Profitable Resources and Environmental Management



“The First Profitable Resources and Environmental Management - PREMA” training course, held by GIZ and Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (Public Organization) – DASTA, in cooperation with Ko Chang Municipality, Thai Trat

Tourism Association and Entrepreneur’s Competency Development Association (ECDA) at Ko Chang, Trat, between April and October 2010, resulted in total savings of 1.5 million baht/year, from unprofitable product elimination, for the 6 participating resorts and spas and an elephant camp: Aiyapura, Banpu, Barali, Dusit Princess, Kacha and Tropicana and Baan Chang Thai.

To continuously promote and instill awareness about resource consumption reduction to tourism operators and promote sustainable tourism, the project has invited another 17 environmentally conscious tourism operators to participate in “the Second PREMA” from August-October 2012. The aim of the activity is to educate tourism operators on efficient resource consumption and promote application of the lessons learned.

Public Transport System for Sustainable Tourism Development in Ko Chang

In light of the public transport problems and complaints in Ko Chang, GIZ and DASTA, in cooperation with the Center of Applied Transportation and Logistics Technology, Suranaree University of Technology, are conducting a quantitative study of public transport needs and service efficiency for sustainable tourism development on the island. The study aims to 1) Assess Ko Chang’s tourism carrying capacity and the current public transport infrastructure; 2) Conduct tourists’ needs and satisfaction surveys; and 3) Collect public transport baseline data in Ko Chang for future analysis. After the data collection is completed, the results of the study will be presented to both public and private sectors and stakeholders in Ko Chang and Trat Province on October 25, 2012 to collaboratively identify public transportation solutions.



Signing of the MoC to Implement the “Towards Low Carbon Municipalities in Thailand” Project



On July 27th, 2012, the National Municipal League of Thailand (NMITL), funded by the European Union EU), held an event to launch the “Towards Low Carbon Municipalities in Thailand to Commemorate H.M. the King’s 84th Birthday” project and to conduct orientation for pilot municipalities. A technical support partner of the project, GIZ, represented by Mrs. Petchada Usanapong, GIZ Country Deputy Director, signed the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC). With the project matching

the approach of GIZ’s Thai-German Climate Protection Programme, which focuses on low carbon societies, the MoC will facilitate future technical cooperation.

The Low Carbon Municipality Project aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from activities in pilot cities by promoting awareness, knowledge and understanding among municipal executives and staff of the approaches for developing a low carbon city under 4 key strategies: city of trees, pollution-free city, energy efficient city and sustainable consumption city. H.M. the King’s sufficiency economy philosophy will be implemented to mitigate climate change. Knowledge and understanding of relevant concepts, strategies and approaches among local administrative office executives and staff will facilitate formulation of policies and plans that are appropriate for the cities’ contexts and correspond to the national low carbon city policy development and policy implementation, for example, the National Economic and Social Development Plan and Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050.

GIZ Holds Colloquium on Implementation of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050

From August 16 to 24, 2012, GIZ and the Office of National Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), under the Climate Change Policy Project, jointly conducted a site visit to pilot project sites in Nan and Rayong provinces. As part of the implementation of the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050, the project, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and the Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning (DPT) invited German experts, Mr. Dietrich Flicke, former Head of the Division for “Urban and Open Space Planning” in the Senate Department of Urban Development in Berlin, Mr. Georg Maue,



BMU Senior Expert for Climate and Energy Policy and Ms. Keya Choudhury, key expert for Institutional Analysis, Environmental Training, Environmental Awareness Raising, to join the site visit.

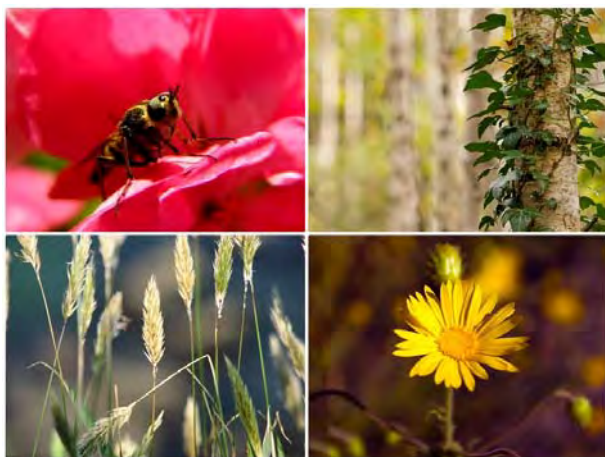
The experts provided consultations on sustainable city development and efficient energy consumption in the drafting of provincial climate change strategic plans for Nan and Rayong provinces. They also provided inputs to the local administrative offices of Klaeng and Nan municipalities in drafting local plans that align with the national master plan and the local context by integrating climate change implementation with the municipal and provincial strategies and guidelines.

On August 20th, 2012 the project and the Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning held a meeting on “Drafting of an Operations Manual on City Planning and Low

Carbon City Development” for the German experts, ONEP officials and officials of relevant Bureaus/Divisions of DPT to share comments and recommendations for the revision of the Basic Operations Manual on City Planning and Low Carbon City Development. The activity is one of DPT’s main climate change adaptation interventions and corresponds to one of the missions of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050, which focuses on transforming the Thai economy into a low carbon society.

On August 22nd, 2012 GIZ and BMA held a colloquium on “Sustainable City Development and Efficient Energy Use in City” for the German experts to share experiences with BMA staff. The event aimed to strengthen BMA staff’s capacity on climate change implementation and facilitate the development of concepts, knowledge and understanding for future formulation of BMA’s climate change implementation plan.

ECO-BEST Introduces TEEB to Sustainable Development Dialogues



ECO-BEST aims to improve the efficiency of nature conservation in Thailand by applying the “Economics of Ecosystem and Biodiversity: TEEB” concept. During the last quarter, the ECO-BEST project team was invited to present the TEEB concept at a few venues, among them:

1. The training session on “Ecological Corridors Management” on July 31st, 2012, held by the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University
2. A colloquium held by the project to support and strengthen competency in sustainable

city/community development on August 9th, 2012 in collaboration with the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP)

3. A colloquium on “Development of a Forest Resources Conservation PR Network” on August 20th, 2012, held by the Department of Natural Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
4. A colloquium on “Promotion of Eco-tourism for Quality and Sustainable Development” on September 6th, 2012, held by the Department of National Economics and Social Development Board

At all these venues, Mrs. Piyathip Eawpanich, Co-Director of the ECO-BEST Project pointed to the similarity between ecological corridors development and the development of urban green spaces to improve city dwellers’ quality of life as a need for economic and financial tool development.

Practical tools will dictate people’s behaviour in daily life, business operations and land use (both own land and worked land) for agriculture, housing, reservoirs or transportation routes. A mechanism to

compensate land rights, land appropriation and loss of opportunity for affected persons must be enforced for the benefit of the younger generations and nature. Identification of enthusiastic partners, whether as short-term and long-term stakeholders,

is an important step in ECO-BEST project implementation. In addition, financial management to secure funding support and keep track of expenditures, ensuring fairness, transparency and sustainability, is crucial.

EU and GIZ Visit Communities in Tha Dee Sub-River Basin



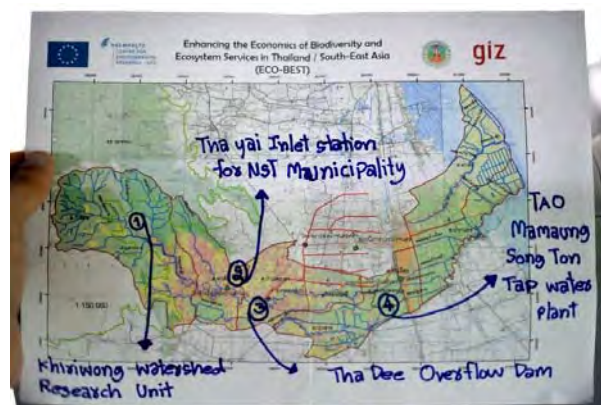
On July 17th, 2012, Mrs. Delphine Brissonneau of the European Union Delegation to Thailand, along with executives from Siamensis Limited, the Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Company) and staff from GIZ visited the Tha Dee Sub-River Basin in Nakhon Si Thammarat, starting from the upper level of Tambon Kam-Loan and going through Tambon Tha Dee to Tambon Kampang Zao. The delegates attended briefings by Mr. Pongtorn Bannasopits, Chief of Kiriwong Watershed Research Station and Mr. Wanchart Samdaeng, a local philosopher at the research station.

The area comprises primary forests in Khao Luang National Park, Suan Som Rom (multiple cropping of fruit trees in forested area) community settlements and rubber plantations. Suan Som Rom has long been the villagers' main source of income from major crops, including mangosteen, longkong, areca nut palm and garcinia, as well as agricultural processing and the manufacturing of numerous natural handicrafts. Kiriwong is the starting point of the nature trail to Khao Luang's summit (1,835 metres above sea level and the highest peak in the southern region) and an important tourist

destination in Khao Luang National Park. This visit clearly showed the close linkages between nature and the villagers' livelihoods.

The delegates then visited the low pressure raw water pump station of the Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality's Waterworks at Tha Yai Village and listened to the briefing by Mr. Theerajet Chaityajet, Chief of Operations, Royal Irrigation Department at Tha Dee Weir. Then they proceeded to Tambon Mamaung Song Ton to observe the tap water production of the Mamaung Song Ton Municipality, which partially draws raw water from the Tha Dee Stream. Another source of the Municipality's tap water is the Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality's Waterworks. Tap water production in Mamaung Song Ton Municipality has been significantly affected by floods and droughts. Problems encountered include sediment content, the changing course of Tha Dee Stream and water scarcity. The Municipality needs to identify additional water sources in nearby locations.

The study trip provided a clear picture of the changes in the Tha Dee Sub-River Basin and water



consumption patterns in the area. Some 50 to 60 years ago, Tha Dee Stream was wide, with barges plying the waters from the sea to Tambon Tha Dee. This is no longer possible. Local villagers have to use vehicles to transport goods. Tap water, piped directly into the villagers' homes, has replaced raw water from the stream because some parts of Tha Dee Stream are narrow and shallow. The most

serious concerns are severe stream bank erosion, all the way from the headwaters to the sea, and severe and frequent floods and droughts.

Relevant governmental agencies, both in Bangkok and in the Tha Dee Sub-River Basin should cooperate in ecosystem conservation and promote civic participation in the conservation efforts.

GIZ Joins the “Development of a Forest Resources Conservation PR Network” Colloquium



From August 21 to 22, 2012, the Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) held a colloquium on “Development of a Forest Resources Conservation PR Network” at the Cholapruek Resort in Nakhon Nayok. Mr. Sakda Noppasit, Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, chaired the opening session.

The colloquium aimed to train public relations officers and the staff of public and private agencies as well as the media to promote awareness and a proper understanding of DNP's work, create a positive image of DNP and establish a PR network focusing on natural resource conservation. Illegal logging, forest destruction and agricultural encroachment are now national problems. In 2010, with only 4,157 government officials, DNP was in charge of 10.3 million hectares of protected areas, making it difficult to maintain ecological integrity. To enhance forest protection efficiency, collaboration from stakeholders in the area of public relations is required.

The Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South East Asia (ECO-BEST) Project, by GIZ, delivered the presentation on “The Relationships among Economics, Ecosystems and Biodiversity and Benefits to Humankind” to enhance participants' understanding of the immense economic benefits of ecosystems and biodiversity, which have been previously overlooked and omitted from the calculation of production costs. Economic development has led to rapid loss and degradation of ecosystems and biodiversity, and law enforcement alone is insufficient to deal with the problem. Economic tools must be developed and implemented to reduce forest loss. Awareness of ecosystems and biodiversity values will itself advocate policy change because investment in conservation is more cost effective than investment in rehabilitating man-made destruction.

The colloquium enabled participants to brainstorm on ideas, share comments and present approaches to develop a network to publicize natural resources conservation.

The colloquium indicated that one approach to make the public appreciate the forests and all the benefits they provide is to publicize the importance of forests to people both inside and outside the forest boundaries, starting with a training course for PR officials and staff. The activity will establish a support network, stakeholder participation and good relationships among stakeholders for future development of a conservation network.

ECO-BEST and the Abundance of Tha Dee Sub-River Basin, Nakhon Si Thammarat



After several visits and meetings with representatives of local administrative offices and relevant governmental agencies since January 2012, the Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South East Asia (ECO-BEST) project team, comprising GIZ, representatives of the Protected Area Regional Office 5, Nakhon Si Thammarat, the Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) and experts from the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), selected Tha Dee Sub-River Basin as the project site for the valuation of Khao Luang National Park ecosystem services. ECO-BEST will cooperate with stakeholders to

develop economic and financial tools for biodiversity enhancement of Tha Dee Sub-River Basin. From its source in Khao Luang National Park, the Tha Dee stream flows through Kiri-Wong Village and communities in Tambon Kam-Loan and Tambon Tha Dee into the Coastal Plain, passing Tambons Kampang Zao, Chaimontree, Mamaung Song Ton and Tha Sak before flowing through the heart of Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality and draining into the Gulf of Thailand at Paknakhon Municipality, Tambon Paknakhon. The total length of the river is about 63 kilometres, covering an area of approximately 303 km².

"Natural disasters nowadays are more severe and frequent. Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality is ready to cooperate with the project to improve the environment in our area," said Assoc. Prof. Mayor of Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality.

"ECO-BEST should analyze the legal framework to discover whether the local administrative offices are authorized to apply economic and financial tools in natural resources conservation," said Mr. Somyos Narkkarat, Deputy Chief Executive of Tha Dee Subdistrict Administration Organization, Nakhon Si Thammarat.



"I would like to thank ECO-BEST for selecting Tha Dee Stream as the project implementation site and I believe that local communities in Nakhon Si Thammarat will become involved. I will give the project full advocacy support at the provincial level," added Mrs. Mukdawan Luengsrinil, Member of both the Nakhon Si Thammarat Provincial Council and the Khao Luang National Park Steering Committee.

"If the sandy banks of Tha Dee Stream become a tourist spot, besides generating higher income for the locals, the transformation will prevent littering and stream encroachment," said Mr. Chaowalit Supparat, Chief Executive of Chaimontree Subdistrict Administration Organization, Nakhon Si Thammarat.

These comments have led to the meticulous crafting of ECO-BEST work plan. From July 5 to 7, 2012, Ms. Malimas Jariyapong, a lecturer of Nakhon Si Thammarat Rajabhat University and the ECO-BEST project team held a public consultation workshop to gather comments from villagers in the three tambons of Kam-Loan, Tha Dee and Kampang Zao, focusing on the land use trends in these areas. Another provincial level workshop was held on July 18th 2012 to review comments on land use in the upper Tha Dee Sub-River Basin in the next 8 years. The results of the workshop indicated that stakeholders would like to increase the area of primary forest cover from 46.03% in 2010 to 53.33% and reduce the area of degraded forest cover from 14.72% in 2010 to 0.34%. However, the forest cover projection will be discussed at the local level again in October 2012.

The closing ceremony of the provincial level workshop on July 18th, 2012 was chaired by Mr.



Wirote Jiwangsan, Nakhon Si Thammarat Governor. "Although ECO-BEST is keen to support us in the development of economic and financial tools for the management of Tha Dee Sub-River Basin, the task belongs to the people of Nakhon Si Thammarat. I fully endorse the economic tools application. If there is any activity that can be integrated in the provincial plan, you will have my full support," the Governor concluded.

Upcoming EVENT

"German Design & Lifestyle Exhibition 2012" will be held during 5 - 11 November 2012 on the ground floor of Central World Bangkok. GIZ booth is at No.C in Beacon zone. The exhibition is organised by the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.



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Programme and projects funded by Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

- Sustainable Urban Transport Project in Asia
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- Climate Policy Project
- Climate Protection in Tourism
- Sustainable Palm Oil for Bioenergy
- Mobilisation of national mitigation measures (NAMAs) to replace F-gases in refrigeration and insulation foam production

Projects funded/ co-funded by the European Union

- Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/ South-East Asia (ECO-BEST)
- Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy Project
- Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries
- Green Public Procurement and Eco-Labeling Project

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- Project Development Programme: Renewable Energy in South East Asia