

Dear Reader,

The final quarter of 2009 has been dominated by the international climate negotiation conference in Copenhagen. The unsatisfying results so far, i.e. inability to come up with binding agreements for preventing further disastrous impacts on climate change, have once again shown us that at least five following success factors need to be in place: Good strategy, real cooperation among all stakeholders, clear and transparent processes, effective steering as well as learning & innovation during this "negotiation process".

During the next rounds in Bonn and later in Mexico (COP 16) this year, learning from Copenhagen will be most crucial. It's possible to say that as long as we understand this as a process of negotiation instead of cooperation, all efforts including political ones will fail, like they did last month.

Independent from the results of Copenhagen, the Thai-German cooperation is of course moving forward. Whether in the area of energy efficiency, renewable energy, climate policy, climate-friendly tourism, clean air, sustainable industrial development, sustainable palm oil, other sustainable consumption and production issues in combination with SME promotion, we are looking forward to existing and upcoming new challenges in 2010. We wish all of you a prosperous and healthy New Year.

With best regards

Your Newsletter Team

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## **“Sustainable Democracy”: H.E. Chuan Leekpai Speaking to Development Cooperation Agencies in Berlin**

On 30th November 2009, under the theme “How to Manage the Unmanageable: Supporting Political Steering for Development Results”, H.E. Chuan Leekpai gave a speech at the international conference organized by GTZ in Berlin, Germany. He was invited to make presentation on his personal views and experiences, especially during the time when he was Prime Minister and to elaborate the development of political management in Thailand during the past two decades. He also took part in the subsequent panel discussion on how to improve development cooperation by addressing issues of political steering.



As one of the most highly respected politicians by both his party colleagues, opposition and the general public, he has shown high concern for ensuring “sustainable democracy” development in Thailand and worldwide. In order to increase mutual support among international development cooperation and national development policies, he has urged, that political steering or management should always base on the public and people’s interest, and therefore, one should think of preventing and reducing the actions of so called “money politics”, when political steering is misused in order to pursue personal gains or interests of specific groups. He also pointed out, that strict alignment with “rule of law” is essential and must be the norm which everyone must follow. He further emphasized that in the long-term, this is the only way how a country would also benefit from development cooperation in the most efficient and effective manner. Sustainable democracy might not only be part, but also one of the most important prerequisites for sustainable development, also to ensure positive sustainable development impacts.

Besides being the conference's guest speaker of honour, H.E. Chuan Leekpai his delegation, which also included the spokesperson of the Democrat Party, Mr. Buranaj Smutharaks, also visited and exchanged ideas with various German and international institutions. Among them are Transparency International (on anti-



corruption concepts), the Bavarian State and City of Munich (on decentralization, public administration and climate policy), German Ministry of Finance (on tax distribution and tax income balancing among national and regional Governments), Potsdam Centre for Politics and Management of the Potsdam University (on decentralization and administrative reform issues, where Thai administration staff have already participated in training courses), and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs/SWP (on current Thai politics).

The delegation also visited an energy self-reliant community of Feldheim (who together with the company Energiquelle GmbH is producing electricity from wind and solar and also heat from biomass for own use and income generation by selling to the grid), the German railway authority (on its reform, and partly privatization process and their approach of being an integrated service provider in logistics and transport throughout Europe) and the science park “Adlershof”(with focus on role of state and cooperation between academic researchers and the private sector).

The delegation was also joined in Berlin by the Thai Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Charivat Santaputra to discuss further Thai-German cooperation potential, such as trade, politics, environment and tourism.

Especially in the field of energy efficiency and renewable

energy was intensively discussed. H.E. Chuan Leekpai also met Dr. Christoph Beier, the new managing director of GTZ as of 1st January 2010, and other high-ranking politicians during his visit.



## **GTZ Joined the Conference on “Joining Hands Against the Economic Crisis and Global Warming”, Staging Exhibits on Climate Protection.**



The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) held the Second National Natural Resources and Environment Conference at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Center (BITEC). Mr. Suwit Khunkitti, MNRE Minister, presided over the opening of the conference on “Joining Hands against the Economic Crisis and Global Warming”. The conference aimed to disseminate MNRE’s achievements and research results and identify

sustainable natural resources and environmental management approaches. Many of the conference participants were representatives from governmental agencies, private companies, NGOs and the general public.

The Climate Protection Policy Project participated in this conference by staging exhibits on GTZ’s previous and current climate protection projects, including the Climate Protection Policy Project and Climate Protection in Tourism. Besides the exhibits, there were edutainment programs including animated films and quizzes on climate change. The objectives of the exhibits were to publicize GTZ and its projects and to promote stakeholder participation and networking among governmental agencies, academic institutions, communities and NGOs. Most importantly, it was held to promote public awareness on climate change through entertaining and interactive media such as animated films and quizzes. Mr. Suwit Khunkitti, MNRE Minister and Mr. Saksit Tridech, MNRE Permanent Secretary also visited GTZ’s exhibits.

## **First Meeting of the Climate Protection Policy Project Steering Committee and the Project Taskforce**



The Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and GTZ convened the first meeting of the project steering

committee and the project taskforce on November 5, 2009. The meeting was aimed at discussing and soliciting comments on the project’s structure and planned activities. ONEP has already appointed the project steering committee and the project taskforce. The three key project components are 1) Developing knowledge on climate change policy development, both at national and local levels; 2) Developing institutional and personnel capacities for local implementation of the climate change policy and strengthening the capacity

for international cooperation; and 3) Raising awareness and mobilizing public participation. The project team then presented the detailed activities under the key components for the 3 years (2009-2011) to the Steering Committee. The committee’s resolutions and recommendations from the dialogue help sharpened the project’s scope of work for the project team, which will revise the work-plan accordingly.





## **The Climate Protection Policy Seminar “How Germany Develops and Scales Down its National Climate Adaptation Plan from Federal to State and to City: Bavaria State, Berlin State and Munich”**

The Climate Protection Policy Project, GTZ and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) held a seminar on “How Germany Develops and Scales Down its National Climate Adaptation Plan from Federal to State and to City: Bavaria State, Berlin State and Munich” on November 10, 2009. Ms. Araya Nontapotidech, ONEP Deputy Secretary-General, chaired and addressed the opening remarks of the seminar which aimed to strengthen institutional and personnel capacities in climate change policy development. One of the project’s goals is to support sharing of knowledge and information on climate change policy to Thai officials and agencies. The topics of the presentation by the four German climate change experts were as follows:



1. Development of National Climate Adaptation Plan by Mr. Clemens Hasse (Federal Environmental Agency on German Adaptation Strategies)
2. Implementation of Climate Adaptation Plan by the Bavarian State by Mr. Siegfried Heise (Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Public Health)
3. Development of Germany’s Environmental Plan and Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment in the Development of Climate Change Policy Including the Development of Environmental Atlas in Berlin by Mr. Andreas Faensen-Thiebes (Berlin Ministry of the Environment and Public Health)
4. Munich’s Environmental and Climate Change Policy Development and Stakeholders Participation in Local Policy Development by Ms. Rothenbacher Scholz (Director of Health and Environment Department, City of Munich)

Thailand’s administrative system is divided into 3 tiers: national, regional and local, which is similar to Germany’s. Hence the seminar was aimed to promote sharing of experiences and comments by German



experts who have direct experience in plan development and implementation at the national, regional and local levels. The German Climate Adaptation Plan was developed at the national level and implemented comprehensively at the regional and local levels. Moreover, there is a clear management plan to ensure that Munich is an eco-friendly city. This seminar was attended by about 200 representatives from governmental agencies, private organizations, academic institutions and interested persons. In addition to the seminar, the project team invited climate change experts from Germany and the European Union to participate in a meeting on November 11 with provincial and local administrative offices which are involved in climate change. The experts met with Dr. Wongpoom Wanasin, Advisor to the Vice Governor of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), Mr. Irawat Pattamasukhon, Department of Environment Director and Ms. Suwanra Jungrungrueang, Director of Policy and Planning Division, Department of Environment to share knowledge and experience in policy and planning development and to discuss potential cooperation on climate change.



On November 12, the 5th Regional Environmental Office (Nakhon Pathom) hosted a meeting and invited the experts to conduct a study trip to Nakhon Pathom. Approximately 60 representatives from relevant provincial and local offices, educational institutions, private organizations in Nakhon Pathom and Samut Sakhon provinces and the general public attended the meeting. On November 13, the experts went to Krabi to meet with executives of Krabi Provincial Office and Krabi Provincial Natural Resources and Environmental Office. Afterwards they visited Krabi mangrove forests and coastal areas on the Andaman Sea, which are vulnerable to severe coastal erosion.



## Climate Protection Policy Seminar: Climate Change Adaptation on Water Resources Management and Flood Prevention

Thailand has long experienced water-related problems, such as floods and droughts, which have significantly affected its economic, social and environmental development. Water-related problems have many causes, requiring different preventive and mitigation measures. Since climate change will intensify water-related and water management problems, Thailand needs to accelerate the development of water-related knowledge to create a basis for policy decision making and the development of appropriate adaptation measures. Water-related policy development and implementation have a wide impact on many sectors, including domestic agriculture, industry and services, water sources conservation, water and forest resources and biodiversity, disaster prevention and mitigation. Moreover, water is an important source of renewable energy. Hence, the Climate Protection Policy Project, a joint project by GTZ and Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), held a seminar on "Climate Change Adaptation on Water Resources Management and Flood Prevention" on November 17, 2009. Two water resources management experts from Germany and Thailand, Dr. Anton Steiner (Bavaria State Ministry of the Environment and Health) and Dr. Sutat Weesakul (Asian Institute of Technology), were the guest speakers of the seminar.



This seminar is a venue for knowledge and experience sharing on knowledge-based policy development and

implementation, which require a comprehensive approach. In the presentation session, Dr. Anton Steiner presented "Bavaria State Water Resources Management and Flood Prevention" and the outcomes of effective measures resulting from this. Afterwards Dr. Sutat Weesakul



Dr. Sutat Weesakul

presented climate change adaptation on water resource management and the economic impact analysis of rising sea level on Thailand. The seminar, attended by approximately 180 representatives from public and private organizations and academic institutions, provided an excellent opportunity to share lessons learned and strengthen the linkage between Thailand and Germany.

Moreover, on November 18, Dr. Anton Steiner conducted a study trip to Samut Sakhon Province and participated in the third meeting on "Climate Change Adaptation in the Tha Chin River Basin", organized by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and met with the Thai Climate Change stakeholders. The meeting was a venue to share viewpoints on local situations and future collaborative initiatives on climate change adaptation,



mitigation of coastal erosion and degradation of local resources and environment. Around 30 representatives from relevant organizations participated in the meeting.

On November 19, the technical expert met with Mr. Royol Chitradon, Director of the Hydro and Agro Informatics Institute (HAI) and Mr. Surajate Booya-Aroonnet, Head of the Model Team to share experiences and information on the development of the climate change adaptation plan and measures on water resources management and flood prevention. HAI was established by the initiative of HM the King. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the Royal Development Projects Board (RDPB), Thailand Research Fund and HAI collaboratively develop water sources by using information technology to collect supportive water resources and agricultural data for the

development of the national water resource management plan and policy.



## **Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Factories through Integrated Efficiency Improvement: Energy, Environment and Safety**

“Energy Efficiency in Medium-sized Enterprises”, a collaborative project by Department of Industrial Works (DIW) and German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), is aimed at the development and application of integrated approaches to improve energy efficiency, pollution prevention and control and safety enhancement. The five pilot industries are glass, ferrous casting, aluminum casting, canned food and textiles.



Implemented activities include the development of integrated practice guidelines for the five pilot industries with technical support from German experts.

Currently the experts, DIW officials, specialists and operators in each industry are transferring know-how and sharing experiences. In the next step, the German experts will disseminate information in the guidelines through capacity building of DIW authorities, provincial industrial officers and engineering consultants in

academic institutions to pass on the knowledge to participating factories in the pilot industries.

Between September and December 2009, five teams of German experts conducted situation analysis on production, energy consumption, environmental control and management and work safety in the pilot industries. In addition, they conducted factory visits, provided preliminary recommendations to participating factories and transferred appropriate techniques and practices on energy, environment and safety to the five pilot industries.





## Program Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Initiative in Tourism: Global and Thailand Initiatives



GTZ, Designated Area for Sustainable Tourism Administration (DASTA), Ministry of Tourism and Sports (MoTS) and World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) jointly held a colloquium on “Program Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Initiative in Tourism: Global and Thailand Initiatives” on November 5, 2009. It was attended by 40 representatives from both public and private tourism-related agencies, including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), MoTS, Tourism Authority of Thailand, Thai Hotels Association, banks, and other organisations. Mr. Pongsakarn Piamsuthitham from the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC) and Ms. Sibylle Kabisch from Adelphi Consult made a presentation on the progress of the German Programme for Energy Efficiency in Kho Khao (PEEK) which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by local tourism businesses (hotels and resorts), communities and other stakeholders. The project provides consultancy and advisory support on energy efficiency and renewable energy technology, investment and procurement of energy efficient equipment and renewable energy

technology. Afterwards the project’s consultant Dr. Christopher Oates gave a presentation on “Compilation of Tourism Standards and the Development of Standards for the Thai Tourism Sectors (Hotels and Tourism Establishments)”. This colloquium was aimed to share their work experiences and identify tourism development, nature and energy conservation approaches which comply with various standards. These approaches will enable tourism operators to implement tourist-centered activities that meet their needs, with awareness of and adaptation to the green tourism movement. The speaker compiled a list of standards in tourism establishments and destinations, discussed and sought appropriate approaches for the development of Thai tourism standards. The standards will provide tourists with added value and increased choices of quality goods and services and opportunities for tourism operators who comply with international standards. This approach will eventually lead to sustainable tourism.



## Carbon Footprint Baseline Study of Households and Tourism Establishments in Koh Chang and Sea of Trat Designated Area



GTZ and Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (DASTA), under the Climate Protection in Tourism Project, held a colloquium on “Carbon Footprint Baseline Study of Households and Tourism

Establishments in Koh Chang and the Sea of Trat Designated Area” at the DASTA Office in Trat on November 6, 2009. Primary and secondary data collection through questionnaires was carried out by the Graduate School of Public Administration Team, Burapha University. Target groups of the study were tourism operators (hotels, resorts, restaurants, etc.) and homeowners. The data analysis framework was designed by Adelphi Consult of Germany. Dr. Nantawan Intachart and her team and Ms. Sibylle Kabisch jointly presented the research results to approximately 30 colloquium participants, consisting of representatives of governmental agencies in Trat

province, Tumbol Administrative Offices and Trat Tourism Association.

This carbon footprint data collection was implemented to raise awareness on climate change with the following objectives: 1. To compile primary and secondary data for the carbon footprint baseline calculation in the target area. Collected data included energy consumption (quantity and sources), type and mode of transportation, meals, lodging and tourism activities on Koh Chang, Koh Good, Koh Maak and Trat coastal area. This is based on both the type and quality of services, tourists' behavioral patterns and satisfaction. 2. To conduct a survey on tourists' awareness and understanding on climate change.

Results of the baseline study indicated that the largest energy consumers on Koh Chang are households and tourism operators (hotels, resorts and restaurants).

Energy sources are primarily electricity and diesel. Most tourists travel by private vehicles. Local administrative offices are responsible for solid wastes management in the target areas. Most people get climate change information from television. The colloquium enabled representatives of governmental agencies and tourism operators to discuss, share experiences and comment on the research findings. The project team, the research team and the consultant team will incorporate the information and recommendations from this event in the planning and tool design. The aim is to enable project stakeholders to apply them in decision making and formulating effective and practical development plans for Koh Chang and Sea of Trat Designated Area, contributing to greenhouse gas emission reduction, green and sustainable tourism.

## Thailand's participation in RT7 in Malaysia



The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) held its 7<sup>th</sup> Stakeholder meeting (RT7) from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, attracting more than 800 participants from the palm oil industry and from NGOs, financial institutions as well as government representatives. The four days of intensive discussion, workshops and progress reports concluded with the 6<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of RSPO members. Hot topics during the meeting were the uptake of certified sustainable palm oil in the market, climate change issues and their relevance for RSPO and the challenges in enabling the certification of smallholder oil palm growers.

One highlight for Thai participants was the presentation on the National Interpretation of RSPO (NI) in Thailand. Khun Sanin Triyanond, secretariat of the Thai National Interpretation Working Group (NIWG) and Director of Patum Vegetable Oil Co., Ltd., gave an overview on the Thai palm oil industry, explained the current status and

process of the Thai NI and presented the specific issues for Thailand. His speech was an eye-opener for those participants who had never looked at palm oil production outside of Malaysia and Indonesia. It became clear that although there are many common challenges and interests, in Thailand different circumstances and issues for sustainable palm oil production need to be taken into account. This is also why the adaptation of the RSPO Principles and Criteria to the Thai context, which is carried out in a transparent stakeholder process by the Thai NIWG, is of great importance to enable Thailand to catch up with other countries and receive certification for sustainable palm oil production. The participation of the Thai NIWG in RT7 as well as the whole process of the Thai NI is supported by the GTZ Project on Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bioenergy in Thailand.

The Thai participants were especially interested in the presentations and discussions on smallholder certification. Palm oil production in Thailand depends for more than 90% of its raw material on smallholders who cultivate around 75% of the total area planted with oil palm in Thailand. In comparison to the smallholders of the main oil palm producing countries, most Thai smallholders are completely independent and do not work in outgrower schemes. That means they are free to choose where to sell their fruit, they can negotiate on the prices and only seldom are organized in groups. This structure of the sector poses a real challenge for certification to RSPO, which requires traceability of the fruit and joint marketing. But as the RSPO is committed to make its standard applicable by smallholders as well, several working groups are developing specific



Principles and Criteria for independent smallholders and test models for group certification. In Thailand this issue is addressed by the GTZ Palm Oil Project and several activities to enable smallholder access to sustainability certification are planned.

During four days of intensive lectures and discussions the Thai participants were able to inform themselves about the current issues and developments in RSPO. They returned home well prepared to continue their efforts on making RSPO certified palm oil a reality in Thailand in the near future.



## Winners of Short Film Contest

“ThaiDocs 2009 Short Documentary Award Thailand Project”, a joint project by GTZ, Goethe Institute, Thai PBS, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and Thai Film Foundation recently announced the winners of the short documentary competition on “Climate Change – Changing My Life”. The first prize winner, the “CCT” team from Uttaradit Rajabhat University, presented “Future”, portraying the impacts of climate change: natural disasters, diseases and illnesses affecting millions of people. Children, the future of the country, are most vulnerable because they suffer from harmful environmental impacts from the time of conception. Team “TJ” from Srinakharinwirot University won the second prize from “World Fuel”, depicting the daily routine of a Huai Khwang District garbage collector and the amount of wastes he collects each day. Since garbage contributes to climate change, the documentary was aimed at increasing public awareness on garbage separation, reduction and recycling. The third prize winner was the team “Pooh’s Peer” from Silpakorn University. The “Journey of a Plastic Glass” showed the value of small things that can be reused in many creative ways to reduce waste and environmental problems.

The short documentary contest was aimed at providing opportunities for young people to show their talents, reflect their ideas and concerns on current environmental problems and their impacts on the society and increase awareness on climate change prevention and mitigation.



- Mr. Daniel May, Director of Sustainable Palm Oil for Bioenergy Project, GTZ Thailand with the winner team

## Well on its way: Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region!

Ports are a substantial economic factor in the ASEAN region. As the traffic in the ports in the region continues to grow despite the current economic crisis, port authorities and operators are beginning to realise the impact their activities have on the environment and the people living in the vicinity. The concentration of shipping, port operation and development activities in a relatively small area represents serious safety hazards and risks of environmental deterioration.



In 2008 the ASEAN Secretariat submitted a project proposal for a 3-year project named **"Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region"** which was accepted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ). The principal objective of the project is to assist the selected ports to comply with international environmental and safety standards and to achieve quality, efficiency and sustainability in port environmental and safety management. The project covers ports in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia. This project is one of the two new projects currently carried out in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat. Following the start of the regional project **"Clean Air for Smaller Cities"** in the beginning of the year the port project is the second regional project.

To us, Sustainable Port Development means that the project does not just cover single issues such as safe handling of dangerous goods or environmental management. It is also addressing sustainable development for the ports and the establishment of related training capacities in the region. Through a systematic approach working with the individual ports and addressing their specific needs, and the development of training activities for a wider audience in each of the countries, we are aiming to develop Capacity for Development.

Since August 2009 the project team been located at the headquarters of the Port Authority of Thailand (PAT) in Bangkok. However team members travel frequently

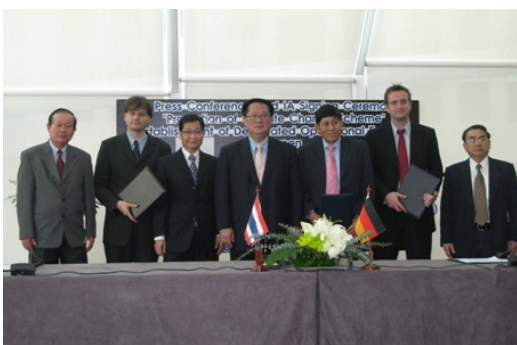
throughout the region to ensure close contacts with the ASEAN Port Association (APA), in Manila, and the port authorities and ports in other countries.

At the time of writing, nine ports in five countries have been selected to actively participate in the project: Cambodia: Sihanoukville Autonomous Port and Phnom Penh Autonomous Port; Indonesia: Port of Tanjung Priok and Port of Tanjung Perak; Philippines: Port of Iloilo and Port of Cagayan de Oro; Thailand: Bangkok Port and Laem Chabang Port; and Vietnam: Saigon Port). We are looking forward to news on the nomination of two ports in Malaysia.

In January 2010 we will organise the first international workshop of the project in Bangkok during which experts and managers of the participating ports will discuss the approach, strategy and future activities of the project in close cooperation with the Partnership in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA).



## DIW, GTZ and MASCI Jointly Promote Energy Efficiency in SMEs via CDM



The Department of Industrial Works (DIW), Management System Certification Institute (Thailand) (MASCI) and GTZ are jointly implementing the 'Promotion of Climate Change Scheme' to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy in Thai SMEs in the agricultural sector. Project activities focus on

supporting development of clean development mechanism (CDM) projects with carbon trading incentives. Target of the two year project, to run from October 2009 to September 2011, is the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent annually. The project will implement a climate protection scheme to support SMEs in gaining financial access by developing and bundling small-scale, low emission reduction CDM projects, the so called "Programme of Activities" (PoA). Under this joint initiative, GTZ will support participating SMEs to gain access to international financing by providing financial and technical assistance on CDM project development – ranging from project documentation, evaluation to application. Moreover, GTZ will focus on MASCI capacity development, enabling the agency to gain accreditation from the UNFCCC Executive Board, to reduce the costs incurred by international Designate Operational Entity (DOEs).

## GTZ International Services (GTZ IS)'s Carbon Procurement Unit (CPU) in India expanded its opportunities to foster sustainable development in Thailand

CPU India has recently expanded its opportunities to foster sustainable development to Thailand through the support of GTZ Thailand. CPU India has entered into five CDM contracts in Thailand to support the project owners in complying strictly with the criteria established under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) scheme and supporting them throughout the CDM project cycle to generate the Certified Emission Reduction (CER) units. The project activities refer to renewable projects that will reduce Greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions which are supplemental to normal business activities through implementation of biomass operated power plants in different locations in Thailand. The projects collectively are estimated to reduce GHG emissions by 180,000 tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2e</sub>) per annum.

The Carbon Procurement Unit (CPU) of GTZ International (GTZ IS) was established in September 2007 to form an intermediary for CDM based-carbon trading between India and Germany. As a further step to comply with the GTZ's general vision to foster sustainable development worldwide and to strengthen the capacity of the region's CDM efforts, the CPU supports India and German parties in jointly implementing CDM projects and commercialising the resulting Certified Emissions Reduction units. CPU identifies planned or on-going projects that reduce GHG emissions and which comply strictly with the criteria established under the CDM scheme.

## National Innovation Agency, Local Administrative Office and GTZ Jointly Promote Bioplastic Bags for Organic Waste Disposal in Samut Songkhram



The National Innovation Agency (NIA), Thai Bioplastics Industry Association (TBIA), Tambol Kra Dang Nga Municipality, Samut

Songkhram, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP), BASF (Thai) Co. Ltd. and GTZ held a press briefing on "Bioplastics Bags to Rid Organic Wastes Pilot Project" on December 2, 2009. Tambol Kra Dang Nga Municipal, Bang Khonthi District, Samut Songkhram Province was selected as the pilot area due to its DEQP-endorsed ecotourism initiative. The trial project aims to educate community members on garbage separation and provide them with bioplastics bags. The duration of the project is 6 months (October 2009 – March 2010).

Bioplastics are futuristic materials and innovations because they are eco-friendly and produced from renewable agricultural products, such as sugarcane, cassava, etc. Moreover, the production process is more energy-efficient than that of oil-based plastics. Since bioplastics are biodegradable, they can reduce the amount of plastic waste entering the environment.



## Bioplastics Policy Study : Potential Instruments for an Environmental Policy Related to the Promotion of Bioplastics Production and Consumption

"Building the infrastructure" is one of the four strategies set out as a framework for accomplishing the aims of the national road map for development of the Thai

bioplastics industry, that is to driving the investment in the bioplastics industry and the development of the bioplastics market in Thailand. In order to lay the key



foundation for this strategy, environmental policy and rules or regulations related to the promotion of bioplastics production and an increased use of bioplastics are to be implemented. In pursuing this initiative, the National Innovation Agency (NIA), a lead operating agency responsible for the implementation of the national bioplastics road map, Thai Bioplastics Industry Association (TBIA), and German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) have jointly supported an environmental policy study with the aims of exploring and evaluating environmental policy instruments which are currently used worldwide to promote the use of bioplastics and to provide recommendations based on this study for Thailand to take into consideration when drafting such a policy.



GTZ commissioned nova-Institut GmbH, KNOTEN Weimar GmbH, and Fraunhofer-Institute UMSICHT to undertake this study which took two months (September-October 2009) to be completed. The global overview and analysis of potential instruments and the instruments that have been currently implemented in Germany, France, Great Britain and other EU countries, the USA, Asian countries (China, India, Bangladesh, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Japan), and other countries (South Africa, Eritrea, Ruanda, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, parts of Tanzania, and Australia); end-of-life options for bioplastics; analysis and assessment of the new draft of the Thai waste directive; and recommendations on potential instruments for the support of bio-based plastics in Thailand were covered in the study. The study results were shared with about 70 stakeholders from both the

public and the private sectors and other agencies concerned, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Windsor Hotel.



From this study, several instruments in use worldwide and prospective instruments were identified as: rules and bans, set targets and quotas, CO<sub>2</sub> trading, taxation instruments, direct financial support, voluntary negotiated agreement, research and development support, information and communication support, and cross-sectoral instruments. Of these instruments, the support of research and development, which will optimize the whole process chain of bio-based plastics production, is suggested as an important political instrument for the support of bio-based plastics in Thailand. Other instruments such as the reduction and prevention of waste and littering, bans and rules, taxation system, and set targets or quotas are efficient for the reduction of waste and littering. However, there are many possible side effects when applying bans and rules; and some parameters, such as the recycling compatibility of bioplastics with mixed ingredients, need to be considered when employing the set targets and quotas instrument. Regarding the consideration of support for bio-based products, especially bioplastics, innovation, and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, a cross-sectoral instrument is recommended as the most effective alternative. The results of this study and the recommendations made from these study results will form the basis for further study on political instruments and economic measures for the promotion of bioplastics production and consumption in Thailand by the Petroleum and Petrochemical College of Chulalongkorn University. The results of this policy study will be proposed to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment for supporting and accelerating the development of the national bioplastics industry.

## Placement at Fraunhofer Venture

As a part of capacity development under the project "Mapping and Matching Innovation in selected Agro Sub Sectors" [www.thaiagroinnovation.com](http://www.thaiagroinnovation.com), GTZ coordinated the placement of two Thai delegates for a 2 week traineeship at Fraunhofer Venture, Munich Germany in October/November 2009. The delegates

are sponsored by its mother organizations, the Technology Management Center of National Science and Technology Development and Prince of Songkla University, Southern Science Park Development.

Fraunhofer Venture ( FhG-V) is the unit of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft responsible for promoting the commercialization of 57 Fraunhofer Institutes' research, technology development and innovation through spin-off activities. It acts as partner, supporting company founders and new start up companies, providing services in the areas of business foundation, technology, financing and portfolio management. These include business plan development, selection of legal form and contracts, access to financing and partner

and industry cooperation as well as company management. The FhG-V consists a team of experts from the fields of business administration and contract law. During the traineeship at Fraunhofer Venture, the Thai participants were able to gain insights into the overall work process and business of the Venture Gruppe. Information and experiences were shared and exchanged, and Mutual understanding has developed which has expanded the potential for future cooperation.

## **TOTA and GTZ Co-hosted a Seminar to Strengthen Thai Entrepreneurs' Capacity on International Standards on Organic Agricultural Production**

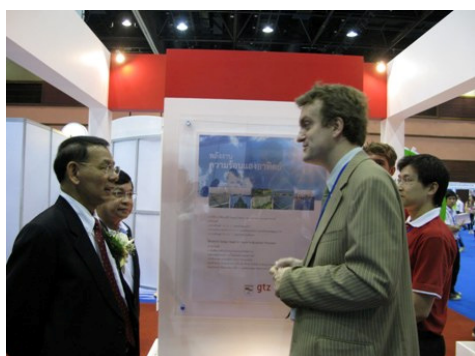


Thai Organic Trade Association (TOTA) and GTZ have jointly developed a project to promote Thai organic fruits and vegetables. The project took applications for the seminar on "Elementary Course for Organic Entrepreneurs" in September 2009. The two rounds of the seminar, which were held on October 10-12 and November 9-11, covered the overview of organic agricultural production and marketing, organic standards and verification, organic extension services, public and private policies, organic project development and the organic supply chain management. More than 50 organic entrepreneurs participated in the seminar.

Following the seminar, the project selected 10 potential enterprises to prepare them for the international organic certification including Doi Kham Food Products Co. Ltd., South East Asia Organic Co. Ltd., and Northern Longan SME. They will be enrolled in the international organic incubation program, which provides intensive training and consultation on organic farming, study trips, monitoring and evaluation, consultation on certification application, etc. The project has appointed Earth Net Foundation to undertake this task for the period of 1 year.



## **GTZ Exhibit at Thailand Energy Day 2009**



The Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE) held the Thailand Energy Day 2009 to honor HM the King, to educate the general public on energy conservation and to campaign for renewable energy on November 13-15. GTZ and more than 50 other public and private organizations participated in the event by staging exhibits on innovative renewable energy achievements and services. The Energy Minister, H. E. Wannarat Channukul, presided over the opening of the event and visited the GTZ booth.

## Biogas Train-the-Trainer, Capacity Building for Efficient Operation



Launched in November 2009, the M2P Biogas Project in Thailand is now moving ahead at full speed to increase production capacity of Thai biogas operators. Through efficient operation, greater biogas yields can be realized which results in higher energy production and reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. GTZ, in partnership with the Energy Research and Development Institute (ERDI) of Chiang Mai University, is working to improve biogas systems in Thailand through operator training. The training course will be jointly developed by partners and alliances in the M2P Biogas Project from all stakeholders in the biogas sector including private companies, academic institutes and government agencies such as the Ministry of Energy (MoEN) the and Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MNRE). The operator training planned for 2010-2011 aims at improving the capacity of more than 300 biogas operators in Thailand. Trained operators will be listed in the online database that will serve as a job market place as well as a first step to the Certified Operator

Scheme. The operators will be required to take an examination every year to retain their certification.

Prior to the operator training, the trainers were trained in Germany at Knoten Weimar Institute during the first week of December 2009. Twenty representatives from the project alliances participated in the one-week training in the train-the-trainers course which included biogas policy and development in Germany, current technology and trends, safety and environmental regulations, online monitoring and process control in biogas plants. The training has not only increased capacity for participants but has also led to cooperation between Thai and German institutes in research and development. Exchange of biogas researchers and students between Thai universities and Weimar was discussed and possible further cooperation activities to be realized during the project time frame.



## China-Thai-German, Tri-operation in Best practice Biogas Training, Beijing China

In Asia biogas technology is developing rapidly. The GTZ Beijing Office, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture (FECC, MoA) and the China Agricultural University (CAU) jointly organized a 3-day training workshop following the ORBIT conference from November 19-24 in Beijing. The workshop was targeted at design institutes to assist in improving technology planning for middle-to-large scale plants. It was attended by more than 100 participants both from biogas design companies in China and in other countries, including 6 companies from Thailand.

This first cooperation between China, Thailand and Germany in renewable heat and power sources has a promising future for biogas development in the Asian region. The biogas situation in both China and Thailand is similar: with feedstock mainly from animal manure,

important issues are composting and fertilizer as well as efficiency improvement of plant operation. Both of the biogas projects in China and Thailand are targetted at capacity building in the biogas sector, and there will be more training-related activities throughout the next 2 years in Thailand and the next 5 years in China.







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GTZ is part of the  
German Development Cooperation

Pictures are taken by members of the programme.

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