

Newsletter of Bangkok-based projects by GIZ and partners
Issue # 22 July-September 2012

www.thai-german-cooperation.info

Dear Readers,

As many of you already know, GIZ and its partners have started three new projects related to sustainable consumption and production. The projects, funded by the European Union and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, are in line with the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan, NESDP (2012-2016), which suggests a focus on the development of a low-carbon society and green growth to mitigate the environmental and climate change crisis. In this issue, we are pleased to introduce the three projects, which cover SCP policy support, green supply chains in the automotive industry as well as green public procurement and eco-labeling.

As usual, you will also be updated about the progress of GIZ's other projects. We hope the information will be useful to you.

With best regards,
The newsletter team

News & Features

Special Feature

Page 1 – 3

What is SCP and Why SCP projects?

Special Interview

Page 4

Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy Project

Tips & Tricks

Page 5

Do you know...?

RoundUp

Page 6

SCP Policy Project Joins World Environment Day

Page 6

Germany Supports Indonesia in Promoting Sustainable Production in Horticulture

Page 7

ASEAN Biocontrol Project Attends Horticultural Exhibition in Medan

Page 7

ECO-BEST Joins an Ecological Economics Forum on International Day for Biological Diversity

Page 8

ECO-BEST Joins the Community Tree Bank in Holding Tree Registration Software Tutorials

Page 8

ECO-BEST and NESDB Hold a Forum to Share Knowledge about Payment for Ecosystem Services

Page 9

ECO-BEST Project Introduction in Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Page 10

GIZ Holds Environmentally Sound Management of Chemical Waste in Laboratory

Page 10

Fifth Regional Project Meeting Demonstrates the Progress of the Sustainable Port Development Project

Page 11

One Step towards Energy Efficiency Development in Thailand

Page 11

Strengthening Cooperation in Solar Market and Improving Quality System

Page 12

Climate Protection in Tourism Project Extension

Page 12

Discussion on Further Thai-German Cooperation on Palm Oil Project

Page 12

Thai Smallholder Groups – A World First in Achieving Sustainable Palm Oil Production Certification

Page 13

Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project Transferred Know-How to Stakeholders of the Oil Palm and Palm Oil Production Systems

Page 14

GIZ and ONEP Hold Policy Implementation Workshop

Page 14

GIZ Organizes an Excursion to Germany to Strengthen ONEP's Capacity in Climate Change Implementation

Page 15

Stakeholder Workshop for Draft Work Plan/Activities under the Climate Protection Policy Project ONEP-GIZ

Page 15

ONEP Holds Public Consultation Workshops on the Draft of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050

Page 16

TICA-GIZ Planning Workshop for Programme Activities

Page 16

Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project

Page 17

Project on Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices in Lao PDR

Page 18

Training on Saa (Mulberry) Paper Production and Posaa (Mulberry Bark) Harvesting

Special Feature

What is SCP and Why SCP projects?

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) is linked to environmental and climate change. The important feature of SCP is the integration of Sustainable Production (SP) on the supply side of human economic activities, and Sustainable Consumption (SC) on the demand side. SCP as a concept demonstrates that the production related emissions are connected to a variety of consumption patterns, which, as a market force, is driving climate change as well. This side of the coin, i.e. changing consumer behaviour, also needs to be addressed.

SCP represents the practical and proactive means to realize sustainable development. It includes a broad range of technical and policy oriented instruments as well as information activities. Well-known approaches include energy saving, cleaner production, low-carbon and eco-products, environmental fiscal reform and environmental awareness.

GIZ has been commissioned by the European Union and the German government (BMU) to implement three SCP projects in Thailand covering policy, green production and public procurement.





1

Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy Project

supports the Thai government in selecting, adapting and implementing suitable economic and regulatory policy instruments to promote SCP, thereby enhancing the long-term sustainability of Thai consumption and production patterns.

Funded to the tune of almost 2 million EUR (about THB 80 million) by the European Union (EU), the project will run until October 2014. It is hosted by the Ministry of Industry's Department of Industrial Works and the

Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

The Project consists of 4 components: 1) Assessment of SCP policies and institutional framework as well as SCP monitoring 2) Sustainable Consumption 3) Sustainable Production and 4) Awareness Raising. All components include a planning /assessment phase, followed by a testing/pilot phase, and finally an evaluation phase, where lessons learned are summarized and recommendations are made to improve SCP policies and institutional framework for SCP implementation in Thailand.

2

Greening Supply Chains in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries Project

is co-financed by the EU. Agencies responsible for the project implementation are: German International Cooperation (GIZ), the Thailand Automotive Institute (TAI), The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), the Thai SME Bank and the UNEP/Wuppertal Institute Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP). The project, which is part of the EU SWITCH Asia programme, started in February 2012 and is scheduled to run until January 2015.

A large number of automotive parts industry suppliers

in Thailand, especially parts producer at tier 2 and 3, are still facing outdated production processes and these have an impact on the environment. The objective of the project is to improve sustainable production of SMEs in the Thai auto and automotive parts supply chains by providing training and individual consultancy services on cleaner and sustainable production measures to 500 Thai SMEs. The project will also develop financial services for improving sustainable production (e.g. green loans) and support SMEs in accessing these services as well as strengthening the capacity of service providers in sustainable production and eco-efficiency tools and enhancing networks and cooperation between all stakeholders.



The project is funded by Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and will run until 30 June 2015. The objective of the project is to expand the existing eco-labels in Thailand and in ASEAN countries to cover climate protection criteria and strengthen the Green Public Procurement (GPP) in Thailand.

Public procurement staff will learn the new guidelines and be trained to use the new options offered by the eco-labels. This approach can be applied to all ASEAN members and to China. The experiences of China in the development of eco-labels will be incorporated into the framework of the ASEAN-China-cooperation.

In addition, the project will support the evaluation of the previous GPP strategy (2008-2011) and help to implement the current GPP strategy (2012-2015), which is part of the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plans drafted by NESDB (2012-2016).



Special Interview

Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy Project



"The SCP project is in line with Thailand's policies and commitment to green economic growth due to diminishing of natural resources and accumulating environmental problems. Department of Industrial Works will work closely with industries to promote Green Industry Mark. This Green Industry Mark is a comprehensive program to recognise industries from green commitment to green supply chain. The SCP policy project will give us the opportunity to intensify our support to Thai manufacturers toward Green Industry and will also contribute to the development of other ideas that can support sustainable development of the industrial sector"

Mr. Witoon Simachokdee, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Industry

"The Ministry is currently working on many aspects of turning consumption patterns to a more sustainable path. Within the SCP project, the Pollution Control Department will approach local authorities and the private sector in order to promote Green Procurement. The Department of Environmental Quality Promotion will investigate the awareness concerning SCP among local authorities, and based on that prepare an awareness campaign.

Afterwards, the effect in terms of behavioural changes will be monitored. The Office of Natural Resources and Environment Policy and Planning together with the office of the National Economic and Social Development Board will consolidate the existing SCP Policy and Monitoring System, so that we know in which way the consumption and production develops."

Mr. Chote Trachoo, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment



"Through our SWITCH Asia Programme, the EU works with 19 countries all over the region to improve the implementation of SCP, at a national as well as a sub-regional level. We assist governments in their activities to promote SCP. This can include, for example, developing regulatory frameworks, undertaking information campaigns or reforming environmental taxes. The SCP Policy Project in Thailand will assist government agencies in developing new SCP policies to make it easier for consumers and manufacturers to contribute to sustainable development, our ultimate goal."

Mrs. Veronique Lorenzo, Counsellor and Head of the Operations, the Delegation of the European Union to Thailand

Tips & Tricks

United Nations (UN) marked every year on 5th June as World Environment Day (WED). The first World Environment Day was in 1973.



In 2008, Thai governmental organisations introduced initiatives to use environmentally friendly goods and services.



Thailand produces no less than 2.9 billion pieces of foam rubbish per one year, but only 5% of them are actually recycled.

Bangladesh was the first country in the world to issue a countrywide ban on plastic shopping bags. The regulation was introduced in 2002.



In 2008, China banned the use of ultra-thin plastic bags or those thinner than 0.025 millimeters because they cannot be reused.

There is a law in the United Kingdom against excess packaging, which is enforced by Trading Standards.



The amount of energy used to produce 1 new plastic bottle from virgin materials is equivalent to the energy needed for recycling 8 used plastic bottles for new plastic products.

Roundup

SCP Policy Project Joins World Environment Day



On 5 June 2012, the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Policy Project was officially launched at the World Environment Day event held at Siam Paragon Hall, Bangkok. This year's theme is "Green Economy: Does it include you?" Organised by Ministry

of Environment and Natural Resources, World Environment Day was presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Srirasmi and attended by more than 1,000 participants.

Mr. Chote Trachoo, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Mr. Witoon Simachokdee, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Mrs. Veronique Lorenzo, Head of Operations Section of the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Thailand delivered the opening speeches.

Following the project launch, a seminar on "How SCP could support the Green Economy concept" presented the opinions of representatives from several related organizations. The event included an exhibition in which the project also participated in order to introduce its background and objectives. Photo shows Her Royal Highness Princess Srirasmi during a visit to the project booth.

Germany Supports Indonesia in Promoting Sustainable Production in Horticulture

GIZ has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Islamic University of North Sumatra and Taman Simalem Resort (TSR) in Medan, Indonesia to promote sustainable production in horticulture. The partnership aims to establish a knowledge and learning centre for eco-friendly practices in growing horticultural crops in the Karo highlands and to assist local smallholders to produce vegetables and fruits in an eco-friendly way.

The cooperation includes the transfer of eco-friendly technology and best practices in growing horticultural crops to TSR staff and farmer groups; support in the certification process for sustainable production; the establishment of a laboratory and training center at TSR for applied research and production of bio-agro inputs; and the promotion of eco-friendly production through media campaigns, as well as strengthening community development and supporting the provision of publicly available services. **Taman Simalem Resort (TSR)** is a business entity engaged in the agro-tourism business with a strong commitment to the



development and promotion of horticultural commodities based on eco-friendly production. **The Islamic University of North Sumatra (UISU)** is one of the largest universities in Medan and provides knowledge and skills related to agricultural development with the aim of developing farmers' communities through the transfer of technology.

ASEAN Biocontrol Project Attends Horticultural Exhibition in Medan



Between 18 and 24 June, 2012, the GIZ ASEAN Biocontrol Project for Agrifood Systems (ABC) joined the Flori and Flora National Week (PF2N) - a national horticultural exhibition in Medan, Indonesia. Organized by the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with the government of the province of North Sumatera and the Medan Municipality Government, the event was aimed at strengthening the horticultural sector, which is an important source of income for the rural population, as well as major export factor and a driving force in the establishment of sustainable agriculture.

Around 200 exhibitors attended the event, including GIZ and the Bio-agro Input Association of Indonesia (ABI), who set up a joint booth to promote the commercialization of products for the biological control of pests along with organic fertilizer enhancers. This ideally suited the motto of the exhibition: "Creative and Innovative Horticulture for Healthier Life and Sustainable Environment".

The exhibition was dominated by the presence of the Indonesian district agricultural administration and research institutes from various provinces and by meetings and exchanges of information among various horticultural businesses. This event thus provided an excellent opportunity for ABC and ABI staff to meet government agricultural staff, and to strengthen their collaboration in particular with the Directorate General for Horticulture in Jakarta, Indonesia. This will enhance and improve the competency of the horticultural businesses that support the creative economy, both domestically and internationally, towards sustainable agriculture and ensure a continuous supply of their products to the farmers.

ECO-BEST Joins an Ecological Economics Forum on International Day for Biological Diversity

To commemorate the International Day for Biological Diversity, the "Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South-East Asia" (ECO-BEST) project and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) jointly held an economics colloquium on 23-25 May 2012 at ONEP. Asst Prof. Dr. Penporn Janekarnkij of Kasetsart University gave a lecture on "Linkage among Ecosystems, Economics and Livelihoods" at the event. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adis Israngkura Na Ayuthaya of the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) then presented his views and recommendations on "How to Develop Economic Instruments for Stakeholder Mobilization in Ecosystem Conservation in Thailand". The event concluded with activities to inform participants about the "Tree Bank", a community movement that provides economic incentives for individuals who plant and maintain trees



in Thailand. These were organized by Mr. Pongsa Chunam, Chief of Pa-Toh Watershed Management Unit, DNP and leader of the Tree Bank. Mrs. Piyathip Eawpanich, GIZ Co-Director of the ECO-BEST Project, acted as moderator.

ECO-BEST Joins the Community Tree Bank in Holding Tree Registration Software Tutorials



From March to May, the “Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South-East Asia” (ECO-BEST) project and the Community Tree Bank jointly held “Tree Registration Software Tutorials”

to allow tree growers to measure and record tree data on their properties. The “Tree Registration Software” was developed for the Tree Bank by Mr. Supoj Thongsamien, the owner and manager of Siam Local Innovation Company Limited, who is determined to increase the number of trees in his native land. A total of 4 sessions were held in Nakhon Si Thammarat, Roi Et, Lampang and Sa Kaeo.

In addition to compiling tree and tree grower data for the Tree Bank account, which will be also useful in future policy advocacy, the tree registration database can be used to strengthen family relationships. The “Parents/Grandparents Plant – Children/Grandchildren Measure and Register” is an example of such an activity. Moreover, the tree registry will promote cooperation among like-minded people in given neighbourhoods.

ECO-BEST and NESDB Hold a Forum to Share Knowledge about Payment for Ecosystem Services

The National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) and the “Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South-East Asia” (ECO-BEST) project jointly held a forum to share knowledge about “Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Concepts and Implementation” at the NESDB office on May 25, 2012.

Economists and natural resources managers from relevant agencies talked about the economics concept and gave presentations on applying a PES system in Thailand. They also shared their comments and provided participants with an update on the progress of the PES development to reduce the conflict between man and wild elephants in Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary.

During the discussion session, participants raised technical comments and recommended that the user/beneficiary pay principle, either through incentives or enforcing users to pay to show responsibility, be incorporated in the revision of the Enhancement and Conservation of Environmental Quality Act. Currently, only the polluter pay principle is applied.



Participants learned about local authorities’ readiness to implement the PES system. Correlation between micro and macro level workforce must be considered in the process. Operational staff proposed the establishment of a payment mechanism for specific ecosystem services including wetlands and industrial areas in the eastern region and highlands. They also asked the ECO-BEST team to accelerate the integration and to develop an appropriate manual for private sector operators.

ECO-BEST Project Introduction in Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site



The UNESCO World Heritage-listed Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex covers 4 national parks- Khao Yai, Thab Lan, Pang Sida and Ta Phra Ya - and the Dong Yai Wildlife Sanctuary. The 3,845,082.53-rai or 6,152.13-square-kilometre protected area lies in an east-west direction in the Phanom Dongrek Mountain Range, extending across the provinces of Saraburi, Nakhon Nayok, Prachin Buri, Nakhon Ratchasima, Buriram and Sa Kaeo. In the east, it connects with Banteay Chhmarr Protected Landscape, a protected area in Cambodia.

The Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex was selected as one of the pilot sites of the “Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South-East Asia” (ECO-BEST) project, which aims to improve the efficiency of participatory ecosystem management by introducing appropriate economic mechanisms. To inform relevant offices in the Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) and the Royal Forestry Department (RFD) about the project’s objectives, targets and approaches, the GIZ project team held a workshop in Prachin Buri on April 26, 2012. Dr. Songtham Suksawang, the Director of the National Park Research Division and Ms Korapin Phayakprakan, an expert on the Convention Concerning the Protection of the *World Cultural and Natural Heritage*,

Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), jointly presented and provided clarification on the implementation of the *obligations* under the *World Heritage* Convention. Dr. Apirat Iamsiri and Mr. Uthai Dechyosdee from WWF (Thailand) presented the ecosystem and wildlife management approaches and application of the InVEST software in ecosystem services valuation.

GIZ presented the project work plan to the Steering Committees of Thab Lan, Khao Yai and Ta Phra Ya National Parks on the 2nd, 8th and 21st of June, 2012 respectively. The project team is now waiting for the tentative dates of the next Steering Committee meetings of Pang Sida National Park and Dong Yai Wildlife Sanctuary.



Working team with Khun Thewin Meesap, chief of the Thab Lan National Park

To introduce appropriate economic mechanisms to conserve the World Heritage Forest Complex, DNP held a first seminar for 80 government officers, NGOs, communities and other stakeholders, who participated in previous brainstorming meetings and selected Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai World Heritage site as an ECO-BEST pilot. The seminar was held in Prachin Buri on July 14, 2012. Eco-system services in over 15 “hot spots” in the World Heritage site has been identified.

GIZ Holds Environmentally Sound Management of Chemical Waste in Laboratory

On 6-8 June 2012, the Public Private-Partnership: PPP of GIZ/Merck Strategic Alliance Project, the Energy Environment Safety and Health Office (EESH), King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) and the Environment Research Center (ERC), Naresuan University held hands-on training and training of trainers on "Safety and Environmentally Sound Management of Chemical Waste in Laboratory" at Naresuan University, Phitsanulok. About 50 faculty members and staff participated in the event. The project chose the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering as the pilot sites for the laboratory upgrading.

In addition to the training of laboratory operators in academic institutions, the project, together with the Industrial Waste Management Bureau, Department of Industrial Works (DIW) and the Waste and Hazardous Substance Bureau, Pollution Control Department (PCD), held a colloquium on "Environmentally Sound Management of Laboratory Chemical Waste and Legal

Compliance" at the Imperial Queens Park Hotel on June 12, 2012. The aim was to enhance public and private laboratory operators' awareness about laboratory chemical waste management guidelines including classification, storage and selection of appropriate treatment and final disposal technologies for each type of waste.



Fifth Regional Project Meeting Demonstrates the Progress of the Sustainable Port Development Project



The ASEAN – German Technical Cooperation 'Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region' project organized the 5th Regional Project Progress Review and Planning Meeting on 22 May, 2012 in Sriracha. The meeting was hosted by Laem Chabang Port, Port Authority of Thailand (PAT) and also featured a workshop on Port Waste Management in ASEAN Ports from 23 – 24 May 2012. A total of 39 individuals from participating ports, ministries and GIZ were represented.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the activities and progress of the project and individual ports. The main activities included a summary of emission inventories in ASEAN ports, Port waste management assessment in Laem Chabang Port, progress in training development, Port Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (PSHEMS) development and accident rates in the ports.

On 23-24 May 2012, the project, in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), held a workshop on Port Waste Management in ASEAN ports. The objectives of the workshop were for the participants to:

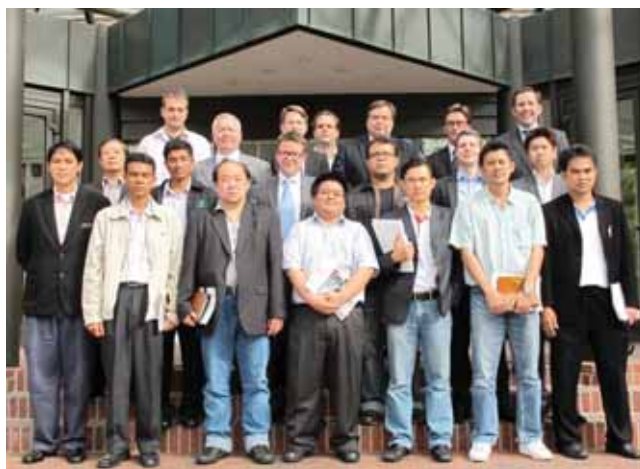
- 1) Understand the requirements of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) as they apply to ports as well as on the national level;
- 2) Understand how to access and consequently improve the management of ship-generated waste in their ports in order to meet the requirements of IMO;
- 3) Identify the main issues and decisions that need to be taken to develop the efficient handling of ship waste.

One Step towards Energy Efficiency Development in Thailand

The Project Development Programme - Southeast Asia (PEP-SEA) with the support of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) is taking another step towards Energy Efficiency with the aim of minimizing energy consumption in the industrial sector in the region.

Having recognized the possibilities in Thailand, the project was launched with the objectives of strengthening Thai competitiveness on an economic scale whilst achieving cost-savings and finding solutions to environmental issues.

To enhance the development of energy efficiency in Thailand, GIZ in cooperation with the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce (GTCC), is taking a delegation to Germany from 25th - 29th June 2012. With the aim of optimizing exchanges of experience and transfers of know-how between German and Thai companies, this trip combines an information workshop and business trip with on-site visits to German institutions and companies with applied best practices and technologies in relation to energy efficiency.



The trip is focusing mainly on the Iron and Steel industry, as it has the highest percentage of energy consumption in Thailand's industrial sector and great potential for energy conservation. It targets decision makers from Thai companies and organizations as well as representatives from the government and public administration sectors active in the promotion of energy efficiency.

Strengthening Cooperation in Solar Market and Improving Quality System



On 5 June 2012, GIZ under the "renewables - Made in Germany programme", funded by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi), held a seminar on the topic "20 years of grid connected PV (photovoltaic) systems: Lessons learnt from Germany and why quality matters" to increase awareness about performance orientation at all stages of grid-connected solar PV projects. Participants included representatives from Thai public and private agencies, business associations and research teams from leading academic institutions.

Different players in the solar PV market in Thailand and Germany shared their fact-based and practical insights on Thailand's solar market development. Approaches to improving solar PV's quality system in Thailand were discussed, taking account of the market economy and ecological balance and systematically dividing the role between government, the private sector and civil society. Such improvements will enhance Thailand's competitiveness.

At the end of the seminar, it was concluded that the production of electricity using solar PV power would play a greater role in the future. If Thailand is able to develop the equipment more efficiently and at a lower cost, this will certainly lead to a more widespread use of solar PV power. In terms of promoting energy efficiency in the solar system, it was agreed that good cooperation is required with both the public and private sector regarding the preparation of standards, guidelines for the design, as well as installation and maintenance of the solar power system. Planning should focus on better performance through the provision of staff training to increase efficiency and fostering development in the qualitative growth in solar PV in the future.

Climate Protection in Tourism Project Extension



GIZ and Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (Public Organization), have extended the duration of the Climate Protection in Tourism Project, sponsored by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), to February 2013. The project aims to build personnel capacity in sustainable tourism destination management and to disseminate knowledge to

tourism stakeholders, academic institutions, public and private agencies as well as local and national communities. In addition to supporting and promoting renewable energy and efficient resource consumption, the project focuses on the reduction of emissions from tourism activities to ensure sustainable tourism development.

Discussion on Further Thai-German Cooperation on Palm Oil Project



On 25 April, GIZ led by Dr. Christoph Beier, Managing Director of GIZ headquarters met with Mr. Apichart Jongsakul, Secretary-General of the Office of

Agricultural Economics (OAE) to discuss the possibilities of further cooperation on the Palm Oil project in the wake of the success of the 3-year Sustainable Production of Palm Oil for Bioenergy. The meeting with OAE came out of a presentation on the project's progress to the meeting of the National Palm Oil Board (NPOB), which was chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Mr. Kittiratt Na-Ranong. The meeting was also attended by 17 other members including the Ministers of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Energy and Commerce and representatives of the private sector. It is clear that the project's approach is truly a solution for both sides, as palm oil can be produced in line with standards and both the ecological and social impacts of production, as well as the economic feasibility of certification, are more closely monitored.

Thai Smallholder Groups – A World First in Achieving Sustainable Palm Oil Production Certification

After 3 years of implementation, the Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project, a collaborative project between GIZ and the Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE), has been successful in assisting Thai independent smallholder groups to become the first in the world to achieve RSPO certification. Between April and June 2012, the project applied for RSPO

certification for 4 Thai independent smallholder groups following their official admission to RSPO membership in March 2012. After completing the application, the project contacted external certification bodies and appointed the British Standards Institute (BSi) for the required verification. The 4 verified independent smallholder groups were the Nuakhlong-Khaopanom



Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production Community Enterprise Network, the Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production (Univanich-Plaipraya) Community Enterprise Group, the Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production (Suksomboon) Community Enterprise Group (Chonburi) and the Suratthani Sustainable Oil Palm Smallholders Production Community Enterprise Network. A total of 413 independent smallholders in these 4 groups with 17,200 rais (2,752 hectares) of oil palm growing area will achieve RSPO group certification.

The verification indicates that the 4 smallholder groups and their members comply with RSPO standard for independent smallholder group certification. This will lead to economic, social and environmental sustainability. By applying for RSPO certification, the Thai smallholder groups become the world's first certified independent smallholder groups.

Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project Transferred Know-How to Stakeholders of the Oil Palm and Palm Oil Production Systems

On 13-15 June 2012, the Sustainable Palm Oil Production for Bio-Energy Project held a training course on "RSPO Certification – From Theory to Practice" in Krabi. The aim was to promote understanding of RSPO standard and linkage of the palm oil supply chains. Taking part in the training course were staff from 4 palm oil refineries and 6 crushing mills along with representatives from government agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

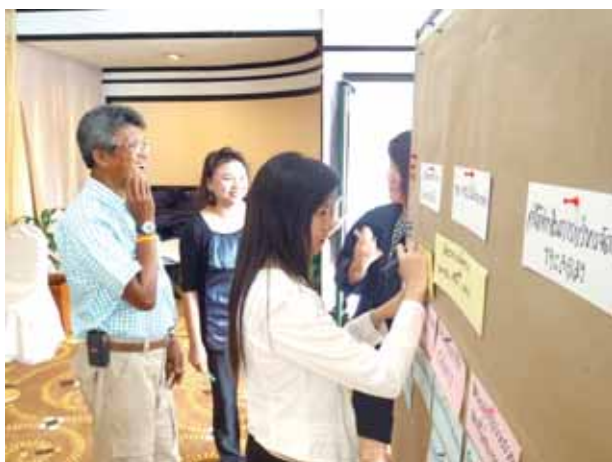
The project encouraged project staff to act as trainers, transferring the know-how gained during the 3 years of project implementation to the participants. The course focused on RSPO Principles and Criteria to promote participants' knowledge and understanding of the standard and highlighted the significance of RSPO certification and the practical applications of the lessons learned.

Following the training, participants had better understanding and awareness of the significance of sustainable palm oil production. They recognized that

sustainable oil palm and palm oil production requires cooperation from every stakeholder in the palm oil production system including refineries, mills and smallholder groups.



GIZ and ONEP Hold Policy Implementation Workshop



On 29-31 May 2012, GIZ and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), under the Climate Protection Policy Project,

held a workshop on “Application of Logical Framework Approach (LFA) in Policy Implementation” to coach participants on systematic project design and workplan development. In addition to project conceptualization, LFA can be applied to monitor and evaluate project outcomes.

Participating in the workshop were representatives from the provincial offices of Natural Resources and Environment and from the Regional Environment Offices in the pilot provinces of ONEP’s Enhancing the Efficiency of Provincial Environmental Quality Management Plan Development Project. Representatives from Rayong and Nan Provincial Offices of Natural Resources and Environment, the pilot sites of the Climate Change Adaptation Master Plan Implementation Mission, the Climate Protection Policy Project, also joined the workshop.

GIZ Organizes an Excursion to Germany to Strengthen ONEP’s Capacity in Climate Change Implementation

On 2-9 June 2012, GIZ, under the Climate Protection Policy Project, organized an excursion to Germany to strengthen the capacity of the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP)’s decision makers and stakeholders in climate change implementation. A total of 23 delegates from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Industry, including the MoNRE Deputy Permanent Secretary, the ONEP Secretary General, the Deputy Governors of Nan and Rayong and the Deputy Director of the Department of the Environment, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration took part in the trip.

The Thai delegates had the opportunity to share information with representatives of German agencies and also discuss their experiences of national planning for climate change implementation. The activity fulfilled the objectives of further developing the



extension phase of the collaborative project between the Climate Change Coordinating Unit, ONEP and GIZ, which will conclude in September 2013. The project aims to facilitate comprehensive implementation of the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012.

Stakeholder Workshop for Draft Work Plan/Activities under the Climate Protection Policy Project ONEP-GIZ



On 16-17 May 2012, GIZ and the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), partners in the Climate Protection Policy Project, held a stakeholder workshop on “Project Work Plan/Activities Development” in Samut Sakhon. The aim was to brainstorm on stakeholders’ comments about the project’s implementation, its challenges and the targets set for each partner agency as well as to

jointly identify efficient implementation approaches. At the ministerial level, the project has launched pilot implementation in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Interior (Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning) and the Ministry of Industry. At the provincial and local levels, pilot implementation is taking place in Rayong Province and Muang Klaeng Municipality, and in Nan Province and Muang Nan Municipality. The workshop intended to comprehensively put the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050 into practice.

Stakeholders were divided into 3 working groups based on their affiliations and climate change impacts. Members of each working group were instructed to jointly develop work plans/activities for the next project period to deal with problems experienced by their agencies and to set key climate change targets in the project sites. Examples included developing into a green, eco-friendly province, setting a carbon emissions reduction target and focusing on increasing community awareness and readiness for work plan/policy implementation.

ONEP Holds Public Consultation Workshops on the Draft of Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050

In accordance with policy and planning process, the Office of Climate Change Coordination (OCCC), supported by GIZ, has completed the draft of the Thailand Climate Change Master Plan 2012-2050 and the compilation of information and comments from stakeholders and the public. ONEP is thus in a position to hold regional public consultation workshops to gather comments on the draft from stakeholders affected by climate change in relation to economic, social and livelihood development. The first such regional workshop was held in Prachuap Khiri Khan on 14 June 2012. The aim of the regional public consultation workshops is to ensure that the draft covers the stakeholders and truly reflects the challenges of and solutions to climate change impacts in each particular region. A further public consultation workshops on the draft will be held in Khon Kaen on



August 1 with the final workshop taking place in Bangkok on August 8. For additional details, please visit ONEP’s website at www.onep.co.th.

TICA-GIZ Planning Workshop for Programme Activities



TICA and GIZ colleague smiling after the 2-day intense work

The Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and GIZ held the Thai-German trilateral cooperation planning workshop in April 2012.

After 3 years of joint efforts in transferring Thai-German Technical Cooperation experience to further development in Thailand's neighbouring countries, the partners joined up to review the ongoing cooperation and plan future programme activities. The workshop enjoyed the enthusiastic participation of TICA and GIZ staff and was also attended by representatives from the German Embassy.

The overall objectives of the cooperation are to support Thailand's role as technical cooperation provider in the region and contribute to the development goals of the target third countries, which currently include Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor Leste,

Vietnam and, in the near future, Myanmar. The 4 main agreed activities of the programme are:

- 1) Capacity building in project management for relevant partners
- 2) Developing a trilateral cooperation instrument as a model for replication
- 3) Developing joint definition of objectives and strategies for Thai-German technical cooperation in the region
- 4) Implementing up to 9 small-scale trilateral projects with the target third countries in the fields of education, rural development and health

Currently, Thailand and Germany are implementing 5 trilateral projects in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. All the projects are jointly formulated, planned and implemented by the three parties and draw mainly on technical inputs from Thai experts. The first phase of the programme ends in mid July 2014.



TICA Deputy Director-General Suchada during active discussion

Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project

GIZ collaborated with the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao PDR in organizing an event to mark Nam Xong Protection Day in Vang

Vieng city, Lao PDR on April 27, 2012. The aim was to raise the awareness of local residents and entrepreneurs as well as the general public about the importance of maintaining and protecting water resources around the Nam Xong Sub-River.



The event also acted as a good starting point for developing an integrated watershed management

model for sustainable development. Activities included an opening speech by Mr. Chanthanet Boualapha, Director-General of the Department of Water Resources, Lao PDR, educating the communities through an exhibition, asking questions and getting answers about the Nam Xong, rallying for garbage collection along the sub-river and various recreational activities aimed at promoting good cooperation with the communities around the Nam Xong. The sub-river is an important water resource for consumption and production as well as a popular tourist attraction that generates revenue for Vang Vieng's residents. The management model developed by the project for the Nam Xong sub-river basin will be used as the pilot model for future expansion to other river basins in Lao PDR.

Project on Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices in Lao PDR

GIZ collaborated with the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), the Department of Agriculture (DoA) in Thailand and the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao PDR in organizing the planning workshop under the Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices project in Lao PDR. This was held on 23-24 April 2012 at the International Cooperation and Training Center (ICTC) in Vientiane.

The project supports the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in the development of Lao National Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) in its fruits and vegetables branch in accordance with ASEAN standards and is preparing the country for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), which gets off the ground in 2015. A twin objective is to enhance the competitiveness of the enterprises in Lao PDR through the development experience of the Quality Good Agricultural Practice (QGAP) of the DoA and the Thai Good Agricultural Practice (ThaiGAP) of the Thai-German Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness (T-G PEC). Implementation is for a period of two years, beginning in May 2012.

The workshop gave rise to an action plan consisting of four main activities:

1) Revising the existing certification body with regard



to organization structure, terms of reference and the job description of personnel;

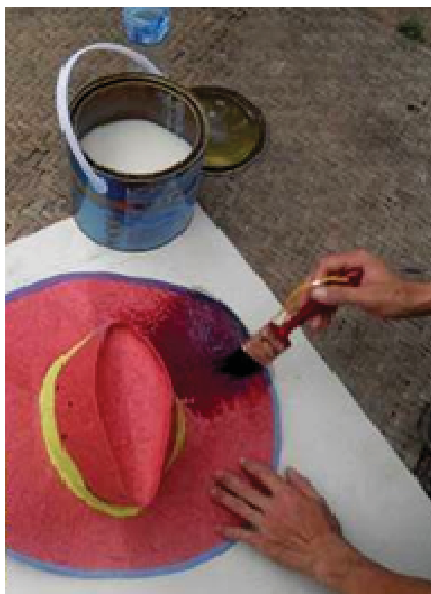
2) Developing Lao national GAP standard and standard operating procedures;

3) Developing human resources for inspection, certification and advising farms; and

4) Extending GAP implementation to farmers and supporting farmers to obtain GAP certification.

Training on Saa (Mulberry) Paper Production and Posaa (Mulberry Bark) Harvesting

As part of the Paper Mulberry Supply Chain Project, GIZ, TICA, the Industrial Promotion Center Region 1 (IPC1) in Chiang Mai and Sayaboury Department of Industry and Commerce (DoIC) in Lao PDR conducted several capacity-building activities for Posaa producers as well as related officials in Sayaboury province, Lao PDR.



In April, the project conducted training on Saa paper production and Saa handicraft product development in two pilot villages in Hongsa district. Mr. Vichith Yeenang, the Head of Tonpao Saa handicraft cluster in Chiang Mai, together with officers from IPC1, supported DoIC in designing and conducting the training, which focused on generating skills and identifying the added value of Saa paper production as a source of additional income for villagers. The participants learned practical skills in producing hand-made Saa paper and also in developing a variety of handicraft products, among them paper bags, hats and notebooks. After the training, a Thai trader placed an order for Saa paper with the trained villagers. The link

between the products and market will be further strengthened by the project.

In June and July, several training activities in improving Posaa harvesting techniques for officials and farmers are being conducted in Hongsa and Ngeun districts to improve the quality/quantity of raw bark from Laos, which is mainly exported to Thailand for processing as paper. A Lao-Thai business matching workshop was held to improve the linkage between bark quality and buying price. The old bark (with no removal of the outer bark) was also marketed and ordered by Thai traders.

A feasibility study for the setting up of a Saa paper processing plant in Sayaboury will be the main focus of the project throughout 2012 until the end of the project in March 2013. It is expected that a Thai investor will put money into the processing plant in Sayaboury, which would give Posaa and Saa paper producers in Lao more value in the Posaa value chain while allowing the Thai investor to reap the benefits of having a plant near the raw materials.



Editors:	Siriporn Treepornpairat Pariya Kaopatumpit	Vorathep Songpanya
Authors:	Anongnit Jaikliang Chalisa Narktabtee Cholada Khanthong Chutima Jongpakdee Franca Sprong Janetida Thola Jarukan Rassiri Jiraluck Inwong Matthias Bickel Nipaporn Asawaphat Niranchana Authayanraksa Niels Juul Busch	Pimpilas Nuntiphon Piyathip Eawpanich Poom Pinthep Supalerk Kanasook Suwat Chuanak Surachai Leewattananukul Thitinai Pongpiriyakit Thomas Lehmann Torsten Fritsche Wilasinee Poonuchaphai Yotsawin Kukeawkasem Yosthana Siphomsay

Pictures are taken by members of the programme

For further information on the articles
and all news related information please contact
Siriporn Treepornpairat
Public Information Manager
German International Cooperation, GIZ Office Bangkok
193/63 Lake Rajada Office Complex (16th Floor)
New Ratchadapisek Road, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110
Tel: 02-661-9273 Fax: 02-661-9281 –2
E-mail: siriporn.treepornpairat@giz.de
Website: www.thai-german-cooperation.info

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

- Sustainable Urban Transport Project in Asia
- Clean Air for Smaller Cities
- Sustainable Port Development
- ASEAN Biocontrol for Sustainable Agri-food Systems
- Trilateral Cooperation Programme with Thailand and Malaysia
- Strengthening Capacity of Supreme Audit Institutions in ASEAN

Programme and projects funded by Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

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

Projects funded/ co-funded by the European Union

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

Programme and projects funded by Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology

- Project Development Programme: Renewable Energy in South East Asia