

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

Issue 31 October-December 2014

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

### Dear Readers,

As we move towards the end of 2014, we would like in this issue to emphasize the achievements of ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems since the first project phase. We would also like to mention two major events that recently took place. These were the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between GIZ and the Department of Water Resources on Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation and the official start of the project Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region. These events demonstrate the excellent signs for further cooperation and partnerships between Germany, Thailand and the region's nations. The newsletter also provides updates on project activities, results and lesson learnt that could be applied to other countries.

We are pleased to inform you that GIZ Thailand is now on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/gizthailand>). This will assist in updating all those interested in the project's major events, the past and present of Thai-German cooperation, general knowledge on topics related to GIZ, successful case studies from other countries, job announcements, training courses and much more.

If you have questions, feel free to contact the newsletter team.

Best regards,

The newsletter team

## Features & News

Ensuring Food Security in ASEAN through "Sustainable Agrifood Systems"	2
Workshop to Improve Disaster Risk Management Strategy for Thai Farmers	7
Launch of "Farmers Love Safety" TV Reality Show	8
Workshop to Introduce Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA)	10
Thai-German Cooperation on Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation	11
Swiss and German Governments Cooperate on Thermo-Technical Retrofitting in Mongolia	12
NEXUS Project Helps to Support Sustainable Wastewater Strategy in Da Nang	13
Official Kick-Off: A Milestone for Regional In-Company-Trainer Standard for Mekong	14
Malaysian-German Fishery Project in Timor-Leste Starts with Trainings	16
Capacity Building for SME Bank in Loan Lending	17
Accessing Green Finance for Energy Efficiency and Environmental Improvement	18
Thai Delegates Join an "Energy Efficiency" Study Trip to Denmark and Germany	19
Workshop on Ratification, Implementation and Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention	21
Nam Xong Sub-River Basin in Lao PDR-the Model for Integrated River Basin Management and Promotion of Community Participation	22
ECO-BEST Supports Community Engagement and Establishment of Thai-Lao Sub-River Basin Management Networks	26
Model Cooperatives and Effective Promotion System Becomes a Focus of Second Year Strategy	28
TICA, GIZ and Thai Government Agencies Jointly Review and Share Development Cooperation Experiences	30
Seminar and Exhibition on Green Procurement	33
Intra-Regional Peer to Peer Knowledge Exchange	34
Knowledge Sharing Session on Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds	35
Study Tour and Field Trip in Nakhon Si Thammarat	36

# Ensuring Food Security in ASEAN through “Sustainable Agrifood Systems”

By Duangruetai Surasakjinda ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol)

The agriculture sector is one of the important drivers of economic growth in the ASEAN region. The demand for food products of greater quality and in greater quantity drives agricultural policies towards the concept of “Sustainable Agrifood Systems”, which assumes that the activities of its actors along the value chain such as input suppliers, farmers, processors, and traders need to be profitable in order to enable them to provide safe, healthy and affordable food for an ever-increasing population.

In collaboration with ASEAN and its Member States, ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol) supports the development of regionally coordinated policies and strategies for sustainable agrifood systems. It enhances regional communication and policy dialogue on the promotion of sustainable inputs and good agricultural practices. In addition, the project cooperates with the private sector through publicprivate partnerships to test such practices and sustainable inputs in selected pilot areas.

ASEAN Biocontrol, which is one of the two modules under the ASEAN-German Programme on Response to Climate Change: Agriculture, Forestry and Related Sectors (GAP-CC), started its project implementation in the ASEAN region in 2011. During the first phase from 2011 to 2013, the project facilitated the development of regionally coordinated policies and strategies for sustainable agriculture and the food sector and promoted sustainable inputs and their management through the implementation of biological control agents (BCA) and sustainable crop management practices to improve the long-term productivity and competitiveness of ASEAN agricultural production in increasingly complex domestic and regional markets.



In the second phase (2014 - 2017), the project is building upon the experiences gained during the first implementation phase and broadening its scope by expanding the focus on BCA to soil and nutrient management and farm economics with the main objective of enabling ASEAN Member States to implement the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and its Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN Region (SPA-FS) at the national level.

“ ASEAN Biocontrol facilitated the development of regionally coordinated policies and strategies for sustainable agriculture and the food sector.”



### What has been achieved so far?

The development of “ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents (BCA)”

ASEAN Biocontrol has facilitated the drafting process of ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents (BCA), which summarised the work of the ASEAN Regional BCA Expert Groups on Regulation and Application and aimed to form a framework for the better implementation of BCA and provide a template for harmonisation of regulations, thus stimulating regional trade in BCA. Experts from ASEAN Member States met several times in 2013 to discuss their experiences with regard to the regulation of BCA and biocontrol methods against major pests in certain key crops (in particular, rice, fruits and vegetables). These national understandings were compared with proposed international regulation and scientific data. The Guidelines therefore constitute a harmonised opinion of ASEAN BCA Experts. The Guidelines were endorsed by the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry in September 2014.

The Guidelines create a regional blueprint for national regulation and implementation strategies, harmonise registration requirements and serve as the ASEAN recommendation for national regulations and policies on biological control agents. The Guidelines include information on the definition of BCA, case studies of practical BCA application in rice, fruits and vegetables, regulatory requirements, and strategy for improvement of regulation and use of BCA. Other than for government regulatory officers, the Guidelines can also be useful for other government agencies that wish to devise a strategy to increase the use of biocontrol in crops and for companies interested in developing or distributing BCA in ASEAN countries.

### Achievements from the first project phase (2011-2013)

- ASEAN Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents (BCA) developed
- ASEAN Biocontrol database established
- Regional BCA Expert Groups on Regulation and Application established
- National Expert Groups established in Indonesia, Lao PDR and Thailand
- Field trials on BCA for pest management carried out in Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand
- Between 15 June 2011 and 30 October 2013, the number of registered BCA in ASEAN increased by 63 per cent
- ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework translated into Khmer, Lao, Burmese and Vietnamese
- Around 400 decision-makers and experts from ASEAN Member States participated in regional and national training courses and workshops
- More than 2,500 farmers in the region trained in sustainable crop management practices and the application of BCA



## Public and Private Sector Partnerships

ASEAN Biocontrol has entered into public and private sector partnerships to work at a micro level to promote efficient and sustainable food production, marketing and trade.



### Indonesia

**Focus:**

Income generation/  
Horti-culture and coffee

**Partners:**

Taman Simalem Resort and  
the Islamic University of North Sumatra

**Implementation period:**

January 2013-December 2015



### Empowerment of Farmer's Communities for Sustainable Eco-Friendly Practices in Growing Horticultural Crops in the Karo Highlands, North Sumatra

- Around 500 farmers surrounding Taman Simalem Resort (TSR) trained in better agronomic practices to produce organic products
- TSR staff and farmers trained in agricultural environment, health and climate change issues
- Organic Indonesia certificates issued for 20 farming households in 2013
- Market research conducted on export opportunity to Malaysia and Singapore



### Indonesia

**Focus:**

Income generation/Fruits (Citrus)

**Partners:**

Directorate of Horticulture Protection  
(DHP)

**Implementation period:**

January 2013-December 2013



### Joint Implementation of Fruit Fly Management in North Sumatra

- Fruit fly invasion led to 100 per cent loss for two years
- After 3 months of campaign, training and application of BCA, the harvest has gone up by 70 per cent
- 2,065 farmers and 6,930 government officials trained in eco-friendly technology of fruit fly management and the application of BCA
- Public campaign reached 20,313 farming households
- A database on fruit fly damage in Karo is in place





## Thailand

### Focus:

Food safety/Fruits

### Partners:

SGF International e.V.

### Implementation period:

April 2012-February 2015



### Improved Product Safety and Quality for the Thai Fruit Juice Industry (QUALITHAI)

- Capacity building for 5 semi-finished goods manufacturers, 1 bottler and 4 independent laboratories
- 6 pilot enterprises improved their conformity with SGF standards through SGF auditing, on-the-job training for staff and authenticity sample analysis based on European Fruit Juice Association (AIJN) standard
- “FRAPP Tool” (Fruit Risk Assessment Programme for Pesticides) available to improve company’s capacity in conducting suitable risk assessment and management
- Workshops on food safety, sustainable processing of fruits and vegetables organised with participation of both public and private sector



## Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam

### Focus:

Food security/Rice

### Partners:

Allianz, Swiss Development Agency, International Rice Research Institute, sarmap SA

### Implementation period:

September 2012-January 2015



### Remote sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging Economies (RIICE)

- Creation of a Business Model to support the use of Remote Sensing for Crop Insurance
- Pilot of the crop model and yield forecasting via Remote Sensing by International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
- RIICE Thailand-WebGIS launched
- RYII product mock-up demonstrated in Suphanburi and Nakhon Ratchasima in 2014
- Remote Sensing Testing with Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA)
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) on “Strengthening marketing and distribution for crop insurance”
- Research on “Thai crop insurance laboratory” conducted with Kasetsart University
- A Workshop “Thai Rice Crop Insurance Scheme: The Way Forward” co-organised with Fiscal Policy Office
- Project progress on Remote Sensing by International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) presented to 5 key stakeholders



## Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam

**Focus:** Income/Rice

### Partners:

BASF, Bayer CropScience, DSM, Yara, VDMA

### Implementation period:

March 2014-September 2017



## Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA)

**Goal:** To improve rice supply chains and nutrition

- BRIA Regional Secretariat located in Bangkok
- Implemented in 4 countries: Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam
- 20,000 farming households tackled
- Introduction of innovative technologies
- Promotion of rice and oil fortification
- Capacity development and GAP
- Market linkages and public awareness

## Way Forward

The governments of ASEAN Member States have recognised the need to increase food production and trade of agricultural products in the region with a view to avoiding further deterioration of natural resources, increasing farmers' income and generally improving livelihoods in the rural areas. ASEAN policy frameworks for food security as well as for sustainable production methods are available but have not yet been fully implemented in the Member States. Additionally, national support programmes are often not sufficiently coordinated among sectors and stakeholders. The capacities of national governments to establish national or regional policies are at times insufficient due to a lack of expertise and resources.

In the second phase, the project will support ASEAN in the development of policies and strategies for sustainable agrifood systems and exchange platforms for the Member States. To enable ASEAN Member States to implement the AIFS Framework and its SPA-FS at the national level, the project identified three intervention areas:

### Intervention Area 1: Policy Framework

The project primarily advises ASEAN Member States on policy making, particularly with regard to cross-border processes and promotes policy dialogue in the context of exchange fora.

### Intervention Area 2: Implementation of Production Technologies

Selected sustainable production approaches relating to plant protection, soil and nutrient management and farm economics will be disseminated in ASEAN through various capacity development measures.

### Intervention Area 3: Market Linkages

Capacity of decision-makers at all levels will be strengthened. Cooperation between small farmers and the private sector in sustainable value chains will be encouraged. Models of sustainable agrifood systems will be implemented in pilot measures so that the lessons learned can be incorporated in the policy advisory process.

Three prioritised crop sectors have been selected by the Member States, namely rice, fruits, and vegetables. The key instruments used by the project will be capacity development, provision of technical and research advisory support as well as financial support for selected pilot measures.

The project primarily works at a regional level and in some cases with individual ASEAN Member States. The Project Coordination Unit is hosted by the Department of Agriculture in Bangkok, Thailand. With contributions from both public and private sector partners, field offices have been established in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Myanmar and Vietnam to coordinate and oversee the implementation of activities at the national level.

# RIICE Organizes Workshop to Identify Changes Needed for Improving Disaster Risk Management Strategy for Thai Farmers

By Juthatip Tanyaphituck

Remote Sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging Economies–RIICE



GIZ Thailand on behalf of the RIICE project and the Fiscal Policy Office organized a workshop on “Thai Rice Crop Insurance: The Way Forward” on 21-22 August 2014. 37 participants from 9 organizations participated in the workshop, among them officials from related ministries, financial institutions and insurers as well as experts from Kasetsart University and Germany. The workshop served as a platform to discuss weaknesses of the current scheme and for deliberations on finding a common understanding on the substantial changes necessary to improve Thailand’s disaster risk financing strategy for farmers.

The topics discussed during the workshop covered:

- 1) Analysing the shortcomings of the existing scheme
- 2) Defining leapfrog scenarios that would considerably improve and enlarge the Thai Rice Crop Insurance Scheme
- 3) Identifying opportunities to enhance the product development, current distribution and claims management process
- 4) Defining key activity milestones for implementation

“ RIICE aims to develop crop insurance solutions for small-holder farmers in Southeast Asia.”

Remote Sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging Economies (RIICE) is a public-private partnership programme made up of five different partners: The International Rice Research Institute, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, sarmap, Allianz and GIZ. It aims to develop crop insurance solutions for small-holder farmers in Southeast Asia. Since 2012, the RIICE consortium has engaged in various discussions with different Thai stakeholders regarding opportunities for the improvement of the current Thai rice insurance scheme with the aim of making it financially viable, politically stable and technically sound. RIICE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Thailand’s Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) in January 2014 to support the improvement of BAAC’s distribution of insurance products to farmers.

# 3 Partners Jointly Launch “Farmers Love Safety” TV Reality Show

By Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) project team



The German Food Partnership (GFP), BASF (Thai) Limited, and the Rice Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives launched Thailand's first farmer edutainment reality show, entitled 'Farmers Love Safety' on 12 September 2014.

This TV program is an activity of Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA), which comes under the GFP. The BRIA project focuses on emerging and developing countries including Thailand from 2014 to 2017.

This collaboration aims to promote sustainable growth in agricultural production, improve rice value chains, and provide farmers with better knowledge on the use of production inputs and access to markets.

Mr. Chanpithya Shimphelee, Director General of the Rice Department said "BRIA's emphasis on sustainable development corresponds to the policy of the Rice Department and Thailand's current national economic and social development plan. Its outcomes will contribute not only to the well-being of farmers in general but also the future security of the country's national resources."

"We want to support as many Thai farmers as possible to stay safe, get better yields and keep their farms at top performance over the long term. A TV reality show on the Farm Channel is the perfect way to bring entertainment and best practices to farmers in Thailand about sustainable rice production and good agriculture practices," said Dr. Pakorn Suchare, Head of Crop Protection, BASF (Thai) Limited.



'Farmers Love Safety' will focus on responsible and judicious use of crop protection products. The training sessions will cover important topics such as understanding product labels, proper use of application equipment, and personal protective equipment (PPE) necessary to farmers' practice in the field.

Two teams of key farmers from Suphanburi and Ayuthaya provinces, with five members in each team, will be trained by rice and technical experts at Farmer School in the Rice Department compound and use the knowledge to train more farmers in their communities following specific criteria under the competition rules. The farmers will also participate in quiz activities, and the total combined scores at the end of the contest will determine the winner. The winner will receive a prize of agriculture products valued at 100,000 baht.

"Farmers Love Safety' is the first BRIA project in Asia Pacific and is expected to encourage Thai farmers to learn how to use crop protection products safely and effectively," said Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Regional Project Director, BRIA.

This show will be aired on the SMILE Farmers program on Farm Channel, every Thursday, 5.30-6.00 p.m., from 2 October to 18 December 2014.



“Farmers Love Safety' will focus on responsible and judicious use of crop protection products.”

# National Inception Workshop to Introduce Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA)

By Kamol Taukitphaisarn Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) project



GIZ in cooperation with the Rice Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives organized a National Inception Workshop on 29 August 2014 to commence the implementation of the Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) project, which will help to promote sustainable production of rice and ecosystem resilience in Thailand.

Mr. Chanpithya Shimpalee, Director General of the Rice Department, chaired the workshop. Major partners participating in this inaugural meeting were represented by Dr. Pakorn Suchare, Head of Crop Protection, BASF (Thai) Limited, Mr. Matthias Bickel, GIZ Project Director, and Mr. Sinchai Swasdichai, Country Head, Thailand and Myanmar, Bayer CropScience Business Group.

Promoting “Better Rice, Better Life,” BRIA’s goal is to improve the livelihoods of rice farmers through sustainable production, better market access and improved rice value chains, especially in Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Its approach is to optimize agricultural inputs and new technologies, and create a modern knowledge-based rice industry.



Under the umbrella of the German Food Partnership (GFP), BRIA is a joint project implemented by private partners such as BASF, Bayer, Yara Fertilizer, and DSM Nutritional Products in close collaboration with the GIZ and national and regional authorities.

GFP was founded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in June 2012. GFP supports public and private players to jointly implement projects along agricultural supply chains to raise productivity in the agricultural sector and contribute to the world food security.

“ Promoting “Better Rice, Better Life,” BRIA’s goal is to improve the livelihoods of rice farmers through sustainable production, better market access and improved rice value chains. ”

# GIZ Signs MOU with Thailand on Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation

By Tim Mahler Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation (WaCCliM)

“ The project results will not only be of benefit for Thailand in terms of cost reduction, but should also support the country to reach its national climate change targets. ”



GIZ recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Wastewater Management Authority (WMA) at Thailand's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and for the Thai-German cooperation project on Water and Wastewater Companies for Climate Mitigation (WaCCliM). The project aims at improving the carbon balance of water and wastewater utilities through the introduction of greenhouse gas reduction technologies.

Thailand has a mission to meet carbon challenge from the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the ratified Kyoto Protocol (2005-2012). Currently, there is none explicit mitigation strategy for wastewater treatment sector yet, even 47.5 per cent of total greenhouse gas emission from waste management

sector comes from wastewater. Therefore, the expected result from this project will benefit both pilot level in improving energy efficiency and national level in improving mitigation strategy for wastewater treatment. The project results will not only be of benefit for Thailand in terms of cost reduction, but should also support the country to reach its national climate change targets. Also, at political level, the project supports the partners to implement greenhouse gas reduction measure into national policy.

Water and wastewater utilities (WWUs) are among the largest consumers of energy. This project is part of the global project that includes Thailand, Mexico and Peru. The majority of WWUs in these countries are using typical and energy-intensive treatment technologies. This indicates excellent opportunities for improving energy efficiency and greatly reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in selected pilot utilities in these countries. The implementation experiences at pilot level and the experiences of improving national settings will be incorporated into international guidelines and instruments for WWUs.

The project is a joint initiative between GIZ and the International Water Association (IWA), acting on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). It runs from January 2014 to January 2019.

# Swiss and German Governments Cooperate on Thermo-Technical Retrofitting in Mongolia

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



The Nexus Project recently supported an Energy Efficiency Project in Mongolia, which is also being implemented by GIZ. The aim was to introduce thermo-technical retrofitting to two kindergartens in Khovd and Uliastai. Each kindergarten has 250 children and 17-18 female teachers. Both kindergartens receive financial support from the Swiss (DEZA/SDC<sup>1</sup>) and the German Government or **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**. The Khovd kindergarten was inaugurated by the German Ambassador to Mongolia on 17 September 2014.

Around 50 construction workers at each construction site received on-the-job training to improve their skills and employability during the thermo-technical retrofitting works. Technical vocational schools in both cities were involved, sending 10 interns to the sites to improve their practical skills in fields such as masonry, heating/sanitation, flooring, electrical installation, ceramic tile laying, thermo-technical insulation, roofing and painting.

The retrofitted kindergartens will remain stable and in good condition for the next 30 years without major repair works being required. Nonetheless, janitors of the kindergartens were also trained in the process so as to prepare them to undertake adequate minor maintenance works.

The heat energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the kindergartens will be reduced by 50 per cent and more importantly, the better insulation means the earlier indoor temperature of 8-12 °C has been raised to an average of 22 °C.

The construction works at both locations were completed within 6 weeks. Schools and kindergartens resume courses before the middle of September and the facilities require heating from the end of September, so the retrofitting finished just in time.

<sup>1</sup>DEZA/Direktion fuer Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit, SDC/Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation



# NEXUS Project Helps to Support Sustainable Wastewater Strategy in Da Nang

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

A beautiful city and popular tourist destination, Da Nang is sitting on a time bomb. Its septic tanks, previously well sealed at the bottom, have never been emptied and today faecal matter is seeping slowly down to the groundwater.

Individual septic tanks are not considered an adequate solution for dense urban areas for a variety of reasons, namely:

- they are uneconomical;
- their construction cannot be controlled, in particular with regard to whether the bottom is sealed;
- the seals lose their tightness after 3-5 years leading to contamination of the surrounding soil and ground water;
- they emit methane into the air through their ventilation pumps.

Faced with this situation, Da Nang is looking to pursue a sustainable wastewater strategy. The World Bank is supporting this strategy through its “Da Nang Sustainable City Development Project”. In line with the strategy, the GIZ “Integrated Resource Management in Asian Cities: the Urban Nexus” Project (Nexus Project) has also selected to support the city in vacuum wastewater collection and waste-water treatment (biogas production) using the byproducts (irrigation water and fertilizer from biogas plant) for urban agriculture. This pilot project is a joint collaborative effort between GIZ and partners from the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI) and approved by Da Nang People’s Committee (DPC). Residents of An Hai Bac ward as well as planners, decision-makers and residents of Da Nang city are the main target groups, with a total of 110 households to be connected to the system.



A feasibility study on a vacuum sewer collection system for An Hai Bac Ward in the Eastern Coastal Area of Da Nang was conducted between April and August 2014 and included a cost comparison between gravity sewer and vacuum sewer systems. The cost comparison clearly indicated that installing vacuum sewer waste-water collection would reduce the costs by 47 per cent compared to in the gravity system. In terms of repair and maintenance, the vacuum sewer reduces the costs by 70 per cent.

Based on this study, the pilot project is scheduled to start as soon as the funds have been made available by DPC. Scaling up to cover the whole Eastern Coastal area of Da Nang and other interested cities in the region is envisaged after the demonstration project has been implemented, monitored and evaluated.

# Official Kick-Off: A Milestone for Regional In-Company-Trainer Standard for Mekong

By Nalina Hiranprueck

Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region



On the 10 September 2014, Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region project has officially kicked off its first activity, namely the development of “Regional In-Company-Trainer Standard” under the title “In-Company-Trainer Standard Development for ASEAN 2015”, at Grand Ballroom, Hilton Sukhumvit Bangkok, Thailand. The celebration was honored with the presence of Dr. Peer Gebauer, Charge d’Affaires, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany for Thailand, Dr. hc Jürgen Koppelin, former Member of the German Parliament, Mr. Nakorn Silpa-Archa, Director-General of Department of Skill Development, Ministry of Labor, Mr. Thavorn Chalassathien, Vice Chairman of the Federation of Thai Industries, Mr. Phongsakdi Chaksuvej and Mr. Jörg Buck, President and Executive Director of German-Thai Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Watanawit Gajaseni, Representative to Director-General of Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency and Director of Countries Partnership Branch, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Pattama Weerawanit, Director of Bureau of Personnel Development, Office of Vocational Education Commission, Ministry of Education, and Mr. David Oberhuber, Country Director for Thailand and Malaysia, GIZ (German International Cooperation).



To welcome all the participants and create common understanding on the project, Mr. Christian Stürer, GIZ Regional Project Director, introduced the project as well as the workshops, and their objectives to participants. The opening speech was, then, given by Dr. Peer Gebauer, Charge d’Affaires a.i., Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany for Thailand, directing specifically on the importance of vocational education in sustainable development in Thailand and the region. Keynote Speeches, stressing on the significance and necessity of private sector’s intervention in the vocational education system and importance of effectively organized in-company training, were delivered by Dr. hc Jürgen Koppelin, and private sector representatives, namely Mr. Jörg Buck of German-Thai Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Thavorn Chalassathien of Federation of Thai Industries. The opening ceremony ended with the topic “Vocational Education and Return of Investment for the Private Sector” by Dr. Volker Paul, GIZ expert, elaborating the benefits of private sector in engaging in in-company training.



“ As the project aims to develop a demand-oriented, context-based regional standard, the workshops are designed, using a participatory approach. ”

In the afternoon, the development workshop has officially started, involving explicitly the focus group, namely representatives from public and private sector from Mekong Region countries, namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, including participants from the Philippines as additional ASEAN country. During the two-and-a-half day workshop, participants were stimulated to give input regarding their ideas and expectations of the duty and competencies of In-Company-Trainers. The discussion was conducted first in working groups, categorized by their nature of work, namely public sector, middle management and trainers, and then in plenary, in which ideas generated from each group were discussed widely to find the common understanding and identification of “ideal” characteristics and duties of In-Company-Trainers. The processes were facilitated by Dr. Volker Paul, GIZ Saudi Arabia, Dr. Michael Grosch and Mrs. Ines Rohrdantz-Herrmann, experts from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, all of which would also be analyzing the inputs from the workshop together with other experts to design the upcoming workshop to develop In-Company-Trainer Curriculum.

The next workshop would be taking place during 29-31 October 2014, in which the participants would, then again, be invited to give inputs, comments and suggestions to be employed as basis in developing the context-oriented standard and curriculum, based on the demand of the stakeholder in the region.

#### Lesson Learnt

- During the workshop due to the diversity of participants, both in nationality and positions of engagement in the training system, their perception of In-Company-Trainer concept varies, from the meaning of the word to the extent of work these trainers are supposed to cover. Such different understanding would create confusion and, also, frustration among participants, if the issue has not been settled at initial state. Thus, for the workshop, relying majorly on the input of participants, a common understanding on the concept they are engaging is central to the process and should not be underestimated.
- As the project aims to develop a demand-oriented, context-based regional standard, the workshops are designed, using a participatory approach, in which the content and result of the workshops explicitly comes from the input of participants. The role of the experts in such processes is, thus, not a lecturer, but a facilitator, who gears the process to extract the input from them. The utilization of such method is not only to acknowledge the demand of the local stakeholders, develop the standard accordingly, and gain collective consensus among participants, but also aims to construct the feeling of ownership through the development processes, which is the way to instill the standard in the system sustainably.



# Malaysian-German Fishery Project in Timor-Leste Starts with Trainings

By Patric Hehemann [Malaysian-German Triangular Cooperation with Timor-Leste: "Capacity Development for Fishery Cooperative in Baucau"](#)

After successfully completing the first Malaysian-German trilateral project in the Cambodian port sector, project partners, GIZ and MTCP (Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme) are now moving ahead with their second project: Supporting the fishery sector in Timor-Leste. In Timor-Leste, fisheries have the potential to play a decisive role in enhancing food security, creating employment prospects and improving local living conditions. Yet, as of now, this potential has not been fulfilled due to limited capacities and insufficient structures in the fishery sector.



**“ The Malaysian-German fishery project in Timor-Leste launches a series of training courses to enhance the capacities of policy makers, extension workers, and local experts from the Timorese fisheries sector. ”**

Therefore, GIZ and MTCP have jointly launched a series of activities to support capacity development in the Timorese fishery sector. With the assistance and expertise of the Malaysian Department of Fisheries (DoF), two training courses for Timorese fishery stakeholders are currently being prepared. They will take place in Malaysia in October and November 2014.

First, a five-day training course on effective and sustainable policy-making in the fisheries sector will be conducted for participants from relevant Timorese ministries, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery. This training will not only convey Malaysian experiences and knowhow on fisheries, but also include inputs on German strategy and policy making. Second, a 30-day training course for Timorese extension workers and local fishery experts will be carried out. This training will equip the participants with knowledge and skills of maritime fisheries, extension methodology, cooperatives, and sustainable fishing. “Train-the-trainers” courses will also be provided to ensure that participants can share their knowledge with others. Next year, Malaysian experts will spend one month in Timor-Leste to provide further assistance to the trained extension workers and to support a local fishery cooperative in its work.

To successfully implement the project, GIZ has expanded its project team and hired a project coordinator in Timor-Leste, who will work directly with the Timorese partners, contribute local expertise and coordinate all activities in the country. With project staff now located in the GIZ country office in Bangkok, in the project office in Kuala Lumpur and on-site in Timor-Leste, the project cooperates closely with all partners to provide effective and sustainable support to the Timorese fishery sector.



# Capacity Building for SME Bank in Loan Lending for Energy Efficiency and Environmental Improvement

By Wilasinee Poonuchaphai  
Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries

One of the supportive measures to encourage SMEs and enable them to increase their capabilities in energy efficiency and environmental improvement, the financing of green loans comes from diversified and separate sources and uses different promotion agencies with different objectives. Many banks are attempting to promote their green financial products but lack a profound understanding of the concept of green technology and management, resulting in a long process for loan approval and often missing out on the opportunity to get the new clients. The project is therefore supporting its partner, SME Bank, to improve its performance in Green loan lending by training Bank officers in Energy Efficiency and Environmental Improvement. The training sessions have been conducted twice, on 28 August and 18 September 2014, and encompassed 107 bank officers from 4 departments, namely loan development, lending, risk management, loan monitoring and evaluation. The main contents of training cover **Overview of Cash flow from Energy and Resource Efficiency Project, Understanding of Project Execution Methodology, Overview of Loan Process, Mapping Project Execution Methodology vs. Loan Process, Integrated Framework Analysis, Characteristics of Energy and Environmental Savings Project for Industry, Government Policy and Drivers, Risk Analysis and Risk Mitigation, Loan Quality Monitoring and Work Exercises.**

An evaluation conducted after the training found that most of bank officers were satisfied with the knowledge provided and that this had been successful in increase their loan performance. Furthermore, the SME Bank is now requesting that this training be provided to their officers at provincial and regional offices throughout Thailand.

“Lack of a profound understanding of the concept of green technology” leads to a long process for loan approval and means often missing out on the opportunity to get the new clients.

ระบบแสงสว่าง หลอดไฟทั่วไปที่ใช้ในอุตสาหกรรม				
				
T8 Fluorescent	Mercury Vapor	Metal Halide	High Pressure Sodium	
ขนาดกำลังไฟฟ้า	15-58 Watt	50-1,000 Watt	35-2000 Watt	35-1000 Watt
ปริมาณแสงที่ไฟ	450-5,200 Lumen	1,800-58,000 Lumen	2,400-240,000 Lumen	2,400-130,000 Lumen
ประสิทธิภาพการส่องสว่าง	45-93 Lumen/Watt	30-60 Lumen/Watt	60-120 Lumen/Watt	70-130 Lumen/Watt
อายุการใช้งาน	8,000-12,000 hours	20,000-2,4000 hours	8,000-15,000 hours	18,000-24,000 hours
สีของแสง	Warm White to Daylight	White	White to Cool White	Warm White
อุณหภูมิสี	2,700-6,500 K	3,000-4,200 K	2,900-6,000 K	2,000-2,200 K
การเปล่งสี	Moderate to Excellent	Moderate	Good to Excellent	Poor to Moderate
ดัชนีการเปล่งสี	60~90	40~60	60~90	30~50

# Accessing Green Finance for Energy Efficiency and Environmental Improvement

By Wilasinee Poonuchaphai

Greening Supply Chain in the Thai Auto and Automotive Parts Industries



Green financial instruments and schemes range from debt financing to equity financing for project investments, and some agencies also provide soft loans and financial support to SMEs to undertake training programmes or consultancies that will enhance know-how and skills to implement desired Environmental and Energy measures. Without good knowledge of each different scheme, it is unlikely that SMEs will have the competency to fully comprehend the potential of each of the packages for their business. It is also unlikely that SMEs will have the resources to pull together all the various schemes and packages and evaluate the best financial package on which to base a decision and proceed with their application for support.

With this concern in mind GIZ together with its Thai partners organized an information forum or an Executive Dinner Talk on the topic of Accessing Green Finance for Energy Efficiency and Environmental Improvement. This was held on 16 October 2014 at the Four Seasons Hotel Bangkok. Dr. Piyasvasti Amranand, Chairman of the Energy for Environment Foundation gave a keynote speech titled "True competitiveness for sustainable growth through green technology development". This was designed to raise audience awareness and enhance their understanding of energy structure and price, as well as its importance in increasing the competitiveness of the automotive industry. This forum also provided executives and decision-makers in the automotive industry with an overview of financial packages for energy and environment projects the potential for services to their businesses and case studies. Five banks, namely Kasikorn Bank, Bangkok Bank, CIMB, Krung Thai Bank and SME Bank, presented their Green financial products, providing an opportunity to discuss these issues and to explore how financial packages can be maximized for greater efficiency.

# Ministry of Energy and Thai Delegates Join an “Energy Efficiency” Study Trip to Denmark and Germany

By Monthon Kumpaengseth and Ampawa Moonmueang  
Thai-German Programme on Energy Efficiency Development Plan (TGP-EEDP)



▲ After the EE workshop with BMUB, BMWi, RENAC and BEA at GIZ office in Berlin

During 31 August to 6 September 2014, 23 representatives of Energy Policy and Planning Office (EPPO), Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE), the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), the Metropolitan Electricity Authority (MEA), the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA), Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization), the Joint Graduate School of Energy and Environment (JGSEE) and the Thai-German Programme on Energy Efficiency Development Plan (TGP-EEDP) plus energy efficiency experts as well as two representatives of Thai ESCO Association, participated in a Study Trip to Denmark and Germany to look at energy efficiency policy, its implementation and the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system in industry and the building sector.



▲ Energy Efficiency Building (Passive Building)

The participants had the opportunity to visit the Danish Energy Agency and discuss the planning and implementation of its energy efficiency policy; in particular how to design and enforce an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS). Executive-level participants also met with representatives of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) in Germany and exchanged lessons-learned on the implementation of energy efficiency and climate policy in both Thailand and Germany.

At the Energy Efficiency (EE) working-level, the group visited Bodycote Company, one of the world leaders in thermal processing services as well as an energy efficiency project at the hospital 'Paulinen' in Berlin where an Energy Performance Contract facilitator provides advice on EE measures while the management is assured by an Energy Service Company (ESCO). The EE working group also visited the 'Adlerhof' Industrial Estate and Complex, which has been labeled an "Energy Efficiency City". The residential sector was addressed by a tour led by a city planner and architect of one of the passive residential buildings in Berlin. In addition to the practical site visits, all participants took part in a half-day workshop on energy efficiency policy at GIZ in Berlin co-organized by BMUB, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, and GIZ, with contributions from the Renewables Academy AG (RENAC) and Berlin Energy Agency (BEA). On the last day of the study visit, the TGP-EEDP team together with the Wuppertal Institute organized a wrap-up workshop to summarize the excursions and experiences throughout the trip in relation to the EERS and the Standard Offer Program (SOP) and discussed the barriers and the challenges to implement the EERS and SOP as well as an appropriate Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system in Thailand.



# Workshop on Ratification, Implementation and Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention

By Yosthana Siphomsay Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region



“ The purpose of this workshop was to provide updated information on guidance for ratification and implementation of the MARPOL convention for ASEAN member states. ”

MARPOL 73/78 (the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships) is one of the most important international marine environmental conventions. It was designed to minimize pollution of the seas, including dumping, oil and exhaust pollution through shipping. Its objective is to preserve the marine environment through the elimination of pollution by oil and other harmful substances and the minimization of accidental discharge of such substances.

The ASEAN-German Technical Cooperation ‘Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region’ Project organized a workshop on the Ratification, Implementation and Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention at the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) in Manila on 16-17 June 2014. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the PPA, and Atty. Josephine Uranza, the IMO Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific. Atty. Uranza gave the opening remarks for the event. Participants of the workshop included representatives from the national-level transport ministries of ASEAN member states.

The purpose of this workshop was to provide updated information on guidance for ratification and implementation of the MARPOL convention for ASEAN member states, including recommendations for transposition into national law. The workshop further provided a platform for the ASEAN countries to share knowledge and experience with regards to implementation and enforcement of these conventions. It also provided the participants with opportunities to discuss possible measures to overcome the challenges of implementation and enforcement, as well as recommendations for ways forward.

The two-day workshop resulted in fruitful discussions and outcomes, through the excellent facilitation of Atty. Brenda V. Pimentel. Noteworthy discussions ensued on the barriers to MARPOL ratification, implementation, and enforcement, with a particular focus on port reception facilities for ships waste.

# Nam Xong Sub-River Basin in Lao PDR - the Model for Integrated River Basin Management and Promotion of Community Participation

By Jiraluck Inwong Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme



ໂຄງການການຄຸ້ມຄອງອ່າງແມ່ນ້ຳຍ່ອຍ ນ້ຳຊອງ  
(ຄວາມຮ່ວມມືສາມຝ່າຍ ລາວ-ໄທ-ເຢຍລະມັນ)

Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project  
(Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation)



The Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project, jointly implemented by the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, GIZ and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) of Lao PDR under the Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme was completed in March 2014. The sub-river basin has now become a model and learning venue for integrated sub-river basin management, engagement of stakeholders (central, regional and local authorities and civil society) and application of the community-based water quality protection concept. The project's success has also drawn the attention of relevant parties and academicians in the field of sub-river basin management both in Lao PDR and neighboring countries. Delegates of several organizations and development programmes have visited the project site to learn and share experiences with the Nam Xong task force and apply lessons-learned to the development of other areas.

Tha Dee-sub-river basin in Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand is the pilot site for the "Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand" Project or "ECO-BEST". The project aims to develop economic and financial tools for local application by the Tha Dee sub-river basin management committee. Because a field visit to Nam Xong project site would provide a good opportunity for the Tha Dee sub-river basin management committee to learn from the management structures and implementation of the Nam Xong Project, which involves local authorities and civil society, a 4-day field trip to Nam Xong sub-river basin to observe and share experiences was organised from 26-30 August 2014.

### The objectives of this field trip were as follows:

- To disseminate and share the concept, approaches and lessons-learned on sub-river basin management, the establishment of a sub-river basin committee, the announcement of water protection regulations at sub-river basin-level and other useful issues among stakeholders of the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project and ECO-BEST Project
- To initiate a sub-river basin collaborative network between the Nam Xong sub-river basin in Lao PDR and the Tha Dee sub-river basin in Thailand
- To enhance awareness of participatory management and application of the TEEB concept/economic tools in sub-river basin protection for local authority and partner organizations, in both the Nam Xong and Tha Dee sub-river basins.



On the last day of the field trip, members of the Tha Dee sub-river basin committee summarized and shared lessons-learned on appropriate sub-river basin management approaches that can be applied in their project area, as follows:

- Apply participatory approach to the establishment and management of a sub-river basin management committee. Local, regional and central governmental agencies should be informed and involved in the planning process to ensure effective and harmonious implementation.
- Involve stakeholders in the announcement of sub-river basin regulations and relevant measures. They must participate in the planning process and in the drafting of regulations to build a sense of ownership. The stakeholders will eventually collaborate and comply with the regulations. Moreover, regulations must be drafted based on the local context.
- Local communities are very important in sub-river basin management. Understanding and awareness of the issues will promote participation by local communities in the development and transformation of the target area. The intervention should be piloted in communities that are keen and strong enough to demonstrate successful results to other communities.





Examples of model communities in Nam Xong sub-river basin are as follows:

- Contribution of labour and partial funding for the construction of a simple household waste-water treatment facility in Hintid Village, Hinheup District: Community residents are involved in the whole process from supervising the construction to the operation and maintenance of the household waste-water treatment system. They have formed an internal committee that takes turns monitoring the operations and conducting routine maintenance of the system. Moreover, they collect monthly contributions for the long-term maintenance of the system.
- Management of Kang Yui Waterfall, Na Duang Village, Vang Vieng District, Vientiane Province: The community set up a system to collect entrance fees, rental fees and service fees for ecotourism. In addition, they established measures to protect and maintain the abundance of the ecosystem and to improve the community's livelihood.

Delegates joining the field trip comprised executives of the Protected Area Regional Office 5; representatives of governmental agencies; upstream, midstream and downstream communities who perform key roles in mobilizing and driving water management and the Tha Dee sub-river basin management Committee. They received a warm welcome from the Nam Xong sub-river basin task force and the local people.





“The development here is very impressive. Local people understand and are willing to shoulder the construction and maintenance costs of the household community waste-water treatment facility for their health and livelihoods. In my view, it is not easy to encourage this level of community participation. This is highly commendable.”

Mr. Piyarat Mookasa, Chief of Kiriwong Watershed Research Station,  
a delegate of Tha Dee sub-river basin team



“This field trip provides a good opportunity for upstream, midstream and downstream people of the Tha Dee sub-river basin to meet, discuss and learn together. We have gained beneficial and practical lessons from the Nam Xong sub-river basin. The experiences will eventually initiate ideas to mobilize development and management of the Tha Dee sub-river basin.”

an ECO-BEST project team member

To establish a planned collaborative network on Thai-Lao sub-river basins management, the Nam Xong sub-river basin task force followed up the field trip with a field visit of their own to Tha Dee sub-river basin from 2-7 September 2014.

# ECO-BEST Supports Community Engagement and Establishment of Thai-Lao Sub-River Basin Management Networks

By Piyaporn Pekkad The Enhancing the Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Thailand/South East Asia



ໂຄງການການຄຸ້ມຄອງອ່າງແມ່ນ້ຳຊອງ ນ້ຳຊອງ  
(ຄວາມຮ່ວມມືສາມຝ່າຍ ລາວ-ໄທ-ເຢຍລະມັນ)  
Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project  
(Lao-Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation)



The Thai government ranks river basin management among the top priorities of the country's strategic plan. However, river basin management does not efficiently cover small areas, such as sub-river basin management. The Khlong Tha Dee Conservation Group, with the participation of the local people in Nakhon Si Thammarat, has joined with the ECO-BEST Project and Protect Areas Regional Office 5, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation in the application of appropriate economic instruments for the area, known as the "Khlong Tha Dee Conservation Fund". The fund operates on the concept that people who benefit from conservation should pay and support conservationists' activities.

Throughout its implementation period, ECO-BEST has engaged civil and governmental sectors in the establishment of the fund and selected the interim Tha Dee Sub-river Basin Management Committee members from 7 tambons and 3 municipalities along Khlong Tha Dee as well as competent persons for the task. In reference to the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project, the project under the trilateral Thai-German-Lao cooperation programme, has set up a model and learning venue for integrated sub-river basin management in Lao PDR. The concept is in line with Khlong Tha Dee task force, which focuses on sub-river management and biodiversity conservation. ECO-BEST has continuously supported the establishment of the Thai-Lao cooperation network. Among its activities was the organization of a study trip for delegates of Khlong Tha Dee Sub-river Basin taskforce and executives of the Protect Areas Regional Office 5 to share implementation experiences at Nam Xong Sub-river Basin, Lao PDR on 26-30 August 2014. Afterwards, on 2-7 September 2014, Nam Xong Sub-river Basin Management taskforce, comprising communities representatives, local (Kasy, Vang Vieng and Hinheap districts), provincial (Vientiane province) and national (Vientiane City) authorities, had the opportunity to join a study trip to Khlong Tha Dee Sub-river Basin. They summarized lessons-learned to be presented to executives of Lao PDR and applied the approaches to the National Sub-river Basin Management Demonstration Center as follows:



- Involvement of local administrative offices and community members is essential for the management of protected areas and buffer zones in watershed areas. Strengthening knowledge and enhancing public awareness on the importance of watershed forests is important. “Project implementation must be based on local people’s understanding and evidence. If we cannot make them understand what we are doing and see tangible results of project implementation, it will be difficult to mobilize conservation efforts,” said Dr. Damrong Yotharak, ECO-BEST project consultant.
- Agroforestry or “Suan Som Rom”, as it is locally known, is a mixed cropping plantation that keeps local timber trees for home construction or for sale as the direct benefit. Indirect benefits of mixed cropping is disaster (such as landslide) prevention. Vegetables and fruit trees are inter-planted for year-round household consumption.
- Local wisdom and community engagement are the key factors for the successful bio-based weirs. Experience has shown that the support, fund-raising, contribution of labour and available construction materials from the community, planting of banyan trees along both banks and placement of fertilizer bags made from natural materials on top of the weirs’ bamboo structures have turned the normally dry streams into living streams. Roots of the banyan trees along the stream banks help retain water for the benefits of people in the Tha Dee Sub-river Basin.
- Sub-river basin management requires the engagement of stakeholders, academicians and partners in the whole sub-river basin to push for desirable changes. Examples are the drive for the establishment of the Khlong Tha Dee Conservation Fund and the Tha Dee Sub-river Basin Committee. Besides the conservation fund, there are other measures that the people in the sub-river basin have approved through consultative meetings. An example is to ask for cooperation from downstream fishermen to adopt the traditional fishing practices and to avoid the use of trawl nets.



# Model Cooperatives and Effective Promotion System Becomes a Focus of Second Year Strategy

By Jarukan Rassiri Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme

The “Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam Project” under Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation, has reached its mid-term implementation. The project therefore organized a mid-term review and planning workshop, followed by a project steering committee meeting, between 30 June and 3 July 2014 in Tamky City, Quang Nam Province, Vietnam. The workshop brought together key project partners, stakeholders and target groups to reflect on the project strategy and performance during the first year of implementation. They also jointly adjusted the project strategy and work plan for the second year.

The participants included the main project partners, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) at the regional and provincial level, Thailand Cooperative Promotion Department, Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) and GIZ.

“The “Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam Project” aims to improve the service and support structure for cooperative and SMEs in Western Highland and Central Region of Vietnam through capacity-building for Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) and the pilot cooperatives/SMEs in selected provinces. The project period is two years from 2013 to mid-2015.



Participants found that the project is proceeding on track. However, cooperation and engagement of officials at the provincial level was identified as the key to success, as they are the agents of change to promote and support cooperatives in their catchment areas. These officials still need necessary skills and innovative solutions for how to better support the cooperatives to achieve their strategic objectives and improve their performance. At the cooperative level, market orientation was identified as an important guiding principle for each pilot cooperative business operation. They still need considerable support on how to monitor and follow their strategic and business plans so that they can achieve concrete results, improved performance and increase member life quality in a more systematic way. Intensive support for the pilot cooperative so that it becomes a successful model is crucial for the project’s second-year work.





From the results of the review, the participants jointly adjusted the project's second year strategy to focus more on establishing a feasible service and support system for the cooperatives in Central Vietnam. Representatives from VCA at the regional and provincial levels jointly developed a service plan to support the pilot cooperative, and explored how to root this into the current system. Involving decision makers at national level was also integrated into the plan. For the model cooperatives, the team decided to scope the numbers of cooperatives to support so as to be more realistic. The support to the selected model cooperatives was also designed to be more intensive, until the cooperative can really reach the level of important changes they are aiming for.

After the project's second year work plan was completed, the project steering committee meeting was held to discuss the review results and agree on the adjusted work plan. A study visit to a pilot cooperative was also conducted for the participants to see an example of the actual cooperative situation and its strategic plan.

# TICA, GIZ and Thai Government Agencies Jointly Review and Share Development Cooperation Experiences

By Warisa Sungkaprom Thai-German Trilateral Cooperation Programme

Once a “Recipient Country” of technical cooperation, Thailand has now evolved into a “provider” of development cooperation, with the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the main agency responsible for cooperation management. The focus is on promoting Thailand as a learning centre and improving the efficiency of development cooperation mainly through the sharing of knowledge and expertise from Thai agencies and experts. TICA and GIZ fully recognise the importance of exchange of experiences and lessons-learned among Thai experts with the information being used to improve development cooperation models, e.g., trilateral cooperation, bilateral cooperation and regional cooperation, all of which utilise Thai-based expertise.



▲ Ms. Suchada Thaibantao, TICA Director General, delivered the welcome address.

TICA and GIZ jointly held a workshop titled “Review and Exchange of Experiences in International Development Cooperation with Thai Agencies” on 8 September 2014 at the Hilton Hotel, Sukhumvit. Workshop participants included experts, practitioners and academicians, all of them involved in the implementation of international development projects, from the Department of Agriculture (DOA), the National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS), the Department of Water

Resources (DWR), the Department of Disease Control (DDC), the Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW), the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), the Port Authority of Thailand including various academic institutions, TICA officials and GIZ staff. They were invited to share lessons-learned and identify approaches to solve and improve the challenges of development cooperation implementation and networking of Thai agencies and experts.





The experience-sharing workshop highlighted problems and challenges witnessed by experts who have worked in the field. The challenges discussed were in focus areas of impact and sustainability strategy, cooperation, implementation processes, steering structure, and learning and innovation. For example, Asst. Prof. Narongsak Jukrkorn of Phranakorn Rajabhat University, who conducted a business and environmental training course for the “Strengthening Cooperatives and SMEs in Central Vietnam” Project, stressed the importance of the change process, pointing out that one training session or lecture cannot deliver the desired change. This is the challenge of project strategy formulation. “Knowledge transfer may be simple, but to make any tangible change is difficult,” he said. “The challenge of project implementation includes also the difficulties of travelling which can sometimes be life-threatening due to unfavourable geographical and climatic conditions,” added Mrs. Chadaporn Unhapanee, a director of public participation promotion division of DWR, Thai expert

who provided technical support to the Nam Xong Sub-River Basin Management Project. This is a problem encountered by experts working in foreign countries.

Besides problems and challenges, solutions were identified by employing the “5 Key Success Factors” tool to analyse bilateral, trilateral and other cooperation models. A common issue raised by Thai experts is that an international cooperation project is an additional task rather than a direct responsibility, according to the agency’s Key Performance Indicator (KPI). Consequently, Thai experts cannot fully commit to the project. To enhance the engagement of Thai sector agencies in the cooperation, policy changes must be made to incorporate cooperation work, particularly in the context of the Southeast Asian community, with the Thai agencies’ missions. The establishment of a network of agencies and experts to provide resources for international cooperation was also proposed.



“ The technical expert must have a strong spirit,  
be willing to work in rough conditions  
and have practical skills and experience. ”

Dr. Pongwit Bualombai,  
DDC (Development of Malaria Diagnosis Standards  
in WHO-SEARO Countries Project)

---

“ My benefit from being engaged in international  
development cooperation is the pride and happiness  
gained from sharing knowledge and experiences with  
neighboring countries. I'm proud that Thailand has been  
internationally recognized as an expert or leader in  
certain specific technical field. ”

Watcharin Upasanikorn,  
DOA (Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)  
in Lao PDR Project)





# Seminar and Exhibition on Green Procurement

By Surachai Leewattananukul Sustainable Consumption and Production, SCP Policy



The Pollution Control Department (PCD) together with the EU-SCP Policy Project organised a seminar and exhibition to exchange information about green procurement and green products on 27 August 2014 at the Plaza Athenee Hotel Bangkok. More than 400 participants from both the public and private sectors attended the seminar and 12 booths exhibited green products. The seminar was chaired by the PCD Director General and a representative of the European Union Delegation (EUDEL) delivered the welcome speech. The seminar featured a panel discussion on “From Production to Consumption with Green Products” in which the key stakeholders—the Deputy Director General of PCD, a manufacturer’s representative, an Environmental Label specialist, the EUDEL representative and an eco-designer shared their experiences. The conclusion reached was that in order to drive the green market, contributions from all parties were needed and consumers provided with the right information.

The Permanent Secretary of Ministry of the Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) presented the “Best Green Procurement Performance” award to the public organisations and private companies with a good record in green procurement. There was also an MOU signing between the PCD and National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) to conduct research on pollution protection and sustainable consumption and production. This seminar was an important step towards the second phase of GPP policy in Thailand (2013-2016).

“ In order to drive the green market, contributions from all parties were needed and consumers provided with the right information.”

# Intra-Regional Peer to Peer Knowledge Exchange

By Stella Haun and Martina Kolb Clean Air for Smaller Cities in the ASEAN Region

The study tour of a Vietnamese Delegation from Bac Ninh and Can Tho, Vietnam was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 20-24 July 2014. It aimed at providing insight into the development of the Chiang Mai Clean Air Plan (CAP) that has been elaborated by the City Administration in cooperation with the GIZ project 'Clean Air for Smaller Cities (CASC) in the ASEAN Region'. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ in cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, and aims to support cities with 200,000 to 1,500,000 inhabitants to develop and implement CAPs.

As Bac Ninh and Can Tho, both Vietnamese partner cities, are taking first steps in CAP development, respective tour participants were senior decision-makers seeking first-hand insight in Chiang Mai's CAP development experience. The following results were achieved:

- Increased capacity on urban air quality management,
- Strengthened capacity for emission control strategies,
- Wider understanding of financial management and fund mobilization for CAP implementation, and
- Comprehension of the usage of air quality monitoring data.

The study tour provided not only extensive exchange of knowledge, but further established the basis for future cooperation among the cities in tackling the challenges regarding air quality and sustainable transport planning jointly. Bac Ninh and Can Tho will develop their respective CAPs in 2015 and benefit from the lessons learned in Chiang Mai.



[www.CitiesForCleanAir.org](http://www.CitiesForCleanAir.org)

Contact: Ms. Napaporn Yuberk, Regional Project Manager, [napaporn.yuberk@giz.de](mailto:napaporn.yuberk@giz.de)

and Ms. Stella Haun, Intern, [stella.haun@giz.de](mailto:stella.haun@giz.de)

# Knowledge Sharing Session on Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds

By Roland Treitler and Jaruan Ngamsing Improved Management of  
Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (ECOSWat)



The knowledge sharing session on Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds was organized by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (GIZ-ECOSWat) and held on 1 August 2014. The objectives of this session were to disseminate knowledge on Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) to more than 60 DWR staff at the national and regional levels, to showcase EbA applications for flood control and drought alleviation in Germany and to discuss potential EbA applications in the context of watershed management in Thailand.

GIZ-ECOSWat shared good practices and lessons learned from Germany demonstrating the mutual benefit of an EbA measurement along the Elbe River, which integrates flood protection and recreational areas and even generates an income for the local community. Academics from implementing partners, Khon Kaen and Walailak University, also contributed their points of view on water resource management approaches in Germany and how these could be applied in the two project pilot areas: Huay Sai Bat Sub-river Basin in the Northeast and Tha Dee Sub-river Basin in the South of Thailand. Although both pilot sites are suffering different problems-the Northeast is facing water shortage problems while the South has to deal with flash floods and landslides-both presenters recommended the integration of EbA measurement in the existing water plans, as well as further disseminating knowledge about EbA and involving the private and public sector as well as civil society.



# Study Tour and Field Trip in Nakhon Si Thammarat

By Roland Treitler and Jaruan Ngamsing Improved Management of Extreme Events through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Watersheds (ECOSWat)



“ During the meeting, agreement reached on integrating EbA approaches and implementing EbA measurements in the Tungsong region. ”

GIZ-ECOSWat organized a study tour and field trip to Nakhon Si Thammarat on 1-2 September 2014. Delegates from Khon Kaen (Khon Kaen University, Chairman of Chi and Huai Sai Bat Working Committee), the Department of Water Resources Regional Office 7 and Bangkok and GIZ Team members participated in the trip.

On Day 1, the delegation was warmly welcomed by Walailak University and attended the introductory and consultation meeting during which all participants agreed on further cooperation in the exchange of knowledge between ECOSWat's pilot areas in Khon Kaen and Nakhon Si Thammarat Provinces.

The delegates later visited the Living Weir initiated and implemented by Mr. Somdech Kongkuea (Chairman of Lion Club, Nakhon Si Thammarat). He has kindly introduced the concepts of the Living Weir in various locations. The delegation learned about the benefits of the Living Weir in relation to integrated water management and to Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA).

On Day 2, the delegation visited Tungsong Municipality in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province. The meeting was hosted by the Tungsong Mayor, Mr. Songchai Wongwatchradamrong, and was a follow-up to the event held in July 2014, when cooperation between three River Basins (Trang, Tha Pi, Tha Dee) was established and formalised. The next steps were discussed during the meeting and agreement reached on integrating EbA approaches and implementing EbA measurements in the Tungsong region. Moreover, a vocational-level curriculum will be developed and offered at the regional training centre for Global Warming Learning.





## GIZ Thailand and more projects are now on Facebook



Since the launch of five Thai-German and ASEAN-German projects Facebook pages during the first half of this year, the projects have experienced good feedback and a more interactive network has been created. The pages are also proving effective in disseminating project results and good practices to wider audiences and other countries in the region. GIZ Thailand, the Trilateral Cooperation Programme, and Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region recently launched their Facebook pages. In addition to connecting with wider groups of readers, we are also aiming to enhance cooperation between parties, something which is very significant for the success of the projects.

In addition, GIZ Training Services are now on Facebook and will be keeping readers informed about various training courses on consulting competencies, communication skills, project management and administrative skills.

Click 'like' and 'follow' on our pages and you will be updated!

GIZ Thailand

<https://www.facebook.com/gizthailand>

Trilateral Cooperation Programme

<https://www.facebook.com/TrilateralCooperation>

Effective In-Company Vocational Training in the Mekong Region

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/In-Company-Training-Mekong>

GIZ Training Hub (Bangkok)

<https://www.facebook.com/giztrainingbangkok>

**Editors:** Vorathep Songpanya  
Siriporn Treepornpairat

**Authors:**

Duangruetai Surasakjinda  
Juthatip Tanyaphituck  
Better Rice Initiative Asia (BRIA) project team  
Kamol Taukitphaisarn  
Tim Mahler  
Ruth Erlbeck  
Ralph Trosse  
Nalina Hiranprueck  
Patric Hehemann  
Wilasinee Poonuchaphai  
Monthon Kumpaengseth  
Ampawa Moonmueang  
Yosthana Siphomsay  
Jiraluck Inwong  
Piyaporn Pekkad  
Jarukan Rassiri  
Warisa Sungkaprom  
Surachai Leewattananukul  
Stella Haun  
Martina Kolb  
Roland Treitler  
Jaruwat Ngamsing

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 (16<sup>th</sup> Floor) New Ratchadapisek Road, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110  
Tel: 02-661-9273 Fax: 02-661-9281 –2

**E-mail:** [siriporn.treepornpairat@giz.de](mailto:siriporn.treepornpairat@giz.de)

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

## Sustainable Consumption and Production

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

## Environmental and Climate Protection

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

## Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

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

## Agriculture and Food Security

- ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems (ASEAN Biocontrol - BMZ)

## Sustainable Urban Development and Transport

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

## Regional Integration and South-South-Cooperation

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