



2013 Thai Environment Day



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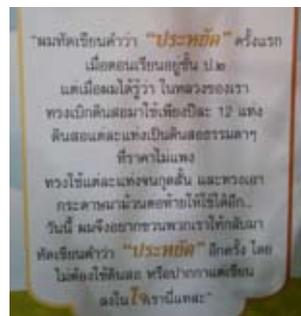
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2013 Thai Environment Day and National NEV-NET Day



Development of Environmental Quality Promotion organized activities for Thai Environment Day and National Day of Natural Resources and Environmental Volunteer Network (National NEV-NET Day) on 3-4 December 2013 at IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Center, Muang Thong Thani. During this event, Mr. Wichet Kasemthongsri, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, presided taking the oath of allegiance for HM the King's Birthday and opening ceremonies. The event was prepared under the concept of "Uniting Thai Green Hearts" to encourage public participation in sustainable natural resources and environmental management. Meanwhile, the 2013 Annual General Meeting and activities of NEV-NET took place in the same event to share opinions and experiences, integrate their work together; as well as remarkable achievements of NEV-NET exhibition on protection, conservation, restoration, and looking after local natural resources and environment to show the symbols of cooperation with helping minds of NEV-NET. There were 1,200 attendees, including 684 NEV-NET members all over the country, 76 representatives of Provincial Offices of Natural Resources and Environment, 400 members of NEV-NET in Bangkok, and 40 people from related agencies. More activities in this event were the exhibition of accomplishments and knowledge from environmental agencies, seminars, environmental awards ceremony, and express their blessing tribute to HM the King into the signing book.

Following in the Footsteps of His Majesty the King



Following in the Footsteps of His Majesty the King Exhibition was held on Thai Environment Day 2013 (4 December) during 3-4 December 2013 at IMPACT Convention Center, Muang Thong Thani, Nonthaburi. This event consisted of the following activities:

1. Following in the Footsteps of His Majesty the King Exhibition and
2. Promising to do good for our Environment via the website of Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (www.deqp.go.th). The objectives of these activities were to disseminate HM the King's initiatives, devotions and sufficiency economy philosophy which have been good examples for Thai people for over 60 years and to let people realize the value of natural resources and environment, moreover, these could be the way for changing their attitudes and consuming behaviors in order to move forward to environmental-friendly society. In addition, "Following in the Footsteps of His Majesty the King Handbook" was published and distributed to the participants as well.

The Movement of Climate Talks 2013 in Warsaw

Governments around the world have just over a year in which to set out their targets on curbing greenhouse gas emissions from 2020, after marathon overnight climate change talks in Warsaw produced a partial deal.

Under the agreement more than 36 hours of non-stop negotiations, "Warsaw has set a pathway for governments to work on a draft text of a new universal climate agreement, an essential step to reach a final agreement in Paris, in 2015," said Marcin Korolec, the Polish host of the conference, who was demoted from environment minister to climate envoy during the talks.

The talks were characterized by discord and acrimony, and by the emergence of a new and highly vocal negotiating bloc among developing countries that forced through the watering down of key aspects of the deal.

The emissions goals, to come into force from 2020, will be set at a national level, but after they are published there will be a chance for other countries to scrutinize them and assess whether they are fair and sufficiently ambitious. At the insistence of a small group of developing countries, they will take the form of "contributions" rather than the stronger "commitments" that most other countries wanted.

Meanwhile, the Green Climate Fund Board is to commence its initial resource mobilization process as soon as possible and developed countries were asked for ambitious, timely contributions by COP 20, in December, next year, to enable an effective operationalization.

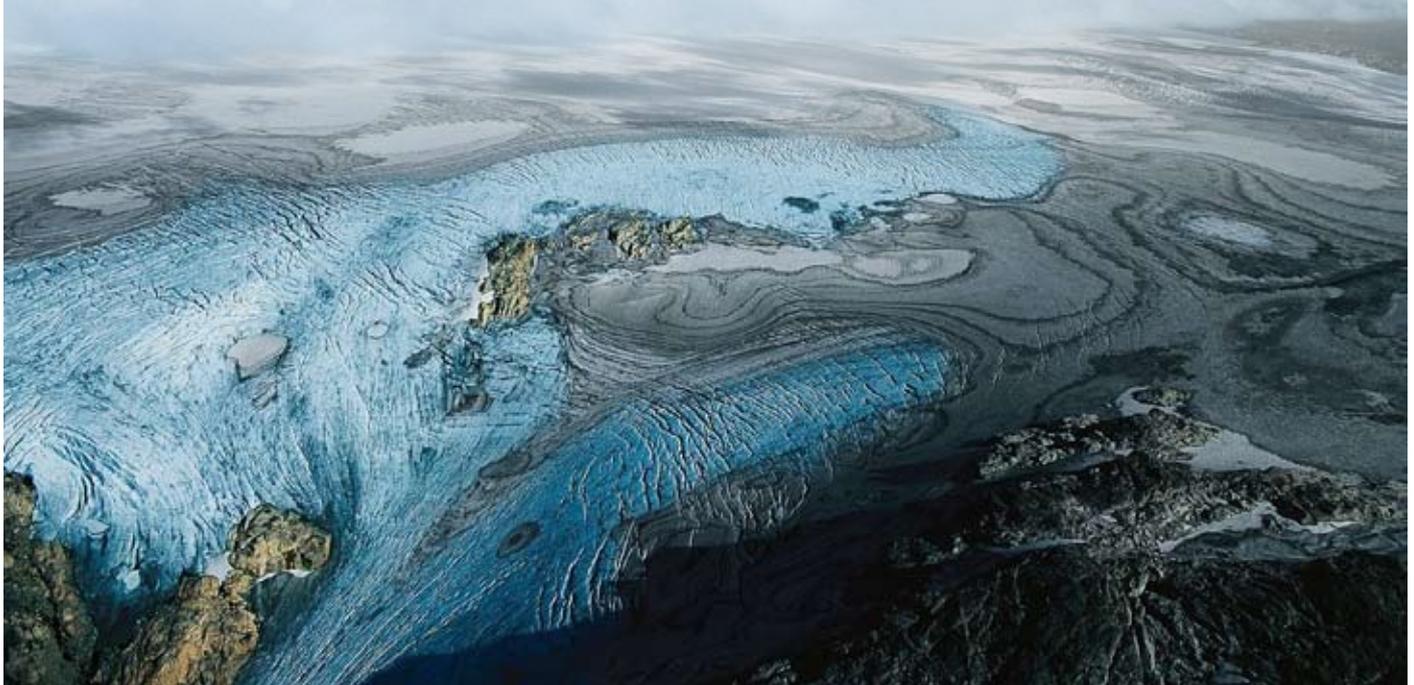
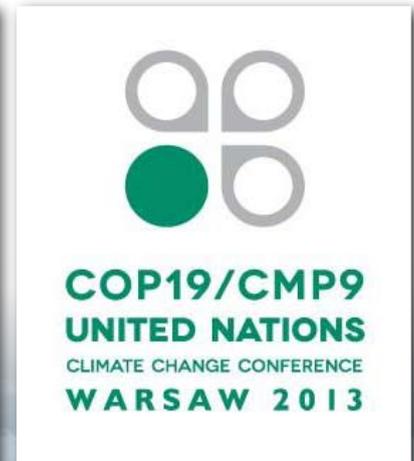
Loss and damage was one of the key rows in the early stages of the meeting, as some developing countries demanded "compensation" from rich countries for the damage they suffered from extreme weather. A compromise was reached with a new "Warsaw international mechanism" by which the victims of disaster will receive aid, but it will not be linked to any liability from developed countries.

Another success at the conference was the completion of a new mechanism to keep the world's remaining forests standing. Called REDD+, for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation, this has been in the works for most of the last decade.

Warsaw has set a pathway for governments to work on a draft text a new universal climate agreement so it appears on the table at the next UN Climate change conference in Peru.

Conference resolved to close the pre-2020 ambition gap by intensifying technical work and more frequent engagement of Ministers. The Conference also decided to establish an international mechanism to provide most vulnerable population with better protection against loss and damage cause by extreme weather events and slow onset events such as rising sea levels. Detailed work on the so-called "Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage" will begin next year.

Source: The Guardian, Sunday 24 November 2013
www.unfccc.int



Haze, Not Fog

Haze is different from Fog as the latter is the result of condensed steam in chilling climate with clear sky and no wind. Mostly emerging during the night to some time in the morning, fog is not considered as air pollution but it can blur the visions of vehicle drivers.

Meanwhile, haze is caused by the accumulation of smoke and dust from burning agricultural leftovers and forest fire. It is qualified as a form of air pollution because it contains toxic substances such as sulfur dioxide (SO₂), Lead (Pb), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Ozone Gas (O₃) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Haze also contains dust whose size is smaller than 10 micron (PM10) which is medically considered to be very harmful for the people's health.

According to the resolution of the Cabinet on 3 March 2009, the urgent measure to provide the solution for haze pollution issue in 8 upper Northern provinces has been approved.

The major cause of the haze issue in Thailand is open burning which includes trash burning in residential area, burning agricultural scraps for cultivation, and forest fire. Such burning leads to air pollution which affects the people's health, disturbance to the locals and tourists, and poor vision that could cause traffic accidents. Natural resources also suffer damage from widespread forest fire, worsening global warming issue.

The North's topography is a group of basins surrounded by high mountains. This kind of terrain minimizes the air circulation so that haze covers the place when burning happens, contributing to haze crisis and impacting the people living in the area.

In compliance with the above cabinet resolution, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion has unceasingly performed active operations to thoroughly provide the knowledge and comprehension on open burning and haze pollution as well as support the initiative of the cooperative network to prevent the open burning and haze pollution issues. The operations include the following activities.

1. Information Dissemination and Public Relations

- 1.1 Broadcasting through radio on Green Wave, the radio station for environment.
- 1.2 Broadcasting through television.
- 1.3 Publishing printed media for public relations, for instance, "Reduce Burning, Reduce Haze, Reduce Global Warming", "Alternative Agriculture without Burning Handbook", "Community Participation for Open Burning Prevention Handbook", and "New Options to Prevent and Solve Open Burning and Haze Handbook"

2. Knowledge Sharing

- 2.1 Organizing trainings to pass on the knowledge and understanding such as the workshop on techniques to be the speaker for Forest Burning and Open Burning Reduction Campaign.
- 2.2 Organizing Kick Off Campaign Activities to publicize the idea of open burning reduction, for example "Reduce Burning, Heal Global Warming Campaign."
- 2.3 Operating in 9 provinces of Upper Northern Region.



3. Supporting Network of Parties for Development

- 3.1 Allocating budgets to the network member parties consisting of communities, schools, local administration organizations and Natural Resources and Environment Volunteer Network.
- 3.2 Constructing the center for haze pollution and open burning prevention and solution.
- 3.3 Setting up rules to prohibit open burning in communities.
- 3.4 Creating network and work in collaboration among neighboring villages.





4. Developing Skills and Burning-free Model Village by constructing the Learning Centers of Burning-free Communities at Baan Hua Thung in Chiang Mai Province and Baan Thungsri in Phrae Province.

5. Studying and Managing the Knowledge of Burning-free Community by studying and managing the knowledge of sustainable environmental management in 9 Northern provinces

Department of Environmental Quality Promotion has been continuously working with related agencies to provide the target groups with the knowledge and comprehension on the direct and indirect effects of haze issue which brings about the awareness and participation by the communities for the sustainable solution.

If you wake up in the morning with the fog covered your garden, it is breathtaking.

If you wake up in the morning with haze pollution covered your house, how can you breathe?

Workshop on “Maintenance of Wastewater Treatment System for Sustainable Environmental Management” and Press Conference on Wastewater Management Technology Transfer for Small Communities Project



On 28-29 November 2013, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, in conjunction with Thaksin University Business Incubator Center, organized the press conference to disseminate the project performance summary and hand-over the wastewater treatment systems to 3 communities, namely 1) Cherg Sae Municipality in Kra Sae Sin District of Songkhla Province, 2) Tha Le Nam Noi Municipality in Khuan Khanun District of Phatthalung Province, and 3) Pah Bon Municipality in Pah Bon District of Phatthalung Province at Institute of Southern Study, Thaksin University in Muang District, Songkhla Province. Mr. Sermyot Sommun, Deputy Director-General of Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, chaired the press conference with presence of project consultants consisted of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vichai Chumni, Rector of Thaksin University, Asst. Prof. Jompob Waewsak, Director of Thaksin University Business Incubator Center, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Usa Onthong, Project Conductor.



In 2013 fiscal year, Wastewater Management Technology Transfer for Small Communities Project was operated in the basin area of Songkhla Lake with the objectives to enable the communities to handle wastewater on their own, to enhance the process of learning, developing and the concepts of wastewater management in communities properly and systematically resulting in conservation and revival of water quality in Songkhla Lake. A series of 3 workshop was conducted as follows: Wastewater Management Technology Transfer for Small Communities”, Enhancing Potential of Small Communities for Maintenance of Wastewater Treatment System” and Maintenance of Wastewater Treatment System for Sustainable Environmental Management,”



with the assistance from consulting team of Thaksin University, Phatthalung Campus by providing the 3 communities with learning centers and totally 18 biogas wastewater treatment systems as well as demonstration, training, and biogas generating systems for wastewater management in the communities.



Grass Root Cartoons

Public Service Center under the Environmental Information Center, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, contributed to creating potential human resources and cooperating network in environmental communication by organizing the activity “Grass Root Cartoons on 17 – 19 and 23 of December 2013. The objectives were to encourage the youngsters to express their opinions on environmental issues, to show their imaginations through Grass Root Cartoons , moreover, to publicize the works and services of Public Service Center, as the environmental learning source for youngsters, schools and nearby communities. The target groups of this activity are students from 4 schools under Bangkok Metropolitan Administration as the followings.

Fourth Grades Students from Wat Sunthorn School, Wat Phaitan School, Prachaniwet School, and Phibul Uppatham School. participated in this fun activity.

From this activity, the participants could express the beauty of nature they saw through their works. Furthermore, they could show their emotions and creativities through cartoons drawing which develops their brains, enhances imaginations, creativities, enjoyment, ability to set priority progressively, concentration, and pride of their success.



Official 2014 New Year Blessing



On Thursday 2nd January 2014, Mr. Jatuporn Buruspat, Director-General of Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, including with groups of executives, government officials and employees from Department of Environmental Quality Promotion visited and gave official 2014 New Year blessing to Executives group of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, namely Mr. Wichet Kasemthongsri, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment; Dr. Pittaya Pukkaman, Advisor to the Minister; Mr. Chote Trashu, Permanent Secretary ; Mrs. Mingquan Wichayarangsaridh, Deputy Permanent Secretary; Mr. Suphot Tovichakchaikul, Deputy Permanent Secretary; Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Deputy Permanent Secretary; and Dr. Kasemsun Chinnavaso, Chief of Inspector General.



National Children’s Day 2014 Fair



On Saturday 11 January 2014, Institute of Environmental Development and Technology Transfer in conjunction with Environmental Research and Training Center and The National Institute Dioxin of Thailand, organized the National Children’s Day 2014 Fair at the Environmental Research and Training Center Technopolis, Klong-5, Klong Luang, Pathumthani Province.

The activities of National Children’s Day related to environmental management such as “Trees Planting” and “Trash for Toys”. There were also activities to train the basic skills of being environmental researcher such as “Preserved Wildlife Bingo”, “Bird Watching, Prize Winning”, and “Mobile Environmental Library”. All the activities are expected to create the awareness on natural resources and environmental preservation among the children and their parents. The fair’s slogan for National Children’s Day 2014 was “Thai Youths with Green Hearts.”



Polar Vortex Enters Northern U.S.

The polar vortex is a whirling and persistent large area of low pressure, found typically over both North and South poles. The northern polar vortex was pushing southward over western Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, and was bringing frigid temperatures to half of the continental United States. It is expected to move northward back over Canada toward the end of the week, according to NOAA.

This image was captured by NOAA's GOES-East satellite on Jan. 6, 2014, at 11:01 a.m. EST (1601 UTC). A frontal system that brought rain to the coast is draped from north to south along the U.S. East Coast. Behind the front lies the clearer skies bitter cold air associated with the polar vortex.

The GOES image also revealed snow on the ground in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa and Missouri, stretching into the Great Plains. Clouds over Texas are associated with a low pressure system centered over western Oklahoma that is part of the cold front connected to the movement of the polar vortex. The GOES image was created at NASA's GOES Project, located at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

Both the northern and southern polar vortexes are located in the middle and upper troposphere (lowest level of the atmosphere) and the stratosphere (next level up in the atmosphere). The polar vortex is a winter phenomenon. It develops and strengthens in its respective hemispheres' winters as the sun sets over the polar region and temperatures cool. They weaken in the summer. In the Northern Hemisphere, they circulate in a counterclockwise direction, so the vortex sitting over western Wisconsin is sweeping in cold Arctic air around it.

The Arctic polar vortex peaks in the Northern Hemisphere's wintertime and has already moved southward several times this winter. In the past, it has also moved southward over Europe. On Jan. 21, 1985, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Daily Weather Map series showed a strong polar vortex centered over Maine.

The polar vortex also affects ozone. For more information on the polar vortex and how it affects ozone, visit NASA's Ozone Watch page.

Text credit: Rob Gutro, NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md.



26th December
"Nation Wildlife protection Day"



4th December
"Thai Environment Day"



26th December
"Nation Wildlife Forest Day"



2nd February
"World Wetlands Day"

About IATSS Forum

My name is Apiradee Poopirom, known by the nickname 'Pita'. I have got a Master degree in Communications from Chulalongkorn University in 2001 and now working as a Communications support manager in an international fast-moving consumer product company, Unilever. I have joined IATSS Forum in 2011 as one of the two Thailand's representatives (batch 48) and I am now the current president of Thailand IATSS Forum Alumni.

The IATSS Forum is an international training institute established in 1985 that aims to bring out the best qualities in individuals who will one day become future leaders in the ASEAN region. The Forum's facility is located in Suzuka city, Mie province, Japan which will be home for representatives from 9 Southeast Asian countries.

As Stephen Covey has said in his best-seller book, 7 Habits of highly effective people, there are times that we should sharpen the saw. I have found IATSS Forum a very special scholarship that aims to develop leadership of professionals, unlike others that obviously limited for new graduates. And it was not only a chance to live in Japan for 2 months for free, but a real great opportunity to learn things that could not be learnt as a tourist.

In IATSS Forum, there is a number of activities; various academic classes, demonstrations, trainings, team-buildings, sight-seeing, cultural-exchange activities as well as group studies which all carefully designed to make leaders as well as to equip the participants with knowledge and attitude to be successful in the fast moving borderless world. In Japanese hospitality with country representatives from other 8 South East Asia nations under the motto "Thinking and Learning Together", there is something new to learn every day.

Participants would gain knowledge, attitude, skills and a lot of fun as well as international networking and friendship. The intensive 2 months in IATSS Forum is so special that it could be said 'Better is 55 days in IATSS Forum than a thousand elsewhere.'

This is a great leadership development programme, whoever is eligible should apply. And for the management, if we look at IATSS Forum with the human capital approach, it is more than worthy to encourage your subordinates to participate in.



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ชำระค่าฝากส่งเป็นรายเดือน
ใบอนุญาตเลขที่ 17/2535
ปทจ. สามเสนใน

เหตุขัดข้องที่นำจ่ายผู้รับไม่ได้

- 1. จ่าหน้าไม่ชัดเจน
- 2. ไม่มีเลขที่บ้านตามจ่าหน้า
- 3. ไม่ยอมรับ
- 4. ไม่มีผู้รับตามจ่าหน้า
- 5. ไม่มารับภายในกำหนด
- 6. เลิกกิจการ
- 7. ย้ายไม่ทราบที่อยู่ใหม่
- 8. อื่นๆ

ลงชื่อ.....

Reminder: The first step of waste prevention has been overshadowed by a focus on recycling. Please help to promote a greater awareness of the importance of the "Reduce" part of the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle mantra.