

## Newsletter of Bangkok-based projects by GIZ and PARTNERS

Issue 33 April – June 2015

[www.thai-german-cooperation.info](http://www.thai-german-cooperation.info)

Dear Readers,

We hope you had a nice break and enjoyed your Songkran holidays. This issue focuses on training services for capacity development which plays an important role in sustainable development. For more information, <http://training.thai-german-cooperation.info/>.

Besides newsletter, you can be informed on our activities via GIZ Thailand's facebook page [www.facebook.com/gizthailand](http://www.facebook.com/gizthailand) and our website [www.thai-german-cooperation.info](http://www.thai-german-cooperation.info)

If you have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Best regards,

The newsletter team

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# Learning Means Developing Successfully in a Changing Environment

By Jarukan Rassiri, Gisa Holzhausen and Narumon Laohakangwanvit  
GIZ Training Services Bangkok

“ Wherever “Sustainable Development” processes need to be established, ”  
the focus must be on having the right competencies and networks. This is the  
only way to ensure that new stimuli lead to real innovations, for more efficient  
organizations and effective social change. These days, expertise becomes obsolete  
very quickly. This makes it all the more important to ensure that experts and  
managers continue to “stay on top of things”: that they learn from each other and  
from experiences as well as network and jointly create new knowledge and change.

Bernd Krewer, Director of GIZ's Academy for International Cooperation



GIZ has established “GIZ Training Services Bangkok” to provide access to training and capacity development services in Asia. The unit is part of GIZ's Academy for International Cooperation in Germany. GIZ Training Services Bangkok offers high-quality training courses, study visit and seminars in various sectors and competencies. The unit brings together the international and development cooperation experiences of Germany and her partners in the past 6 decades as well as the regional expertise and wisdom.



The training courses apply a tried and tested method focusing on individual competencies so that participants can successfully reach their professional objectives, which can affect their organizational and social changes. The courses also identify options of how participants can use personal development to drive the structuring of change and innovation processes. Our pool of trainers are from the AIZ's pool in Germany as well as regional sources. We select trainers with a combination of sector expertise, experiences in the field and understanding of didactic and pedagogic application (how best people learn, and how best to teach).

The courses are designed to promote effective learning solutions, with suitable methods and tools applied. Training need analysis is applied for group and individuals as a way to identify learning objectives.

Different principles are followed depending on the context, for example, adult-learning and participatory approaches, teaching close to practice, learning and networking, coaching, and peer learning. Training can be organized in English, German or Thai languages. "On-request" training is also available for different target group demand and different time and venue.

All services offered are based on non-profit cost-recovery basis. In 2014, the unit offered 50 training courses and supported the learning of more than 500 participants. Most of the courses are focusing on management & consulting, cooperation, leadership development and food and agriculture sector competencies. For 2015, larger portfolio of training courses is developed and we look forward to enriching and supporting more learners to achieve the changes they wish to make!

## Learning Calendar 2015

Training	Course ID	Date
<b>Sector Competency: AEC and Trade</b>		
Trade and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Training	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
Corporate and Social Responsibility (CSR) Training	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
<b>Sector Competency: Agriculture and Food</b>		
Food and Nutrition Security for Practitioners	(150308)	23-26 March
Value Links Training	(tentative)	2nd Quarter
Contract Farming Training: an inclusive business model for a sustainable value chain	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
<b>Sector Competency: Climate and Natural Resources</b>		
Tackling Climate Change: Climate-Smart Approaches to Adaptation in Asia in Agriculture, Land and Coastal Zone Management	(151001)	5-9 October
Ecosystem-Based Adaptation	(tentative)	2nd Quarter
Climate Change Adaptation M&E	(tentative)	July
Urban Development and Climate Change	(tentative)	November
<b>Sector Competency: Energy</b>		
Biogas Training	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
PV Technology Training	(tentative)	August
<b>Communication and Cooperation Competency</b>		
Effective PR and Communication for Development Cooperation (English Language)	(150305) (150711)	31 March-3 April 30 Sep – 3 Oct
Effective PR and Communication for Development Cooperation (Thai Language)	(150802)	17-20 August
Negotiation Techniques for Successful Cooperation	(150506)	13-15 May
Moderation Techniques in International Contexts	(150702) (151101)	27-29 July 23-25 November
Intercultural Training: Understanding Germans and working with them	(tentative)	2nd Quarter
Understanding Myanmar: How to work in Myanmar?	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
<b>Management and Consulting Competency</b>		
Results-Based Project Management - Basic Training (MfDR)	(150602)	30 June-3 July
Results-Based Project Management - Advanced Training (MfDR)	(150901)	14-18 September
Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation: Basic Training (RBME)	(150902)	21-23 September
Results-Based Project Monitoring and Evaluation - Advanced Level	(150704)	6-10 July
Results-Based Management (Thai language)	(150403)	27-30 April
Introduction to results-based management in international cooperation for administrative and support staff	(tentative)	May
Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues	(tentative)	July
Capacity WORKS: Introductory course	(150601) (150605)	16-19 June 22-25 June
Capacity WORKS for consultants	(tentative)	May
Capacity WORKS: Management Workshop	(tentative)	5-9 October
Effective Workshop Design and Planning	(150701) (151102)	22-24 July 18-20 November
Project Acquisition and Proposal Writing Workshop	(150703)	21-24 July
Roles and Competencies of Development Practitioners: Basic Training (Beratungsrollen)	(150705)	13-17 July
Roles and Competencies of Development Practitioners and Advisors: Advanced Training (Beratungsrollen)	(150706)	20-24 July
Change Management	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
Management in Cross-Cultural and Diversity Context	(tentative)	4th Quarter
<b>Leadership Development</b>		
Communication for Successful Leadership	(tentative)	8-12 June
<b>Multi-disciplinary and other Competency</b>		
Train the Trainer: Training Formats and Approaches	(150501)	18-22 May
Advanced Training of Trainers	(150502)	25-27 May
Creative Thinking	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
Gender Mainstreaming in Development Cooperation	(tentative)	3rd Quarter
Human Rights in Development Cooperation	(tentative)	3rd Quarter





## Learning Diary (January to March 2015)

### Training of Trainers: Basic Skills - Learning how to learn!

19-23 January 2015

Participants gathered to exchange how adults learn best and how to design a training environment that enables personnel competency development. Michael Zillich from Germany took the group through the theory and practice of the training cycle - starting from how to do training need analysis, set learning objectives, design training measure and methods, carry out the training, deal with difficult situation and conduct evaluation.

At the end of the training, participants developed individual implementation plan on how to make use of what they learn. The group keeps in contact to exchange experiences after the training, and will have a follow up session with the trainer again in May. Some participants already plan to join an advanced course to deepen their trainer skills.



“

I have attended a training of trainer programme before, but this one provided by GIZ Training Service is quite different. Now I have gained deeper understanding on both the theory and the logic behind how adults learn. I am very sure I can make use of what I learned and apply it to the Pollution Control Department training programme.

”

Ms. Jarinporn Tippamongkol, Environmentalist Professional,  
Environmental Quality and Laboratory Division, Pollution Control Department (PCD) of Thailand

“ Management is not going by regulation, it is engagement and co-creation.”



### Managing for Development Results (MfDR) and Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME):

in development cooperation, we are accountable for results beyond the control.

27 January – 4 February 2015

For the first 4-day training, participants dealt with questions of international development cooperation and how to manage for results. Mohan Dhamotharan, our trainer, facilitated the discussion on the logic behind the Paris declaration, the reality of development cooperation practices, as well as the competencies needed for international cooperation including different management principles, concept and tools.

*“This MfDR training is absolutely a must for any development and international cooperation practitioner. It gives you orientation and makes you aware of different concepts and tools necessary for managing any development project in today's changing environment.”*  
First batch of MfDR participants in January 2015

For the latter 3 days, we discuss and debate how to monitor and evaluate project development results. At the end of the training, participants developed results chains, indicators and monitoring plan of their own selected projects, and discuss OECD DAC evaluation principles and how it is applicable to their reality.

“ In the past, we see project monitoring as putting the train on the right track and the train will find its way...BUT in today's complex reality, project management and monitoring is more like “sailing” where we need to navigate the progress and think on corridor

Mohan Dhamotharan





## Results-Based Management Training for ThaiRakPa Foundation (Thai Language)

3-4 November 2014

GIZ and Thai Rak Pa Foundation organized 2-day training on Result-Based Management and LogFrame tool for the foundation staff. The training aims to provide knowledge on RBM and LogFrame which the staff can utilize to review their on-going projects and plan for new project in 2015. The training was conducted by GIZ's Thai in-house trainers in Thai language and organized in Doi Kham Resort, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

“ The training helps us to understand the identification, designing and planning development project. Now we understand the logic behind LogFrame tools (Logical Framework) and how to make use of it. The training content is truly interesting and it is transferred in a way that is close to our practical reality. We can make use of it in our work. We should have been to such a training long time ago!

Participants from Thai Rak Pa Foundation.



**Understanding Myanmar:**  
**What to consider when working in Myanmar,**  
and also – how to wear the Longgyi?

22-23 January 2015

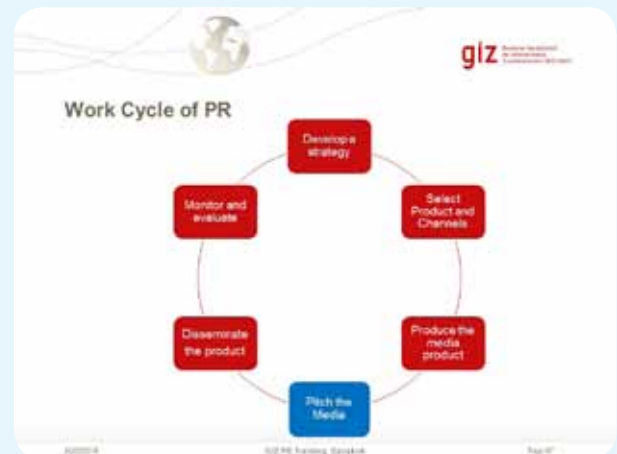
Myanmar is now opening up! In this 2-day course, Dominik Weidert and Aung Thein Kyaw introduced the cultural, social and historical framework to the participants, and discussed cultural Dos and Don'ts. Dr. Monika Stärk from the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Myanmar also shared her knowledge on how to do business in this emerging market. The group consisted of private companies that intend to extend their business to Myanmar as well as of international development experts heading to live and work there. They enjoyed the mixture of theoretical background knowledge, business know-how and fun practical advice like how to wear the traditional Longgyi.



## Effective PR and Communication: How to utilize media and increase project visibility and outreach

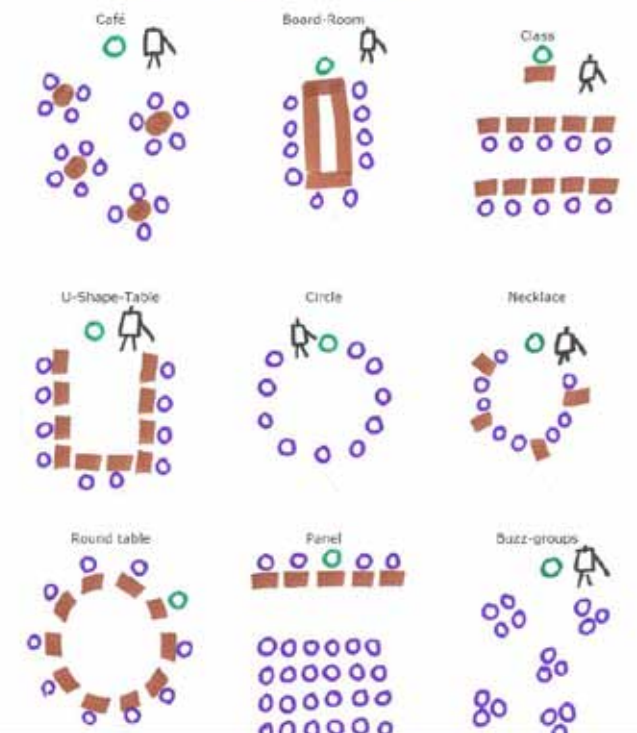
*"Communication and PR require us to be very neat and precise-every thought and every word counts!"*

Good communication strategy and right PR can enable the project and organizations to convey the right key message to different stakeholders. Besides the theory, this training opened the floor for practical workshop - the participants worked on the real cases selected from their projects. There they could learn both from the trainers and each other the good practices and lesson learned.



### Finding Conducive Workshop Settings

brown = tables, blue circles = participant, green circle = trainer



### Do you know that ...

- A meeting room with natural day light will brighten the learning atmosphere and help participants to think outside the box.
- According to sociologist, human being can interact only in a group of not more than 6 persons. Therefore, ideal room arrangement for an exchange workshop or a training is café table style (ideal for big groups-divide them to smaller group of not more than 6 per table). For small group of 15, you can go for small U shape or circle seating (without table)



## SOUNDS

- How would you call a waiter at a busy and noisy restaurant?
- What sound would it be to express...
  - Surprise
  - Sadness
  - Feeling sorry
  - Pain
  - disappointment



- In Myanmar, people make a kissing sound to call waiters/waitresses.
- In Myanmar, both women and men wear traditional sheet of cloth called "Longyi" not only in daily life but also in any official occasions.
- "Advertising you pay for, PR you pray for" PR professionals need effort to create stories and draw attention of the editors. When the stories are published or broadcasted, they look more credible to the viewers than advertising because they are viewed as a third party endorsement.
- In communication and PR, we should use LESS group standing or meeting photo! Try to use more action-oriented photos. Symbols, graphs and notes on the board or presentation can also be used!

### How much the brain remember and learn?

Many experiments have confirmed that people adopt new information if it is presented through different perception channels, as illustrated in a simplified manner below. **We remember...**



10% of what we  
**READ**



20% of what we  
**HEAR**



30% of what we  
**SEE**



50% of what we  
**HEAR AND SEE**



70% of what we  
**SAY** ourselves



90% of what we  
**DO** ourselves

That is why many training nowadays enables learning by applying many channels of perception together including discussion, practices and exercise.

\*GIZ's **Training of Trainer manual**, compiled by Michael Zillich

### Tips and Tricks About Adult Learning

When designing training for adults, beware how adult learn!

- Adults know a lot, **ACTIVATE** it before adding new information
- Adults want to be **ACKNOWLEDGED** for their experience
- Adults should take responsibility for their learning, you **FACILITATE** it
- Adults want to learn useful & applicable things, **RELATE** the new things to life & work context
- Adult learning refers mostly to behavioural change, **APPLY ACTION-ORIENTED** method and **FEEDBACK**
- Adults want activation, **CHANGE** method regularly

# Training Programme for Vietnamese Pilot Coordinators on Cooperative Promotion and Development in Nakhon Nayok and Nakhon Ratchasima

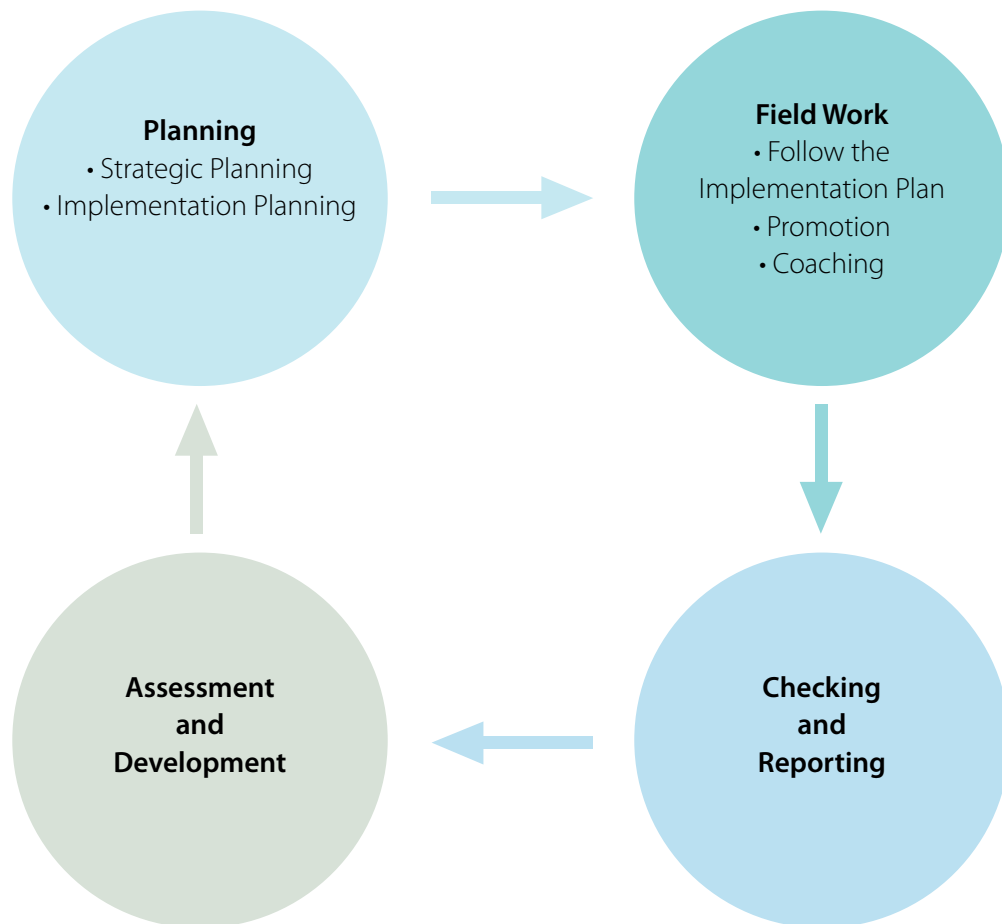
By Warisa Sungkaprom Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme

The Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and German International Cooperation (GIZ) jointly organized a study trip for Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) and Provincial Cooperative Alliance (PCA) pilot coordinators to Nakhon Nayok and Nakhon Ratchasima provinces from January 17 to February 6, 2015. The study trip was technically supported by the Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD) of Thailand, the Nakhon Nayok Cooperative Office and the Cooperative Technology Transfer Center 5 Nakhon Ratchasima. This activity was part of the Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam Project, which aims to strengthen the capacities of regional and provincial cooperative promotion officers in order to systematically plan and implement cooperative promotion as well as to develop their consultancy skills in business planning and management, cooperative management and marketing.

During the study trip to the 2 provinces, the pilot coordinators had the opportunity to learn about cooperative promotion in Thailand and the Cooperative Promotion System (CPS). They received close guidance from Thai experts, who provided knowledge and answered their questions throughout their stay. They also received advice on the development of work plan for the 8 pilot cooperatives under the Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme. The delegates were able to observe a preparatory meeting of cooperative promotion officer and the annual meeting of a village cooperative and discuss with experienced cooperative promotion officer, cooperative executives and members. They learned the approaches and techniques on knowledge transfer. This provided them with an opportunity to observe multiple dimensions of cooperative promotion in Thailand and gain a thorough understanding of the cooperative promotion efforts that can be applied to their work plan. Moreover, upon their return to Vietnam, they can disseminate the knowledge to other VCA and PCA cooperative promotion officers thus strengthening cooperatives in their country.



### Cooperative Promotion System



### Cooperative Promotion System: CPS

CPS is a work system that ensures cooperative promotion officers employ systematic and homogenous implementation approaches nationwide. The aim is to improve the effectiveness of cooperative promotion implementation. The system has 4 steps as follows:

1. Plan formulation (Planning)
2. Promotion and development (Promotion)
3. Checking, reporting and monitoring (Checking and Reporting)
4. Assessment and development (Development)



# Approaches to Promote and Develop 8 Pilot Cooperatives in Central Vietnam

By Jiraluck Inwong Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme

The Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam project under Vietnam-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation has been in operation for almost 2 years. The project aims to enhance the effectiveness of cooperative management and mechanisms of cooperative promotion by strengthening stakeholders' capacities in systematic analysis and formulation of cooperative promotion plans and encouraging the involvement of relevant officers at the regional, provincial and local levels in cooperative development and promotion through series of training and consultation by experts from the Thailand Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD), in collaboration with the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ (Thailand and Vietnam).

To assess the capacity and effectiveness of the strengthened cooperative system, the project is using different approaches to promote 8 pilot cooperatives from more than 2,500 cooperatives in central Vietnam. These are common cooperative promotion system approaches that can be applied to other cooperatives in central Vietnam and are as follows:

- Improve quality and variety of rattan furniture products to meet consumers' needs for Thuy Lab Cooperative, Hue
- Develop the brand identity and add product value to "Phu Ho Rice" by developing new packaging for Phu Ho Agricultural Cooperative, Hue
- Work on marketing to increase distribution channels for high-value local handicraft products for Truong Xuan Embroidered Fabric Cooperative, Quang Ngai
- Develop member relations and increase membership for Bin Thanh Dong Agricultural Cooperative, Quang Ngai
- Establish groups, strengthen group capacity and prepare for the cooperative system for Bin An Handicraft Cooperative, Quangnam



- Develop new agricultural services for upgrading rice production in compliance with the GAP standards for Phu Dong Agricultural Cooperative, Quangnam
- Set up network to raise funds from cooperative members for wood furniture production improvement, a core service of Tan Hoa Binh Cooperative, Phuyen
- Promote organic rice production (organic rice is in high demand in the international market) among cooperative members for Ho Thang Cooperatives, Phuyen

These activities will be implemented between March-August 2015. The 8 pilot cooperatives will become the learning centres for cooperative promotion officers to ensure precise cooperative development. Meanwhile the role of cooperative promotion officers in cooperative development will be systematically strengthened by focusing on strategies and goals. This activity will assist the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) Central and Provincial Cooperative Alliance (PCA) to learn analysis, planning and support techniques in addition to monitoring and evaluation methods to improve skills and internal implementation. Enhanced capacities will lead to service improvement, gain recognition of good service and generate sufficient income for future organization management.



“ We will try our best to apply what we have learned from Thailand to the development of pilot models in Vietnam for sustainable development. ”

Mr. Le Nguyen Duc Thang,  
Director of Centre for Support and Promotion  
of Cooperatives and SMEs in Western Highlands and Centre of Vietnam

### Tips and Tricks

- In Vietnam, agricultural cooperatives can only provide agricultural-related services, e.g. trading of agricultural inputs, services related to agricultural production processes, product collection and distribution. However, they cannot provide loan services. Thus, they have limitations in income generation for future cooperative development. This is different from agricultural cooperatives in Thailand, whose main earnings derive from loan services, leading to rapid growth and development.
- Accessible funding sources for cooperatives (from low to high interest rates) are the Bank for Agriculture and Cooperatives, general banks and loan cooperatives, all of which charge relatively high interest. Most cooperatives thus prefer a membership recruitment approach, inventing new services and improving existing services to raise funds for initial cooperative development.
- In Vietnam, there are Coop Mart in each province. However, if cooperatives' products are to be placed in the Coop Mart, they must meet its standards and regulations. Most cooperatives thus need to consistently develop their products and seek other distribution channels both locally and abroad.



# Training of Villagers to Facilitate Harmonious Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management in Lao PDR

By Jiraluck Inwong Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



Since the completion in mid-2014 of the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project under the Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation, the sub-river basin has become a learning venue in Lao PDR for integrated sub-river basin management and community-based water quality protection. The Nam Xong task force has continuously implemented many activities to promote enforcement of Nam Xong sub-river basin regulations and has applied integrated sub-river basin measures that were initiated during the project period.

Although the project has been completed, cooperation among the 3 governments remains strong. Furthermore, to expand on previously supported activities, the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA, formerly Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency) under Thailand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported an additional training course for delegates from villages in the Nam Xong sub-river basin who play prominent roles in sub-river basin conservation. This was held from 1-23 February 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Chiang Mai's sub-river basin management contexts are similar to Nam Xong's in several respects.



“ Since the livelihood of villagers in Nam Xong Sub-River Basin relies mostly on agriculture (rice and crop farming), training provides additional knowledge for sustainable livelihood and occupations and are compatible with conservation and sub-river basin management principles. ”

Three villagers from Kasi Village received training in conservation agriculture based on the Royal Project Foundation's approaches at Mae Tho and Mae Hae Royal Projects in Chiang Mai. They also learned watershed conservation approaches at Huay Hong Krai Royal Development Study Centre under Royal Initiative. Another 3 villagers from Vang Vieng received training on native plant conservation and propagation in addition to ornamental plant business development from The Botanical Garden Organization, Chiang Mai. The training courses were designed to emphasize hands-on learning and practice and used simplified principles to facilitate application of lessons learned in Lao PDR.

Since the livelihood of villagers in Nam Xong Sub-River Basin relies mostly on agriculture (rice and crop farming), training provides additional knowledge for sustainable livelihood and occupations and are compatible with conservation and sub-river basin management principles (e.g. proper and safe use of agricultural chemicals, crop rotation to mitigate soil degradation, use of fermented plant extract to replace chemical fertilizers, propagation of wild plants to conserve and generate income and watershed conservation to ensure sustainability of natural

resources). This approach can enhance knowledge and understanding and empowers participants to apply gained knowledge to conserve and use natural resources sustainably. This group of villagers will become the intermediaries, who will link and initiate the learning process of other stakeholders in the sub-river basin. They can disseminate information and publicize new approaches that benefit both the livelihoods of local people and the fertility of the sub-river basin.

*“The government has allocated funding to the Department of Water Resources, in collaboration with local agencies and communities, to establish a national demonstration park in Phu Din Daeng Village, Vang Vieng, in the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin. This demonstration park will become a national learning venue for water resource management. Lessons learned from the training in Thailand will be transferred and exhibited at this demonstration park, allowing communities and interested individuals to understand and become aware of sub-river basin conservation and protection as well as publicize and replicate lessons learned in other areas,”* commented the delegates from Vang Vieng.

# Germany Supports Sustainable Agrifood Systems and Food Security in Laos Through GIZ

By Pouchamarn Wongsanga ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems



GIZ recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR. The MoU aims to provide a framework and enhance closer cooperation between the two parties to meet their mutually determined goals and objectives in promoting sustainable agrifood systems towards food security in Lao PDR. The implementation is through the ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (SAS) Project.

The partnership is based on the support of German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on Sustainable Agrifood Systems to ASEAN and Laos through GIZ as the implementing agency.

The areas of collaboration are 1) Awareness raising as well as information and knowledge dissemination on the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents for government officers and SMEs; 2) Capacity development in promoting sustainable food production in accordance with the national policy, AIFS Framework and the ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents; and 3) Establishment of national platform for the development of sustainable agrifood systems.

Agriculture is the key important sector of ASEAN as well as for Lao PDR. Agriculture contributes to the realization

of the ASEAN Community, particularly for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems is one of the two modules under the "ASEAN-German Programme on Response to Climate Change in Agriculture and Forestry" commissioned by the German government from 2014 to 2017.

Sustainable Agrifood Systems is regarded as the long-term sustainable approach towards long-term food security in the ASEAN region, which needs to explore, develop and promote best practices to achieve sustainable agriculture, optimize production inputs and farming practices that integrate climate resilience and friendly to environment as well as reduction of pesticide to produce safe and good food products.

Building upon the results and experiences of the ASEAN Biocontrol Project (2011-2013), the SAS project collaborates with ASEAN and all Member States including Lao PDR in the implementation of activities.

The SAS project has the overall objective to enable ASEAN Member States implementing the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and its Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS) by focusing on promotion of sustainable food production at the national level.

For more information: <http://asean-agrifood.org/>

“ Sustainable Agrifood Systems is regarded as the long-term sustainable approach towards long-term food security in the ASEAN region. ”

# 3+1 Equals Food Security

By Rojana Manowalailao ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems



Having more food does not necessarily mean food security. This sentence is being heard over many times during a four-day training on food and nutrition security for regional practitioners held for the first time by ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (SAS) project in Bangkok, Thailand on 23-26 March 2015.

Food security is... **“Having enough food”, “Safe food to consume”, “Environmentally sustainable production”, “Nutrition and healthy food”, “Anyone can access”, and “Sustainable supply on a stable basis”.**

Twelve participants from six ASEAN Member States including Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam shared their impressions on the term food security as an opening discussion of this first training aiming to raise awareness on the current situations of food and nutrition security for better promotion of sustainable food production that contributes to food security at the national and regional levels.

Food security is not only about availability, says Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, a Senior Regional Advisor to ASEAN SAS project, but also accessibility, use and utilization.

Availability is having adequate and safe food while accessibility is when all households and members of the household are able to get appropriate nutritious food. Use is when people know what to select, what is a good composition in one meal, how to prepare food whereas utilization is ability of an each individual to take and use food within the body. Whether one country is food secured it needs to consider these three dimensions.

Ms. Sri Sulihanti, Director of Center for Consumption Diversification and Food Safety from Indonesia says food availability in Indonesia is not a problem but accessibility and use and utilization are the problems.

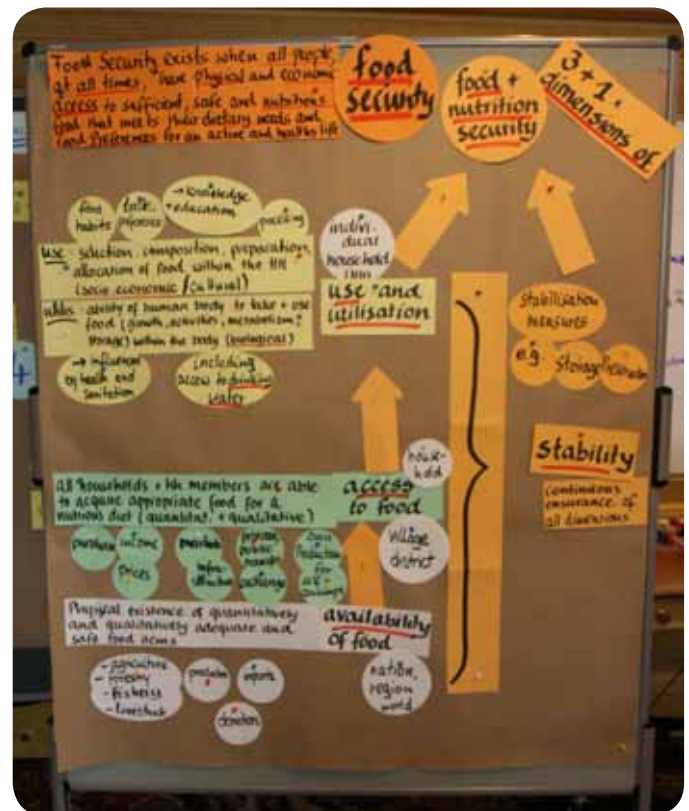
The other participant from Indonesia, Ms. Wa Ode Asmawati, from a non-profit organization called Muhammadiyah, says she is very concerned about an amount of chemical fertilizer and pesticide used in agriculture production in her country.

**“ Food security is not only about availability but also accessibility, use and utilization. ”**

Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, a Senior Regional Advisor to ASEAN SAS project



*"I'm now better aware that food security is also about having a sustained variety of nutritious and safe food. For example, children know about the kind of food they should eat, how to select and cook and eat properly,"* he says. The training is organized under collaboration with GIZ Training Services Bangkok.



For more information, please log on to [www.asean-agrifood.org](http://www.asean-agrifood.org)

# Training Workshop on Data Collection of Wastewater Utilities for Greenhouse Gas Calculation

By Supunya Yonpiam and Kittisak Unwerawattana  
Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation



For the past year, GIZ has been implementing the project “Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation (WaCCliM)” in collaboration with the Wastewater Management Authority (WMA). With WMA, we selected a pilot wastewater treatment plant in Chiang Mai and discovered that data collection and its quality are vital to this project. WMA has also indicated it wants to extend the project to cover all WMA’s wastewater treatment plants.

GIZ therefore organized a training workshop on “**Data Collection of Wastewater Utilities for Greenhouse Gas Calculation**” for WMA’s WWTP managers and engineers. Held at The Imperial Mae Ping Hotel in Chiang Mai from 10-12 March, the training was led by Catarina Silva, a baseline expert from IWA.

The workshop, which was attended by 31 officers from WMA’s head office and 17 WWTPs plus a staff member of Chiang Mai Municipality, afforded the opportunity to learn and understand about greenhouse gases in the wastewater treatment process and how to measure this emission. On the last day, participants were taken to visit the Chiang Mai wastewater treatment plant, the project’s pilot facility.

The success of the training exceeded expectations. Most participants showed great interest in the topic and participated fully in the workshop. **“This training provided me with new experience of this topic and was very beneficial to our work,”** one participant commented. The WMA wastewater treatment staff will conduct data collection between April and June, then in August arrange a meeting to show and share data and the calculation of GHG emissions from their systems. This is considered a very successful step forward for the WaCCliM project both in terms of immediate results and for expanding the project to meet future goals.

# BRIA Outlines Its Action Plan for Sustainable Rice at its National Management Committee Meeting held at Rice Department

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn [Better Rice Initiative Asia](#)



Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA), a German Food Partnership (GFP) project, recently held its national management committee meeting at the Rice Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, to discuss the activity plan with its public-private partners aimed at improving the Thai rice value chains in support of the country's national rice production strategy.

Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, who chaired the meeting, elaborated on the rice production sector restructuring plan in his opening speech. Concerning Thailand's current rice production, he said the supply of rice in Thailand outstrips the demand. Rice farmers suffer from the low price of rice. Productivity is low in unsuitable rice cultivation areas. The country needs to grow more rice for niche markets.

The restructuring plan is in line with the national rice strategy for 2015-2019 and calls for large community cultivation plot, plot management, site-specific technology and market linkages. The objectives of the plan are firstly to lower production costs, increase rice quality, enhance Thai rice competitiveness in the global market; secondly to balance the demand and supply through rice production zoning; and thirdly to lift farmers' income and ensure sustainable livelihoods from rice cultivation. The government earmarks some 5,409.12 million baht and borrows 12,519.43 million baht more for this scheme, which will benefit 236,155 farmer households. In 2019, the production costs per ton will be reduced by 3,000 baht per ton while the net income per household will increase by 27,235 Baht on average.





He added the Government currently helps farmers with measures to increase the income of small holder farmers by paying 1,000 baht per rai but not more than 15 rais per household with a budget of 40,000 million baht, measures to lessen the hardship caused by drought during 2014/2015 with a budget of 2,377.79 million baht and a project for income generation and agricultural development for farmer communities to reduce the impact of the drought by allocating 1 million baht to a total of 3,052 tambols (sub-districts).

In Thailand, the Rice Department and GIZ implement the BRIA project in collaboration with BASF (Thai) Limited and Bayer CropScience. BRIA has four components: training for sustainable rice production, awareness raising for sustainable production, post-harvest efficiency, market linkages and young agripreneurs.

Last year, BRIA and BASF launched the 'Farmers Love Safety' TV reality contest. Two teams of farmers from Ayutthaya and Suphanburi provinces took part in the contest, which focused on responsible and judicious use of crop protection products. They competed in disseminating such knowledge they had learned from experts at the Farmer School inside the Rice Department, to fellow farmers in surrounding communities. The show was aired on the SMILE Farmers program on Farm Channel. This year, the TV program will feature the concept of Integrated Crop Management (ICM) with a focus on seed management, soil management and crop nutrition, and crop protection.

In 2015, BRIA and the Rice Department will start to train farmers in Ubon Ratchathani. This activity is supported by Bayer CropScience. The achievement of this component will be measured using the following indicators: 80% of 300 lead farmers use their new knowledge on recommended farming practices in farmer trainings, 60% of 10,000 farmers trained apply recommended farming practices. Recommended training methods increase gross margin by 20% compared to provincial average.

# BRIA's First PIPA Workshop in Ubon Ratchathani Province

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn Better Rice Initiative Asia

Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) under the German Food Partnership (GFP), the Rice Department (RD) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and Bayer CropScience recently organized a multi-stakeholder workshop at the Regent Palace Ubon Ratchathani Hotel, to gather first-hand information about farmers' problems in preparation for BRIA's capacity building activities.

Mr. Kukiat Soitong, BRIA Consultant and Former Rice Promotion Specialist at the Rice Department, said the workshop, which was based on the Participatory Impact Pathways Analysis (PIPA), sought to empower participating farmers who were asked to identify and analyze matters of their immediate concern, and come up with 'better rice initiatives' for their own communities.

Apart from farmers from 8 targeted community rice centers (CRC), the workshop gathered participants from private and public organizations including rice mills, the rice research center, the rice seed center, the agricultural extension office, the non-formal and informal education office, local administrative organizations, the provincial cooperative office, the office of the commercial affairs, the chamber of commerce; and was facilitated by RD experts.

The participants were asked to assess issues ranging from selection of suitable rice seeds and rate, land preparations, appropriate planting time, water management to harvesting, post-harvesting, and transport and storage.

During the workshop, farmers raised such problems as soil analysis and fertility, lack of irrigation systems, quality rice seeds, proper use of organic and chemical fertilizers, farm record keeping and accounting, ploughing and turning over rice stubble. What farmers wanted to achieve is to lower production costs, increase yield, improve rice quality, grow seasonal rice crops and be linked to the market.

*"Bayer CropScience wishes to support BRIA's capacity building activities to train farmers in sustainable rice production. We are looking for opportunities to initiate activities that will benefit people in the Northeast. The outcome of the PIPA workshop, which brought farmers together, will determine the training materials,"* said Mr. Jumroon Supapol, Technical & Product Stewardship Manager, Bayer CropScience Business Group.



The participants also identified and linked major stakeholders in the rice value chain including farmers themselves, policy makers, production input and service providers, researchers, financial institutions as well as appraised their impact, influence and interest.

A CRC leader shared his center's achievement in signing an MoU with a local cooperative to distribute their rice while a participating farmer expressed his wish to produce quality rice and be the one who sells the produce.

Asst. Prof. Natchapol Samard of Ubon Ratchathani University observed a successful CRC should have a good community leader, ethical committee members with transparent management, cooperation among members, strong self-reliance, knowledge management both inside and outside the community and networking within and outside the community.

BRIA will select one of the CRCs as the nucleus for transfer of knowledge to the other seven, which will become its centralized network.

**“ What farmers wanted to achieve is to lower production costs, increase yield, improve rice quality, grow seasonal rice crops and be linked to the market. ”**

# BRIA and RD Kick Off 'Consultation' in Ubon Ratchathani Province

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn **Better Rice Initiative Asia**



Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) under the German Food Partnership (GFP) and the Rice Department (RD) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives in collaboration with BayerCropScience launched the 'Kick off Consultation' activity at Sunee Grand Hotel, Ubon Ratchathani Province, on 20 January 2015.

Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, made an opening speech on 'Government Rice Development Strategy and Policy' while Mr. Chanpithya Shimpalee, Director General of the Rice Department, delivered a key note speech on 'Rice Production Development Plan.'

Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai said BRIA promotes sustainable rice production and improved rice quality in South East Asia, which will contribute to the world food security in light of the growth of the current world population of seven billion to over nine billion people in 2050. This is in line with the Thai Government's policy. Rice is Thailand's important cash crop as the country is the world's top rice exporter and 6th largest producer. The BRIA project is beneficial to Thailand and implemented in 6 provinces including Ubon Ratchathani, Sisaket, Surin, and Roi Et in the Northeast and Ayutthaya and Suphanburi in the Central region.

The event also featured two discussion sessions in the afternoon. The first forum discussed the challenges and issues of the Thai rice value chain development covering such topics as the role of the rice community centers and farmers in contributing to the enhancement of the rice value chain, innovative technology to raise rice productivity, market linkages, rice by-product development, and access to investment funds for developing agribusiness models.

The second forum discussed integrated cooperation among the public and private sectors and farmers in order to achieve rice sustainability and focused on the government role and structure, government budget management, implementation by state agencies, driving government policies through agricultural cooperatives, roles of rice millers, rice traders and related agricultural associations.

Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, BRIA Regional Project Director, gave a summary on 'the Challenges, Operation, and Integrated Cooperation among the Public and Private Sectors and Farmers for the 'Better Thai Rice Industry.'

The participants in this meeting were rice farmers from targeted community rice centers (CRC) comprising 8 CRCs from Ubon Ratchathani Province, 5 CRCs from Sisaket Province, 5 CRCs from Surin Province and 7 CRCs from Roi Et Province as well as officials from local government agencies and stakeholders in the local rice industry.

Mr. Chanpithya Shimpalee also presented certificates of appreciation to the Rice Department officials who facilitated a multi-stakeholder workshop held earlier to encourage farmers and relevant stakeholders in Ubon Ratchathani to raise problems they faced and developed systematic ways to solve the problems and improve their livelihoods.



# Peer-to-Peer Learning Activities Held in Two Philippines Nexus Cities

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



A series of peer-to-peer learning activities were organized by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability Southeast Asia Secretariat (ICLEI SEAS) from 20-22 January 2015. This was done in partnership with the two Philippines nexus cities, Santa Rosa and Naga City as well as the Bicol State College of Applied Science and Technology (BISCAST).

Peer-to-peer learning is an approach employed by the Urban Nexus project as a means to facilitate easier understanding of integrated resource management. This is done primarily by drawing from the experiences of the different cities participating in the project. Such exchanges allow cities to identify best practices and strategies which may be replicated and customized to fit local context.

The activities brought together five nexus cities from four countries. Apart from the two Philippines cities, other Nexus cities represented included Da Nang, Vietnam; Chiang Mai, Thailand; and Tanjungpinang, Indonesia.


Following are the topics of the learning activities.

## **Gender and Development in Nexus**

The Nexus project commissioned a gender study for the two Philippines cities in mid-2014. Lead Nexus gender expert Ms. Anna Leah Sarabia explained that the study aimed to *“find out the interplay of development concepts with gender and social issues, and explore possibilities for the integration or mainstreaming of gender perspectives in integrated urban resource management and planning.”*

Initial findings proved that cities recognize the need for gender integration but are often unaware of how to do it. As such, an orientation workshop on gender and development was organized at SEDA Hotel Nuvali in Santa Rosa last 20 January. Some of the topics covered included basic gender concepts, initiatives at the international and local levels to address gender issues, Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), as well as gender analysis and integration in urban development.





Ms. Mary Ruby Palma, one of the resource speakers, shared that *“while the optimal stage to begin integrating gender is during the project design phase, gender can be addressed at any stage of the project cycle.”* She emphasized that *“it is never too late to ‘jump in’ and start working to address gender issues if you are serious about gender mainstreaming in your project per international and national mandates.”*

On the other hand, Ms. Sarabia noted that, *“gender issues are often entangled in a sociocultural and political system.”* Hence, the participation of delegates from other countries enriched the activity by sharing different contexts of how women and gender issues are perceived in their respective cities. As an exercise, participants were also asked to analyze their Nexus pilot projects to determine how gender considerations may be included.

### Clustering approach for watershed management

Host-city Santa Rosa took center stage during the second day highlighting the city’s planned low-cost housing project supported by Nexus; as well as its new initiative on the formation of an integrated watershed management council.

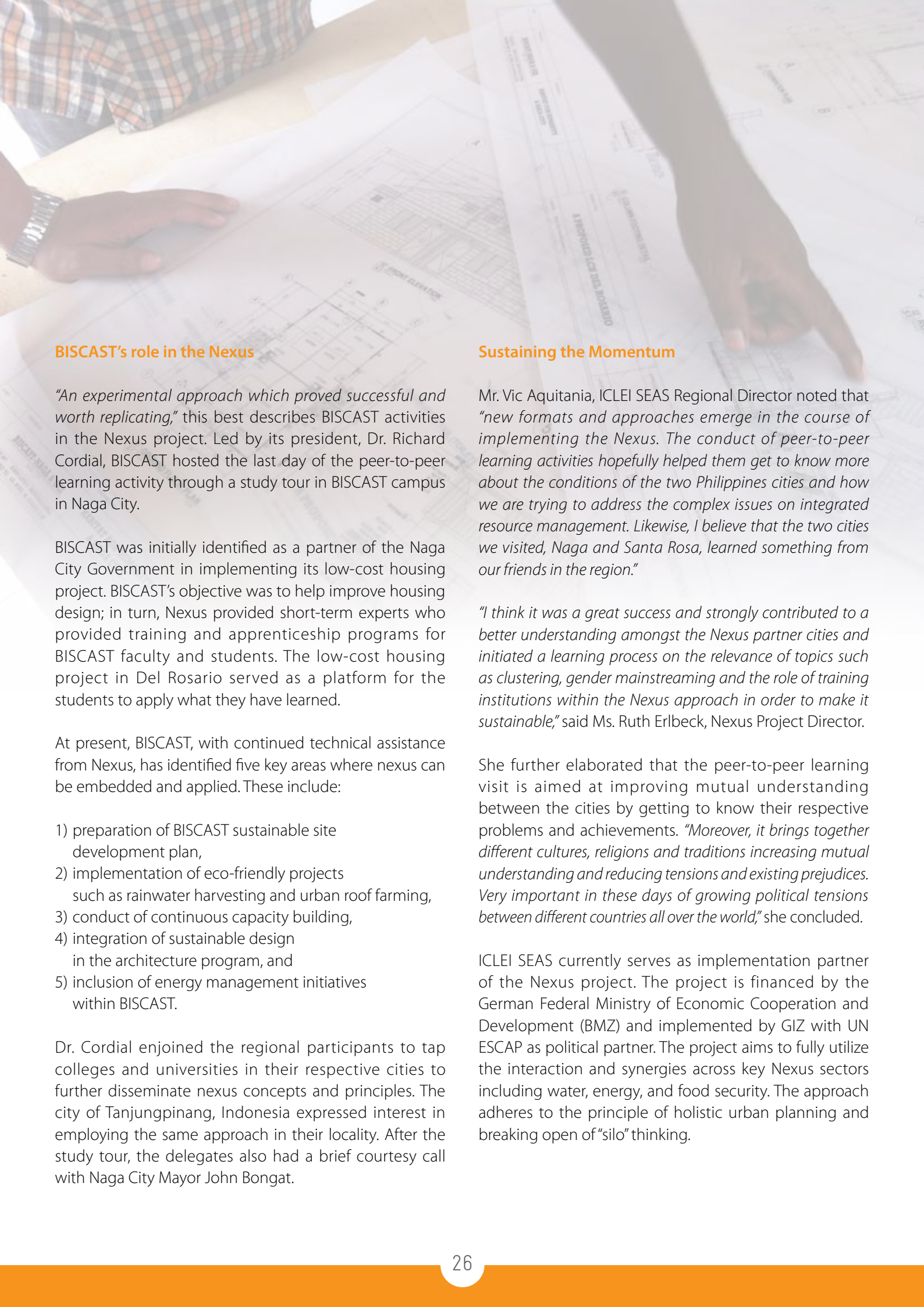
Hon. Mayor Arlene Arcillas of Santa Rosa graced the event and shared how Santa Rosa is pursuing economic development vis-à-vis environmental sustainability. She discussed the City’s Environment Code enacted in 2011 which details strategies, institutional mechanisms, and programs related to environmental protection and management. This Code also influenced, to some extent, the formation of an integrated watershed management council spearheaded by the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA).

LLDA is a quasi-government agency mandated to catalyze a climate change-sensitive Integrated Water Resource Management in the Laguna de Bay Region, with clear focus on preserving ecological integrity and promoting sustainable economic growth. Laguna de Bay is the largest lake in the Philippines and Santa Rosa is one of the cities’ along the lake.

LLDA representative Ms. Reena Buena of the Community Development Division shared that the clustering approach for watershed management marks a paradigm shift as the LLDA veers away from city-or municipality-based approach. Under this pilot initiative, the municipality of Silang in Cavite Province together with the cities of Santa Rosa, Cabuyao, and Biñan join hands in order to manage the Santa Rosa sub-watershed, which forms part of the larger Laguna de Bay watershed.

Some identified focus areas of the Council include ground water use and extraction, wastewater treatment, watershed conservation and protection, development of water quality management plan, and water supply and demand and utilization. As a potential next step and in close coordination with LLDA, a workshop involving relevant stakeholders of the Laguna de Bay region is envisaged to discuss issues concerning the watershed that may be addressed through clustering.

In conclusion, participants agreed that clustering is useful in addressing environmental concerns particularly for trans-boundary resources such as water. Clustering can also be effective for large-scale infrastructure projects. However, political and financial issues can sometimes be an area of concern. Delegates from Da Nang shared that clustering may be an effective approach to further boost the tourism sector in Central Vietnam.



## BISCAST's role in the Nexus

*"An experimental approach which proved successful and worth replicating,"* this best describes BISCAST activities in the Nexus project. Led by its president, Dr. Richard Cordial, BISCAST hosted the last day of the peer-to-peer learning activity through a study tour in BISCAST campus in Naga City.

BISCAST was initially identified as a partner of the Naga City Government in implementing its low-cost housing project. BISCAST's objective was to help improve housing design; in turn, Nexus provided short-term experts who provided training and apprenticeship programs for BISCAST faculty and students. The low-cost housing project in Del Rosario served as a platform for the students to apply what they have learned.

At present, BISCAST, with continued technical assistance from Nexus, has identified five key areas where nexus can be embedded and applied. These include:

- 1) preparation of BISCAST sustainable site development plan,
- 2) implementation of eco-friendly projects such as rainwater harvesting and urban roof farming,
- 3) conduct of continuous capacity building,
- 4) integration of sustainable design in the architecture program, and
- 5) inclusion of energy management initiatives within BISCAST.

Dr. Cordial enjoined the regional participants to tap colleges and universities in their respective cities to further disseminate nexus concepts and principles. The city of Tanjungpinang, Indonesia expressed interest in employing the same approach in their locality. After the study tour, the delegates also had a brief courtesy call with Naga City Mayor John Bongat.

## Sustaining the Momentum

Mr. Vic Aquitania, ICLEI SEAS Regional Director noted that *"new formats and approaches emerge in the course of implementing the Nexus. The conduct of peer-to-peer learning activities hopefully helped them get to know more about the conditions of the two Philippines cities and how we are trying to address the complex issues on integrated resource management. Likewise, I believe that the two cities we visited, Naga and Santa Rosa, learned something from our friends in the region."*

*"I think it was a great success and strongly contributed to a better understanding amongst the Nexus partner cities and initiated a learning process on the relevance of topics such as clustering, gender mainstreaming and the role of training institutions within the Nexus approach in order to make it sustainable,"* said Ms. Ruth Erlbeck, Nexus Project Director.

She further elaborated that the peer-to-peer learning visit is aimed at improving mutual understanding between the cities by getting to know their respective problems and achievements. *"Moreover, it brings together different cultures, religions and traditions increasing mutual understanding and reducing tensions and existing prejudices. Very important in these days of growing political tensions between different countries all over the world,"* she concluded.

ICLEI SEAS currently serves as implementation partner of the Nexus project. The project is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ with UN ESCAP as political partner. The project aims to fully utilize the interaction and synergies across key Nexus sectors including water, energy, and food security. The approach adheres to the principle of holistic urban planning and breaking open of "silo" thinking.

# Resilient Cities Asia Pacific 2015

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

# NEXUS



Organized for the first time, Resilient Cities Asia 2015, took place from 11-13 February 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand, as regional platform for urban resilience and climate change adaptation, providing innovative solutions for local governments.

GIZ Urban Nexus partnered with ICLEI Southeast Asia Secretariat, the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) and UN ESCAP to sponsor and organise two sessions in the Resilient Cities Asia Pacific 2015 exploring the nexus-resilience link.

The first session discussed the conceptual overview of the water-energy-food Nexus followed by the introduction of the GIZ Urban Nexus project presenting innovative solutions for waste water and solid waste to energy and agriculture.

It was confirmed that integrated resource management (holistic planning and implementation: the urban Nexus) supports Asian cities in their endeavour to create resilient cities. Resilient cities are “all inclusive cities” with Robust physical infrastructure (hard infrastructure) & Robust social infrastructure (soft infrastructure).

The second session focussed on exploring the linkages between the Water, Energy, Food (WEF) nexus and climate change adaptation. An introduction on how climate change affects the WEF nexus and, in turn, how the WEF nexus approach relates to climate resilience building were given.

The Nexus sessions were attended by more than 100 participants from different Municipalities from all over Asia.



# Integrating Climate Change with Development Policy

By Pimkarn Kattiyavong and Christoph Mairesse

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

Over the past decades climate change has grown into one of the most prominent policy issues all over the world. However, there is a remarkable disconnection between, on the one hand, the growing scientific knowledge of the causes and impacts of our changing climate and the pressing need for action, and the reaction or policy decisions taken as a consequence on the other. On a global scale, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and energy demands reach new heights year after year, driven for the most part by the accelerating growth of developing countries. Climate-induced losses and damage to our socio-economic systems and natural environment increase respectively as a result.

The main questions arising from this brief observation are:

- (1) How can we ensure economic growth while simultaneously reducing GHG?
- (2) How can we re-connect our understanding about climate change with policy decisions on climate action?

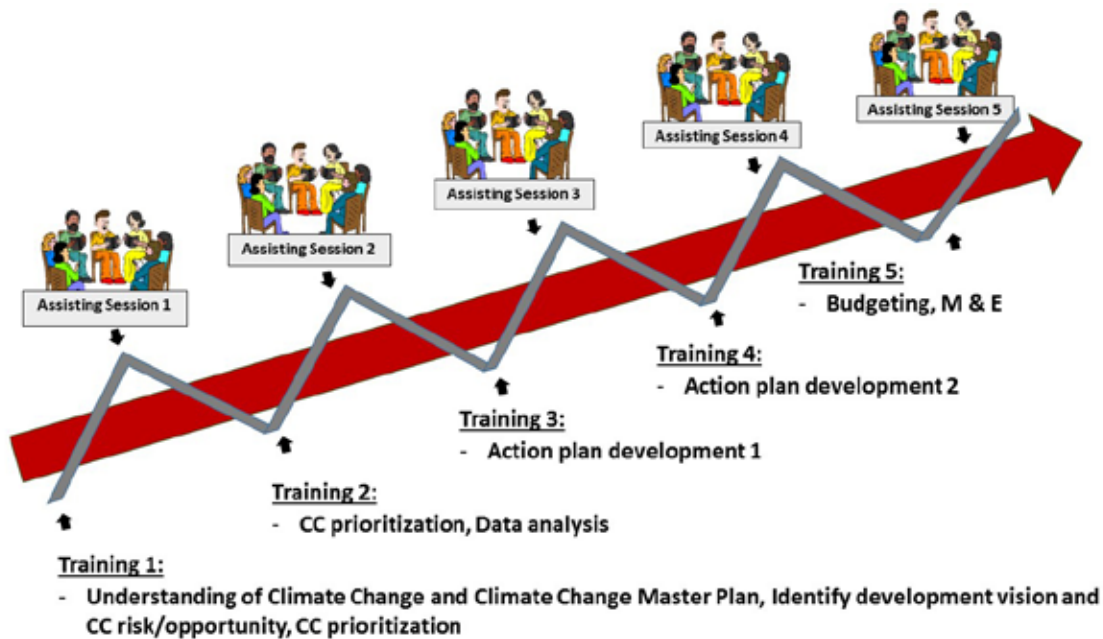
The answer to these questions lies in the integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation goals with development planning.

The project 'Support to the Development and Implementation of the Thai Climate Change Policy', financed through the International Climate Initiative of the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), together with its partner, the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), cooperates with partners at the subnational level in Thailand with the aim of integrating the provisions of the Thai National Climate Change Master Plan (CCMP) with provincial and municipal development planning.



Seventeen provinces and 32 municipalities were selected as partners based on such criteria as preparedness and motivation to participate, geo-physical characteristics, climate risks and potential impacts, development opportunities as well as economic development. The pilot provinces and municipalities represent a profile of the different geographical regions of Thailand. The project, together with ONEP, organized a launch event on 16 December 2014 in Bangkok with representatives from the national level, Regional and Provincial Environmental Offices, as well as from the selected municipalities. The project presented the CCMC and modular training programme approach that aims to assist provincial and local decision makers in realigning development planning processes.





The training course consists of a sequence of 5 learning modules of 3 days each that build on each other. The modules are completed by 5 assisting sessions scheduled between each learning module. The project will thus support the partners over a period of 1.5 years. Each training module will be organized in 4 rounds in the Central, Northern, North Eastern, and Southern Region of Thailand in order to ensure smaller groups of 20-30 participants that support peer-to-peer learning. The assisting session is designed as on-the-job training within the partner administrations so as to ensure that the knowledge from each training module is transferred to the working team in the provinces and municipalities. At the end of the training course, each area will have integrated climate change risks and development opportunities with their respective development plans.



The first module of training was successfully organized in the 4 regions during January - February 2015. The participants were introduced to the scientific background of the climate change issue, the Thai Climate Change Master Plan, the concept of sustainable development and given an initial introduction to integrated planning. Other issues addressed included how a vision and goals for sustainable development can be developed, the risks and impacts of climate change on the pilot areas, and the ways in which national and international support for climate change action can support the development goals of the pilot areas. In a final training session, the participants were supported in the prioritization of climate change issues (importance and urgency) in the pilot areas.

# The IKI Cooperation Meeting

By Johannes Langrehr

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



The Greek philosopher Aristoteles once said: *"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"*. How is that related to this article? Simply because this saying refers to the word "synergy" which can be translated as "working together" or -- to put it in other words -- "to cooperate".

**Cooperation** was also the scope of the IKI Cooperation Meeting held on 20 January 2015 in Bangkok and hosted by the IKI-funded *"Support to the Development and Implementation of the Thai Climate Change Policy Project"* or Connecting Climate Action, as it's known for short. This meeting gathers together International Climate Initiative (IKI)-financed projects from BMUB in Thailand twice a year and is designed as a regular get-together to exchange project progress and also Thai national climate change policy development on a more or less informal basis. The meeting is a valuable platform for the participants to find synergies on overlapping issues. By making use of synergies, IKI projects can work more efficiently and make use of already established networks and project experiences.

To ensure a productive discussion and knowledge exchange, the projects were separated according to their scope in climate change mitigation and adaptation groups. Mr. Mairesse and Mr. Mahler, project directors

of *Connecting Climate Action*, led the discussion as moderators. The Director of Climate Change Management and Coordination Division, ONEP, Mr. Prasert Sirinapaporn, presented the framework of Thai climate change policy and focused specifically on the National Climate Change Master Plan. ONEP staff were represented in each group discussion.

This first IKI Cooperation Meeting was a success, allowing project participants to exchange up-to-date information on national climate change policy, as well as the progress of the electronic cooperation platform 'IKIpedia', an online information platform introduced to strengthen project information sharing in the future. The cooperation meeting also led to further collaboration activities among IKI projects, among them the joint organization of workshops on NAMA Financial Mechanism, INDCs, and National Adaptation Planning.

Connecting Climate Action Team would like to thank all the projects for their active participation and is looking forward to the second get-together meeting which is scheduled for the end of 2015. For more information and a summary of the meeting, visit [www.thai-german-cooperation.info](http://www.thai-german-cooperation.info).

# Campaign 'Add Love into Air' for Chiang Mai Launched

By Manlika Sukitpaneenit Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region



Chiang Mai Municipality, one of twelve participating cities in the project '**Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region**', has launched the campaign '**Add Love into Air**' on the 17 February 2015. The campaign aims to reduce and mitigate air pollution as well as stimulate public awareness. Through this campaign, the municipality undertakes three measures: the enforcement of the prohibition of open burning, spraying on roads to prevent dust suspension, and road-side inspection for black smoke emitting vehicles. These clean air measures were proposed in the Clean Air Plan for Chiang Mai.

# Regional Workshop on Harmonization of Type I Eco-Labels in Selected ASEAN Countries through Common Core Criteria (CCC)

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



During 25-26 March 2015, PCD (Pollution Control Department), TEI (Thailand Environmental Institute) and the project successfully organized and facilitated the “Technical Workshop on Harmonization of Type I Eco-labels in selected countries of South East Asia through Common Core Criteria (CCC)” at Swissotel Nai Lert Park Bangkok, Thailand.

The main objective of this workshop was to develop and agree on CCC for the three products multifunctional printing devices, fluorescent lamps and fiber cement board. The identified common criteria can potentially lead to Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) or Multilateral Recognition Agreement (MLA) among Type I eco-labels in Thailand (Thai Green Label), Indonesia (Lembaga Indonesia Ekolabel), Malaysia (SIRIM Eco-Labeling Scheme) and the Philippines (Green Choice Philippines). This type of agreement enhances companies to get certified for market-relevant Type I eco-labels, as the alignment of criteria reduces costs and efforts for product certification.

During the workshop Dr. Ulf D. Jaeckel, Head of Division-Federal Ministry for Environment Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Germany shared experiences on the challenges and cooperation of German Blue Angel with other Type I Eco-labels concerning MRA.

During the technical sessions the proposed common criteria of the three mentioned products were presented and intensively discussed with the participants, including the ambitious level and verification methods.

As a result, the participants agreed with the identified common criteria. Furthermore, the countries, especially Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia showed highly interest to have MRA on the discussed products. After the identification and the discussions on the common criteria each country came up with an action plan in order to realize the MRA. The implementation of the action plans will be followed up by the SCP4LCE project.

A second objective of this workshop was to discuss with Dr. Ulf D. Jaeckel for BMUB (Germany) the opportunities for further cooperation within the framework of a new project (“Advance SCP”), which will follow after SCP4LCE. Therefore a policy dialogue was organized with the representatives from Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Each country gave valuable input on how the new project can support their countries needs.

The regional workshop was very successful with more than 30 participants from governmental agencies and Type I eco-label organizations from the projects focal countries in South East Asia region. The workshop supported intensive cooperation on SCP (Sustainable Consumption and Production), GPP (Green Public Procurement) and harmonization of eco-labels among the countries in the region. This will benefit to the upcoming ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).



# Standard for In-Company Trainers in ASEAN Countries

By Nalina Hiranprueck and Wanwadee Erawan  
Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region



On 6 February 2015, the Standard for In-Company Trainers in ASEAN Countries was officially announced to relevant stakeholders and the public. The event was jointly organized by the Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC) under the Thai Ministry of Education and the GIZ Project “Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region” commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Public and private sector representatives from 6 countries were present, including decision-makers from the related Ministries and associations, who saw the promising potential of the Standard to contribute to an improvement of national and regional skill development system and demonstrated intention to proceed with its implementation in their countries.

The Standard for In-Company Trainers for ASEAN Countries was developed by 60 experts who are representatives from both public and private sectors from 6 ASEAN countries, namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, in cooperation with GIZ Bilateral TVET Projects in respective countries and the “K to 12 PLUS Project” by Sequa GmbH in the Philippines. It was based on a complete participatory approach made possible through the organization of 4 workshops since September 2014 in which participants were encouraged to give inputs on the duties of in-company trainers. Accordingly, these were transferred into required competencies and topics to be included in the standard. The draft of the standard was developed on the basis of these inputs, commented and modified by the participants. In the final stage, the unanimous agreement on the standard was reached by all participants, prior to being presented it to the public.



“ The rationale behind the close involvement of national stakeholders in the development of the Standard for In-Company Trainers lies in the principles of acceptance and ownership in the local context which are believed to be major drivers for sustainability. ”

The rationale behind the close **involvement of national stakeholders in the development of the Standard for In-Company Trainers** lies in the principles of acceptance and ownership in the local context which are believed to be major drivers for sustainability. Matching the content of the standard to the regional demand and situation rather than using an existing standard developed elsewhere, ensures that the stakeholders involved in this process would integrate the Standard into their system. Thus, the ground is set for its implementation and sustainability in the region as a whole.

#### The Way Forward

At present the Standard for In-Company Trainers in ASEAN Countries has already been established and ready for implementation. However, some essential elements still need to be discussed, namely the Assessment, Quality Assurance, Certification System and the Implementation of Standard at the national and ASEAN level. Therefore, another workshop on the remaining issues is to be added up in March, with full participation of all the representatives to develop a broad recommendation at regional level and more specific one at each national level on how to assess and certify in-company trainers. Apart from this, the curriculum of In-Company Trainers is still to be worked out based on the developed standard by a group of experienced representatives. The implementation of standard would, then, start with Master Trainer Training in Lao PDR in May 2015 and training of in-company trainers by Master Trainers according to the standard in the second half of 2015. The performance of trained in-company trainers would then be assessed through pilot projects in selected companies before the end of 2015.

# GIZ ECOSWat Presents Ecosystem Services at SUMERNET

By Falk Momber and Wijittra Sansud

Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds



Mr. Roland Treitler, Project Director was cordially invited to be a guest speaker during SUMERNET - Sustainable Mekong Research Network. SUMERNET is an initiative for research and policy development bringing together research partners working on sustainable development in the countries of the Mekong Region: Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The event was organized in Bangkok, Thailand during 9-12 February 2015. Mr. Roland Treitler contributed by sharing GIZ knowledge on how biodiversity the services that are provided by ecosystems can contribute to sustainable development. Challenges such as ensuring supply, quality, as well as flood protection cannot be solved with modern technologies alone. Protection or restoration of ecosystem services in watersheds in order to use them for the development of people while contributing to the long-term conservation of water resources leads to economic growth as well as development of prosperity.



# Thai Officials Participate in Connective Cities Dialogue Event on Flood Management in Cologne, Germany

By Falk Momber and Wijittra Sansud

Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds



From 9-11 February 2015 GIZ-ECOSWat accompanied delegates from the Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) as well as Chiefs of Districts from Suan Pheung, Ratchburi and Tung Song, Nakhon Si Thammarat, to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Connective Cities Dialogue Event on Flood Management in Cologne, Germany. The Dialogue event connected international experts on flood prevention, flood protection and flood management. Mr. Chaiporn Siripornpibol, Inspector General, MNRE, gave a keynote speech on the challenges of flood management in Thailand, focusing on the severe flooding which occurred during 2011 and affected

13.6 million people. The Chiefs of Districts presented challenges with sedimentation management from their respective river basins in peer to peer sessions with international flood management experts. Further cooperation on different aspects of flood management between the Thai delegates and other representatives is currently being established.

The event was attended by representatives from municipal, state, and national institutions from Germany, Thailand, Brazil, Indonesia, China, the Netherlands, Serbia, Ireland and Pakistan.





# Vulnerability Studies of River Basins Form Basis for Future Flood Protection Measures

By Falk Momber and Wijittra Sansud

Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds

Dr. Hubert Lohr, expert on river hydrology, together with Khon Kaen and Walailak University, presented the results of a joint vulnerability assessment in ECOSWat pilot areas: Huay Sai Bat and Tha Di Sub River Basin. On 24-26 February 2015. The assessment provided a detailed overview what the effects of climate change-rising temperatures, unpredictable and extreme weather events-mean for the water supply of the river basins mentioned above. And what, in particular, will be the day-to-day impact for those living in the Huay Sai Bat and Tha Di Sub River Basins.

At the same time, the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics, Cologne University of Applied Sciences, started another vulnerability assessment in the Lam Pha Chi river basin. The results from both assessments will provide the framework for the design of river basin specific ecosystem-based adaptation measures.



# A Step Forward for a Transport NAMA in Thailand

By Rungtip Junlah, Nikola Stalevski, Papondhanai Nanthachatchavankul

Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation in the Land Transport Sector in the ASEAN region



On 14 January 2015, GIZ Transport and Climate Change (TCC) project together with the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP) and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) proposed the concept of People-Centred Urban Public Transport as a transport NAMA topic in the first meeting of the Working Group for Developing a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Proposal in Land Transport for Thailand. At the Working Group meeting, two broad mitigation policy packages were agreed for this transport NAMA which are:

**(1) Urban Public Transport Connectivity in Bangkok** aims to increase the accessibility of public transport stations by Non-Motorised Transport (walking and cycling), in other words, making multiple neighbourhoods in Bangkok more cycling- and walking-friendly.

**(2) Public Transport Management** intends to increase public transport ridership in urban areas, especially on buses. It will integrate Non-Motorised Transport accessibility with the on-going expansion of the mass rapid transport system, and pay particular attention to revamping the bus services (through integrated ticketing, rerouting and other measures).



With a very productive atmosphere, the Working Group (OTP, Bangkok Mass Transit Authority, Thai Traffic Police, Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand, State Railway of Thailand and Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization) actively participated in the meeting and agreed on the scope of NAMA proposal and decided to establish technical sub-working group(s).

In the next step, a sub-working group will provide support to elaborate the planned actions. The next phase will close with a finalised NAMA concept note, to be submitted for international funding consideration. Thailand has pledged to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to reduce emissions in the energy and transportation sectors between 7 to 20 percent by 2020. For more information, visit <http://newsroom.unfccc-newsroom/thailand-submits-nama>.

### Reference

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, 2014): Mitigation. <http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7172.php>. (accessed on 01.03.15)

### What is NAMA?

Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) refer to any action that reduces emissions in developing countries and is prepared under a national governmental initiative. NAMAs are supported and enabled by technology, financing, and capacity-building and are aimed at achieving a reduction in emissions relative to 'business as usual' emissions in 2020.

(UNFCCC, 2014)



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Pictures are taken by members of the programme

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