

Action towards Resource-efficient and Low Carbon Cities in Asia

Seminar on Low Carbon Initiatives of Cities for GHG Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change

16-17 May 2011, Sofitel Centara Grand, Bangkok, Thailand

Summary Report

The *Seminar on Low Carbon Initiatives of Cities for GHG Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change* was organized by AIT with support from ADEME at Sofitel Centara Grand, Bangkok, Thailand during 16-17 May 2011. This seminar is a part of AIT's activities for the project entitled *Action towards Resource-efficient and Low Carbon Cities in Asia*. Altogether 72 participants attended the seminar which included two cities from France (Paris and Mulhouse), and ten partner cities from Asia (Luang Prabang, **Loa PDR**; Chiang Mai, Rayong, Nanthaburi, **Thailand**; Hue, Da Nang, Chau Doc Town, **Vietnam**; Kandy, Matale and Kurunegala, **Sri Lanka**). Beside these cities, representatives from two Thai municipalities (Krabi and Lamphun), Thai government organizations, private sector and international organizations also attended the seminar.

The main objectives of the seminar were to share knowledge towards low carbon society through improved resource efficiency & environmental sustainability, and exchange information and experiences regarding climate change issues between European and Asian cities.

(Note: Program, list of participants and pictures of Seminar are given in appendix)

Day 1: May 16/Monday

Session 1: Inauguration

Prof. Joydeep Dutta, Vice President for Academic Affairs of Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), inaugurated the seminar and welcomed all participants. He encouraged all participants to have a fruitful discussion during the seminar, and wished them to come up with joint initiatives among academics, developers and city administrators to sustain the life-style in cities. He also pointed out the long-standing ADEME-AIT partnership on various activities that is continuing into the new requirement for modern societies.

Prof. S. Kumar (Principal Investigator) welcomed all participants and recapitulated the project's activities. He informed that ten small and medium cities from four Asian countries are involved in the project, and Bilan Carbone training was conducted for all city authorities and their local partners. He mentioned that some of the cities have already completed Bilan Carbone analysis of the local authority. He also presented the project's planned activities for 2011.

Dr. D. Campana (Director of International Affairs, ADEME) felicitated AIT for organizing the event and all participants for attending the seminar. She shared the French experience and ADEME's role towards low carbon cities. During her presentation, she discussed the present situation and issues of the world related to energy and the environment. She emphasized that cities can play a vital role to develop low carbon society by introducing various measures and activities related to low carbon initiatives. She gave some examples of France's actions in tackling climate change. She also informed that ADEME's involvement is not only in France but also abroad with its on-going cooperation with international organizations to promote low carbon cities. ADEME has developed tools such as the Bilan Carbone to analyze GHG emissions and methodologies like Territorial Climate & Energy Plan (TCEP) for mitigation and adaptation of the existing climate risks. Finally, she highlighted that the ADEME and AIT relation and cooperation in the field of energy and environment is over three decades old.

Session 2: European Climate and Energy Plan Experiences

Chair: Mr. Adnan H. Aliani

Mr. Yann Françoise (Manager of Climate Protection Plan and Energy Strategy of Paris, Urban Ecology Agency) presented the *Paris Climate Protection Plan* which provided a brief overview of the city of Paris. He displayed the Bilan Carbone of Paris (Territory) and the local administration of 2004. The results of the Bilan Carbone analysis were through several debates, group works, workshops and internet conferences, etc. among the different stakeholders in Paris in order to develop the climate protection action plan. The plan targeted a 75% GHG emission reduction by 2050 compared to 2004. This plan focuses on building, transportation, city planning & networks and adaptation (greening Paris and biodiversity) to achieve the GHG emissions reduction target. During his presentation, he provided various alternatives and approaches to reduce the GHG emissions in each focused areas.

Mme. Anne Ged (Director of the Parisian Climate Agency) informed that Parisian Climate Agency (APC) was established to achieve the goals of Paris Climate Protection Plan in January 2011. She also informed that there were number of climate plans developed for other French cities before the Paris Climate Plan. The main concern of the APC is how to mobilize and involve stakeholders on climate change at the local level. It is essential to raise public awareness to get support and involvement of local people and other stakeholders in favor of APC mission. APC is working to develop new partnerships, one stop service center, sharing of knowledge and techniques for energy efficiency and climate change for Paris. APC is providing assistance to citizens and partner institutions through its energy efficiency activities such as retrofitting, electric transport, construction of new buildings, etc.

Discussion:

Comment: *What is the long term strategy? What would happen in long term? How do you retain the interest of different stakeholders? For example, some person's position is no longer required because his/her idea is being adopted by different departments/units of the municipality. These practices are internalized in each department/units, it is part of the thinking process. People accept it as part of their working process, part of their planning and decision-making process.*

Questions and Answers:

Ques.: *How did the city authority of Paris go about in trying to convince other departments e.g. finance, road, etc. and bring them together so the whole process can be internalized. What are the difficulties? How did the city authority manage to address these issues?*

Ans.:

- City council decided which departments need to be approached. It is necessary to show the cost and benefit to convince managers. However, it is very difficult to convince all sectors at the city level. Different environmental policies need to be developed to bring all sectors in one place for discussion.
- Adaptation is difficult but mitigation is possible by convincing people to act.
- All the questions need to be integrated into strategy for different bodies such as enterprises, building sectors, etc. in Paris. APC's aim is to create awareness in the next two years. For example, housing councils need to understand taxation, regulation, awareness and many other things. If this subject is interesting to them then they will adopt strategies that will change the management.

Ques.: *How does APC finance the activities? How would APC mobilize the five founders? What are their interests? What are their motivations? Who are they? How does APC get participation from private companies to support APC's activities?*

Ans.: The five founders are paying 75,000 Euro annual fees.

- City of Paris
- Public Transport Authority in Paris
- Electricity Company
- National Weather Authority, it organizes/study training for partners
- Ile de France

APC helps by formulating communication strategies for these five founders. Municipality of Paris is giving financial support. APC will find out some details of the institute, who wants to join APC as a member or partner. Such as, *what are their projects? Why they are interested to join the APC? How this project will improve their strategy? How they can contribute to APC?*

For example: We discussed with sustainable development officials engaged by Monoprix commercial shops to mobilize their support. They said that they would like to work on climate change and energy efficiency, and they want to be more effective in engaging their clients.

Sharing information: Mr. Hilmy Mohamed (Mayor of Matale):

- Sri Lanka has experience on climate change such as tsunami, disaster, etc.
- Matale organized the Mayor Forum. The Municipality President emphasized and explained the climate change issues
- The Central government of Sri Lanka is doing a lot of work on disaster management
- Matale is working with UNESCAP on “Trash for Cash” project
- Matale has initiated the “Green city concept” (committed to plant 10,000 trees in their territory)
- APC-ID card, facts and figures presentations are useful information for Matale

Ques.: *How Paris has improved public awareness in term of energy saving to reach the goal of 75% GHG emissions reduction by 2050 compared to 2004?*

China experience: IUCN did community campaign in promoting public awareness especially on energy saving & energy efficiency in Beijing area (inhabitants 300,000).

- IUCN printed attractive and easy-to-understand calendars which just listed physical factors. *How to save family costs?* Local people change their behaviors to great extent and save energy in the process.

Ans.: Awareness campaign begins before the adoption of climate plan, and several awareness campaigns were organized in different cities of France, especially, energy saving during the winter with the help from ADEME and different energy suppliers.

- Organized different activities and exhibitions on energy saving to bring awareness to local people.
- Organized conferences and workshops to share the knowledge on climate and energy saving
- Developed website to interact with citizens
- 75% GHG reduction is not only the responsibility of the local citizens; other organizations can also contribute in the reduction (e.g. industries, government offices, hospitals private sectors etc.). All Parisians need to come together to solve the existing problems related to climate change.

Ms. Elodie Thuet (Manager, Sustainable Development Service, Mulhouse) presented “*A Town Committed to the Fight against Climate Change*” which provided information on Mulhouse Town and explained about its climate plan. The Mulhouse Alsace First Climate Plan was launched in 2006 and unanimously approved in 2007. With the positive outcome of the First Climate Plan, the Second Climate Plan was also unanimously approved in 2010. The main strategic vision is to reduce GHG emissions by Factor 4 (i.e. by 1/4th). On the basis of Bilan Carbone analysis, the GHG emissions of

Alsace town show that residential & tertiary and transport & travel emitted more GHG emissions compared to other activities. The Mulhouse Climate Plan Steering Committee has been formed, and several action plans have been developed in five areas (consumption, urban planning, housing, transport and communication & awareness) to mitigate the GHG emissions within a limited time frame (1-3 years). The concerned authorities monitor its actions regularly and evaluate the result of action within the time frame. At the same time, the committee provides information, advice and support to private individuals related to energy efficiency. At the end of her presentation, Ms. Thuet suggested all to follow the slogan, **“I do, if you do, and if we all do”** to fight against climate change. She also displayed Mulhouse climate kit (it contains energy efficient bulbs, water flow control kits, insulator, Thermometer and waste segregation bag) and booklets used in their awareness campaign to mitigate GHG emissions in Mulhouse Town.

Mr. Fouzi Benkhelifa (Associate Director, EXPLICIT) presented the *“Local Energy and Climate Plan: An European Tentative Framework”*. There is no official definition on local energy-climate plan in Europe but there is strong consensus based on experiences. A framework was launched voluntarily to convince Mayors by European Union (EU) in January 2008. It consists of pledges by city councils, politically endorsed and supported by the EU institutions. EU has fixed the target to reduce GHG emissions by more than 20% by 2020 compared to 1990 level. Currently, 2,595 European cities are committed to develop sustainable energy action plan (SEAP) where 378 cities have already submitted SEAP to EU. Porto city of Portugal and Stockholm of Sweden have committed to reduce 46% and 44% of CO₂ by 2020, respectively. External and internal push and pull factors need to be considered to develop a local energy and climate plan. On the path of low carbon city, packages or opportunities need to be developed to support citizens. There should be project manager, political decision-makers, pilot representatives (elected people are involved), letter of mission and network of internal reference to develop territorial climate and energy plan (TCEP). There is a need for strong commitment, legitimacy, shared responsibility and cross-cutting approach within the organization. TCEP project manager needs to link eight sectors such as housing, transportation, energy, solid waste, agriculture & forestry, urbanism & land settlement, production & consumption of goods and local economy to get effective result from low carbon initiatives at city level. Financial and local supports are essential to run the project effectively. At the end of presentation, examples of low carbon initiatives in green urbanism, energy efficiency, accessible transport and renewable energy by the different cities from Europe were presented.

Discussion:

Sharing experience:

Awareness practices in the long run. For example:

- In Thailand, if households used less than 90 unit of electricity, people do not need to pay. With this scheme, it encouraged all households to try to reduce their energy consumption.
- Khon Kaen University members use bicycles inside the campus and introduce free mass transport for all inside campus which saves energy consumption in long run.

Questions and Answers:

Ques: *If Mulhouse needs to put one thing at the top to promote climate change mitigation and adaptation, what would it be? What is the role of academics?*

Ans.:

- Political commitment is the most important
- Building/construction sectors are also involved in the struggle for climate change. Building sectors need to do their own GHG diagnosis.
- One private sector (Financing organization) requested to involve the university in these GHG emission diagnosis activities.
- APC did a survey with 6-7 university representatives in Paris and try to get technical support from the university and exchange knowledge related to climate change and energy.

- APC also involves students in the GHG emission diagnosis activities. There is a good network of students in green energy. They also conduct carbon balance analysis of buildings.

Ques.: *How did Mulhouse/Paris select the site for green belt? Is this land privately owned, if yes, how did you convert into green belt?*

Ans.:

- The green belt is part of the public land (district land). There was no private land inside the green belt.

Session 3: Focused Group Discussion: Collaboration and Moving forward to Low Carbon Cities

Chair: Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty

Mr. Adnan H. Aliani (Office-in-charge, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UNESCAP) presented *“Challenges and prospects for low carbon cities in Asia and the Pacific”*. He provided an overview on prospects and issues related to low carbon initiatives in Asia and the Pacific. There is a direct link between economic development and urbanization. Cities in Asia and the Pacific are facing four interconnected challenges that are scale & pace of urbanization, externalization of environmental costs, urbanization of poverty and climate change. Cities have to address simultaneously issues of economic development, must ensure environmental sustainability, reduce poverty & disparities and prepare for climate change and other global problems for developing low-carbon sustainable cities in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, cities also need to adopt strategies that promote eco-efficiency, no regrets & co-benefits, increase inclusiveness & equal opportunities and increase resilience in urban communities. Cities also need to have legal and regulatory framework which can provide incentives for the poor and other citizens who are changing attitudes and life styles in favor of low carbon initiatives. Cities need to find new ways of financing sources for their sustainable development activities. Urban planning & design are essential to minimize the adverse impact of urbanization in the city area. Capacity development activities are essential to increase knowledge, skills development, behavioral change of city authorities and other stakeholders towards low carbon initiatives. Cities need to develop policies which could synchronize climate change and energy-efficiency activities effectively at the city level. These policies should be integrated in various governmental organizations as well as private sectors to promote participatory governance and adopt adaptive approaches.

Ms. Mahallah Adalia (Projects Coordinator, ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability) presented *“Cities for Climate Protection: Experiences and Lessons Learnt from Southeast Asia”*. This presentation gave brief overview on ICLEI and its activities related to climate change at the level of local governmental bodies in Southeast Asia. ICLEI’s mission is to build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvement in global sustainability with special focus on the environment through cumulative local actions. Currently, ICLEI has 1,220 local governments (LGs) as members from 70 countries. These cities are working for sustainable development through local actions. At the same time ICLEI develops, organizes and coordinates a series of campaigns dedicated to various environmental issues such as resource-efficiency, biodiversity, low carbon & climate change, resilient, green infrastructure and employment opportunities. The presentation focused mainly on cities for climate protection (CCP) campaign enlisting local governments to adopt policies and implement measures to achieve quantifiable reduction on local GHG emissions, improve air quality, and enhance urban livability and sustainability. The CCP campaign is based on five milestones performance framework structured that allow local governments to understand how municipal decisions affect energy use and how these decisions can be used to mitigate global climate change while improving community’s quality of life. After the success of CCP in developed countries, it was expanded to other LGs in Southeast Asian countries such as Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. The CCP performances of LGs of these countries were also compared during the presentation. CCP campaigns were mainly focused on energy efficiency, curbing emissions from transport, waste diversion, energy generation from waste and carbon sequestration. At the end of the presentation,

lessons learned from CCP implementation in Southeast Asia were shown. Some important issues and points are listed below:

- Role of a key political promoter such as mayor is important to gain focus and attention on the campaign and mobilization of people from various groups to participate in the activities.
- For successful implementation of CCP, it is necessary to integrate programs in the local government activities and practices.
- GHG emissions inventory is an important groundwork for GHG emission reduction action.
- Some central governments subsidize energy; and pollution laws are not effectively enforced which makes it difficult to reduce GHG emissions.
- There is lack of technical capacity at the local authority level to manage and measure climate and air quality issues.
- Local government policies are not matching with national government policies, so it is difficult to act at the local level.
- City learns best from other cities and trusts them as peer (mayors listen to fellow mayors).
- City to city exchange program is effective.
- Easier to sell climate change as co-benefits such as saving energy use in transportation, reduce waste, increase green area, etc.; finally, the secondary benefit will be climate change mitigation. Programmed sustainability is always at risk because city leaders and trainees change within 3-5 years timeframe. There will be uncertainties after completion of the project.
- Climate change issues are not mandatory for cities, so less priority is given.

Session 4: Group Discussions and Plenary

Chair: Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty

Participants were divided into two groups. Each group discussed the existing climate change issues, on-going activities, problems, challenges, barriers, opportunities towards low carbon initiatives at the city level. The outcome of the discussion is consolidated and presented below:

1. *What are the issues in the cities for mitigation and adaptation to climate change?*
 - Lack of base line data
 - Difficulty in formulating policies
 - Political commitments
 - Public awareness and behavioral changes
 - Lack of funds
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Recycling and waste management
 - Urban greening
 - Inefficient mass transport
 - Warmer city
2. *What are the existing low carbon initiatives in Asian cities that could be up scaled and expanded in small and medium cities?*
 - NEXUS Initiative (Cambodia): reduce cooking related energy consumption
 - Energy Saving Authority (Sri Lanka): funds needed to switch to energy efficient bulbs
 - National Housing Bank of India (India): greening the buildings
 - Solid waste (Rayong): fertilizer from organic waste, converting plastic waste to fuel
 - Renewable (Nonthaburi): using solar PV for municipal office buildings
 - Canada support (Danang): cleaner production in industries, producing electricity from biogas and greening the city
 - Expand and promote private sector participation - Waste and Energy service management sector
3. *What are the barriers that need to be addressed by small and medium cities while addressing climate change?*
 - Lack of national level policy (Sri Lanka)
 - Lack of political commitment

- A gap between national policy to local action (Thailand)
- Unclear division of responsibility between province and city (Luang Prabang, Lao PDR)
- Lack of coordination among different government agencies (Kandy, Sri Lanka)
- Lack of physical resources and public participation
- Need for qualified technically staff – specially experts on inter-disciplinary issues related to LCC

4. *What suggestions can the European cities provide to make proposed activities more attractive to Asian cities? What are the challenges and barriers for cooperation in supporting low carbon initiatives between European and Asian cities?*

- Asian cities already have low-carbon footprints and to setting the low carbon idea in small cities is quite challenging
How to relate low carbon idea for development?
What are the multiple benefits of carbon mitigation?
- Donors are interested in change of behavior, etc. The Asian initiatives should ensure that.
- Small community should join together and develop LCC policies and initiatives
- Voice of citizen can influence political will
- Develop new and attractive building and standard equipments / legislations to promote energy saving

5. *What are the opportunities for a city to city collaboration (European to Asian cities or within Asian cities) for supporting low carbon initiatives?*

Some collaboration has already been made between city to city to promote low carbon activities. For example:

- MOU between Paris and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA): Promotion of good practices e.g. energy conservation
- Lyon and Delhi : Air quality monitoring system
- Between French cities: Exchange information with their experiences in low carbon initiatives
- Japanese and Asian cities
 - Only few cities have mandate for city to city corporation
 - MRV- Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable changes
 - Japanese cities invest in Asian cities for mitigation purposes
- There is a possibility to develop Clean Development Mechanism for cities between Europe and Asia

Day 2: May 17 Tuesday

Session 5: Current Low Carbon City Activities in Asia

Chair: Ms. Cecile Faraud

Dr. Bharat Dahiya (Human Settlement Officer, UN-HABITAT) presented *“Cities and Climate Change Initiative, and Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory in Negombo, Sri Lanka”*. The presentation highlighted UN-HABITAT activities on cities and climate change initiative (CCCI) in Asia-Pacific and provided the case study from Negombo, Sri Lanka. UN-HABITAT launched Changwon declaration on cities and climate change which aims to develop a regional advocacy, capacity-building and knowledge networking support platform to enhance climate change resilience and reduce GHG emissions of 300 cities in the Asia-Pacific region by 2015. Currently, UN-HABITAT is working with 20+ cities from 13 countries on CCCI in Asia-Pacific.

Negombo, a medium size city, is situated in the western coastal area of Sri Lanka. The major GHG emission sectors of Negombo are energy, waste, agriculture, forestry and other land use. It is also found that these emissions are because of transportation, fishery activities and solid waste generation. Some possible mitigation actions are suggested for existing GHG emission sectors and suitable sites are provided for tree plantation. During the development of GHG inventory of Negombo, many of the national-level emission factors were either absent or based on global factors which reduced the accuracy of GHG emissions at local level.

Ms. Shom Teoh (Research Associate, IGES) presented *“Issues and Challenges for Low-Carbon and Sustainable Asia: Some thoughts based on the Kitakyushu Initiative”*. The Kitakyushu Urban Center is working to transfer low carbon policies from Japan to other Asian cities. It is directly working with national government of Asian countries. IGES Started replicating activities in the last three years such as good practices in composting in four Asian countries and also collected best practices on low cost wastewater treatment from Indonesia and Philippines which were disseminated and replicated in other cities. It also gave an overview on Kitakyushu initiatives (KI) on Urban Environmental Management (UEM) from 2000 to 2010. During this period IGES also developed KI network among 174 cities from 20 countries and shared information on innovative initiations related to Urban Environmental and Management (UEM) within their networking cities. Most of the best practices related to composting had been replicated in different Asian cities.

Mr. Karsten M. Holm (Chief Consultant, Danish Energy Management) presented *“Clean Development Mechanism in Southeast Asia”*. Currently, Danish Energy Management (DEM) is working on clean development mechanism (CDM) in Southeast Asia, targeting four countries (Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam). DEM is involved in the development of more than 50 CDM projects which mainly focused on methane avoidance in palm mills, starch plants and pig farms. DEM is also involved in 16 biogas projects in Thailand. The CDM project activity is expected to reduce GHG emissions at the local level. But only few CDM projects are executed in the urban sector.

Discussion:

Ques.: *How many technologies did IGES manage to disseminate?*

Ans.: IGES

- Replication started three years only
- Mainly composting and wastewater treatment were replicated in five countries. Replication of composting practices is the most intensive in selected cities.

Ques: How do we make these good/best practices- a business as usual?

Ans.: UNHABITAT

- In the beginning, nobody wants to start something new. Initially, we have to convince the decision or policy-makers regarding the benefits of doing these activities. There is a need for increased knowledge, and that different agencies need to bring this knowledge to the higher level.
- UN plays a role of advocacy, awareness building and technical capacity development for national and local level policy-makers.
- Development agencies come up with funding and technical support in order to help adapt, replicate and up-scale “best practices” to become “business as usual” practices.

Ans.: IGES

- Prepare best practices information in an understandable format/package
- Incentive scheme should be at regional/national level to encourage local people
- Inter-mediatory /platform needs to be developed (who has good link with all players)
- Change the ways the program is designed or how funding is provided

Ans.: DEM

- Good business potential
- Involving financial institutions
- Persistent dissemination of information

Session 6: Funding for Low Carbon City Initiatives

Chair: Ms. Mahallah Adalia

Ms. Sylvie Margat (Deputy Director of French bilateral development Bank (AFD), Bangkok) presented “*AFD Financing Low Carbon cities in Asia*”. AFD is working not only in Asia but also in Latin America, and Africa. Altogether, AFD is involved in various projects in 60+ countries. In 2010, AFD allocated 7 billion Euro loans globally, 20-25% in Asia. AFD provides concessional loans for infrastructure and urban development activities. Climate Change and poverty reduction are AFD’s first strategic objectives. AFD has supported direct loan to cities e. g., Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang, Chau Doc, Vietnam; Bangkok, Thailand; eThekweni, South Africa; and Wuhan, China for promoting low carbon initiatives in favour of sustainable urban development. These loans are mainly utilized for energy efficiency in urban service systems such as water supply, sanitation, public lighting, public building, transport, etc.

AFD gives priority on city-to-city cooperation where city authorities can share their experiences and knowledge related to urban development and climate change (e.g., Paris city authorities visited Bangkok to present their experience). Now, BMA has developed 5-year Action Plan for Global Warming Alleviation (2007-2012). Beside these activities AFD has also supported other Asian countries like China, India, Philippines, etc.

Mr. Sumit Pokhrel (Energy/Climate Change Coordinator, GMS EOC, ADB) presented “*Capacity Enhancement for Coping with Climate Change*”. Climate change response has both synergetic and antagonistic relationship with Great Mekong Subregion (GMS) Economic Cooperation Program (ECP) strategic approach. Cost of damage associated with drought, flood and windstorm has increased four-fold in GMS in the years 2000-2008 compared to 1980-1989. Climate change has provided major impacts on agriculture, transport, energy and tourism sectors in GMS. This is mainly because of the rise in the sea level. In addition, most of the GMS projects are located in climate change vulnerable areas. There is a need for technology transfer, and for developing regional capacity to fight against

climate change. The Government needs to develop policies which can mainstream adaptation into planning process and support low carbon initiatives in urban development practices.

Questions and Answers:

Ques.:

What are the AFD criteria to select city for technical and financial support? How does a city approach AFD for funding? What are the interest rate and time frame? What is the procedure if an Asian city wants to collaborate with Paris on low carbon initiative project?

- Criteria in selecting city for technical and financial support:
 - Members of AFD countries
 - Each country has strategies on how to reduce poverty, GHG mitigation and adaptation
- AFD can finance directly and indirectly. To contact AFD please visit AFD website: <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/en/home>
- The interest rate used is market interest rate and time frame will be between 15 to 17 years (grace period is 5 years)
- For city-to-city cooperation, it needs political will

Session 7: Next steps

Chair: Dr. B. Mohanty

Mr. Manuel Soriano (Senior Technical Adviser, UNDP Energy)

UNDP is working for low carbon emissions and climate resilience incorporating climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives. UNDP collaborates with national governments (GEF projects) on energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable transports. Most of them are for removal of barriers in order to promote applications of energy efficiency in industries, transport and commercial sector. UNDP also works on providing energy access to rural and urban communities for poverty alleviation.

UNDP is working with local government/community to ensure local government's support of the national government's objectives. UNDP has been providing small grant of GEF projects to local communities and is trying to upgrade or upscale these projects.

Phase 5 of GEF project No. 4 has objective to promote sustainable urban transport where UNDP is helping remove barriers to facilitate energy efficiency urban system for low carbon development.

UNDP provides local initiatives in order to generate global environmental benefits. It also assists adaptation of sustainable development activities in cities/municipalities to make them more resilient to climate change. Apart from that, UNDP is also involved in other environmental activities such as biodiversity and conservation.

Ques.: *Can we have common project looking at different priorities of cities? If yes, in what way can cities work to develop the project?*

Is this a regional project addressing common business of cities? If yes, it is possible to develop a common regional project.

GEF has allocated funding for each country. For example, UNDP had initiated regional project and also got endorsement from each of the participating countries. They put part of GEF fund for regional project. In GEF 4 there is a resource allocation framework, which allows to develop regional project; the "energy standard and labelling" regional project was initiated in this framework. Initially there were 12 countries who signed-up, because of different level of allocation from different countries, the

number of countries which participated reduced to half (6 countries). This is because some countries broke-off from the group and decided to do their own GEF project at the national level.

Regional projects have more synergies. There are also some community issues, barriers and problems in the low carbon development path. It is better to address these issues collectively but the primary requirement is the commitment that needs to be put in place. Governments which will participate in regional projects need to commit and ensure their part of GEF fund support. Governments also need to send letters of endorsement to GEF focal points in their respective countries.

Each country has individual national projects to remove barriers on low carbon development or removing barriers on urban system. It is necessary to have clear understanding on whether barriers are at the national or regional level. We need to understand clearly what are the issues, problems and concerns. We need to understand the nature of these barriers and how they are related to all other barriers. If we know the root causes of these barriers then it will be easy to achieve the outcomes and outputs of the project.

Questions for French cities:

- *What are the synergies that you see between your city and the participating Asian cities?*
- *On what areas/topics can collaboration be built between the Asian and European cities?*
- *Which could be the possible sources of funding for joint activities between European and Asian cities?*
- *What do you think you could learn from Asian cities?*

French cities do not have adaptation culture to fight against climate change. They need to learn more on adaptation practices from Asian cities, and they can provide assistance to Asian cities in mitigation initiatives.

Appendix

Seminar on Low Carbon Initiatives of Cities for GHG Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change

16-17 May 2011

Sofitel Centara Grand, Bangkok, Thailand



Tentative Program

| Day 1: May 16/Monday | |
|----------------------|---|
| 08:30-09:00 | Registration of Participants |
| 09:00 - 09:45 | Session 1: Inauguration Session |
| 09:00-09:10 | Inauguration and Welcome address by Dr. Joydeep Dutta , Vice President Academic Affair, AIT |
| 09:10-09:25 | AIT: Introduction and an update of the status of AIT's initiatives with support from ADEME, Prof. S. Kumar |
| 09:25-09:45 | ADEME: ADEME's role in promoting low carbon cities by Dr. Dominique Campana |
| 09:45 - 10:15 | Coffee / Tea Break and Photo session |
| 10:15 - 12:20 | Session 2: European Climate and Energy Plan Experiences Sharing of knowledge towards low carbon society through improved resource efficiency and promotion of environmental sustainability with specific case studies from Europe |
| | Chair: Mr. Adnan H. Aliani |
| 10:15 - 10:50 | Paris: Initiating low carbon initiatives within Paris Municipality, Mr. Yann Françoise Discussion |
| 10:50 - 11:25 | Paris: Involving stakeholders participation to achieve territorial goals, Mme. Anne Ged Discussion |
| 11:25 - 12:00 | Mulhouse: Experiences and lessons learnt, Ms. Elodie Thuet Discussion |
| 12:00 -12:20 | Experiences from Europe, Mr. Fouzi Benkhelifa |
| 12:20 - 13:20 | Lunch |
| 13:20-15:30 | Session 3: Focused Group Discussion: Collaboration and Moving forward to Low Carbon Cities This session will highlight issues and challenges related to climate change adaptation and mitigation in European and Asian cities. It will provide possible partnership and collaboration between European and Asian cities towards low carbon initiatives. |
| | Chair: Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty <i>Rapporteurs: Ms. Sirirat Muneesawang and Mr. Nikhil Kolsepatil</i> |
| 13:20 - 13:40 | Lead presentation 1: UNESCAP: Challenges and prospects to low carbon cities in Asia Mr. Adnan H. Aliani |
| 13:40 - 14:00 | Lead presentation 2: ICLEI: Cities for climate protection: experiences and lessons learnt from Asia Ms. Mahallah Adalia |
| 14:00 - 14:10 | Logistics for Group discussion |
| 14:10 - 15:30 | Group Discussions (2 groups) led by lead presenters |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee/Tea Break |

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|------------------------------|--|
| 15:45 – 16:15 | Session 4: Plenary Session Reporting by groups |
| 16:15 – 16:45 | The plenary session will bring all the participants to discuss and consolidate analyses of the individual groups. It is expected that a few topics with details of activities and interest groups will be generated to promote low carbon society in Asia. Conclusion |
| Day 2: May 17/Tuesday | |
| 09:00 -10:30 | Session 5: Current Low Carbon City Activities in Asia In this session, presenters will discuss on-going activities and initiatives in Asian cities which promote low carbon green growth. Participants will learn about the activities, problems faced and addressed for replication and upscaling. |
| | Chair: Ms. Cécile Faraud Rapporteur: Dr. P. Abdul Salam |
| 09:00 -9:20 | Presentation 1: UNHABITAT: Low carbon green-growth initiatives in different cities in Asia Dr. Bharat Dahiya |
| 9:20 – 9:40 | Presentation 2: IGES: Kitakyushu initiative for low carbon cities in Asia, issues & challenges Ms. Shom Teoh |
| 9:40 – 10:00 | Presentation 3: DEM: Clean Development Mechanism in Southeast Asia Mr. Karsten M. Holm |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Discussion |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:50- 12:15 | Session 6: Funding for Low Carbon City Initiatives This session will bring sponsors and donors involved in funding low carbon initiatives in the region. They will present the funding mechanisms and opportunities available for assisting cities to promote low carbon green growth. |
| | Chair: Ms. Mahallah Adalia Rapporteur: Dr. Charles O.P. Marpaung |
| 10:50- 11:15 | Presentation 1: AFD: Financing low carbon cities in Asia Ms. Sylvie Margat |
| 11:15- 11:40 | Presentation 2: ADB: Capacity enhancement for coping with climate change Mr. Sumit Pokhrel |
| 11:40-12:15 | Discussion |
| 12:15-13:15 | Lunch |
| 13:15 – 15:00 | Session 7: Next steps This session will bring together the discussions and presentations in sessions 4, 5 and 6, namely, issues/activities to be dealt with in the cities, and taking note of the current activities and funding opportunities for low carbon growth. Participants will consolidate the inputs from these earlier sessions and provide inputs and suggestions so that well documented proposal(s) will be ready for submission to potential sponsors in the future by the LCC group. |
| | Chair: Prof. C. Visvanathan |
| 13:15 – 15:00 | Moderated discussion: |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | Closing of Seminar |
| 15:00- 15:15 | Coffee/Tea Break and Departure |

**Seminar on Low Carbon Initiatives of Cities for
GHG Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change**
16-17 May 2011, Sofitel Centara Grand, Bangkok, Thailand

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| SRI LANKA | | | |
| 1. | Hilmy Mohamed | Mayor | Municipal Council, Matale Sri Lanka Email: hilmy_mayor@yahoo.com |
| 2. | Mr. Halangoda Rajakaruna Wijekoon Wasala Mudiyansele Senerath Bandara Halangoda | Chief Engineer | Municipal Council, Matale Sri Lanka Tel: +94-66 222 2285 Fax: +94-66 222 3093 |
| 3. | Mr. Abdul Shakoore Mohamed Afkar | Public Health Inspector | MATALE Municipal Council, Matale Sri Lanka Tel: +94-66 222 2285 Fax: +94-66 222 3093 E-mail: afkarphi@yahoo.com |
| 4. | Mr. Ruwan Nishantha Thiththagalla Gamage | Project Officer | Sevenatha – Urban Resource Centre 102/2, Koswatta Road, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya Sri Lanka Tel/Fax: +94-112-878893 Email: sevanatha@sltnet.lk ; nishanthatgr123@yahoo.com |
| 5. | Mr. G.H. Nimal Chandrasiri de Silva | Mayor | Municipal Council Kurunegala, Sri Lanka Telefax: +94-37 222 2276 E-mail: mckg@sltnet.lk |
| 6. | Mr. SMB Dissanayake | Municipal Engineer | KURUNEGALA Municipal Council Kurunegala, Sri Lanka Tel: +94-37 222 2275 Telefax: +94-37 222 2276 E-mail: smbdis04@gmail.com |
| 7. | Mr. Gamini Senanayake | Chairman/Managing Director | M/S Gamini Senanayake Associates Private Ltd. Senanayake Villa, Negombo Road, Malkaduwawa, Kurunegala 60000, Sri Lanka Mobile: +94-37 222 2276 Tel: +94-37 222 3800 Fax: +94-37 223 2716 E-mail: gaminisn@gmail.com , gaminisn@gsa.lk , info@gsa.lk |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| 8. | Mr. T.U. Abdul Saththar | Chairman | | Environmental Committee Municipal Council, Kurunegala Sri Lanka Tel: +94-722707949 Fax: +94-37222276 Email: mckg@slt.net.lk ; Saththar_tua@yahoo.com |
| 9. | Mrs. Indrani Wijewardena | Chief Works Engineer | | Works Department Kandy Municipal Council Sri Lanka Tel: +94-81 222 2776 Telefax: +94-81 222 5683 E-mail: skiindra@yahoo.com |
| 10. | Mr. Chandana Tennakoon | Municipal Commissioner | KANDY | Kandy Municipal Council Kandy, Sri Lanka Tel: +94-81 222 3921 E-mail: kmckandy@slt.net.lk |
| 11. | Dr. Gemunu Herath | Senior Lecturer | | Faculty of Engineering Department of Civil Engineering Univesity of Peradeniya 20400 Sri Lanka Tel: +94-81 238 8301, 239 2000, 239 2001 Fax: +94-81 238 8102 E-mail: gemunuh@pdn.ac.lk |
| THAILAND | | | | |
| 12. | Ms. Jariya Tanchanpong | Head of Environmental Quality Promotion Section | CHIANG MAI | Chiang Mai Municipality 1 Wangsingkham Road Muang Chiang Mai 53000 Thailand Tel: +66-53 259 218 Fax: +66-53 259 301 E-mail: riya_yuya@hotmail.com |
| 13. | Mr. Thanit Angkawinijwong | Vice Mayor | RAYONG | Rayong Municipality 44/6 Taksinmaharaj Road Tambon Tapradoo, Muang Rayong 21000 Tel: +66-38 620 111 Ext. 104 Fax: +66-38 870 362 |
| 14. | Mr. Permpong Pumwiset | Chief | NONHABURI | Environment and Health Promotion Division Nonthaburi Municipality 139 M.8 Rattanathibeth Rd., Bangkrasor Muang District, Nonthaburi Thailand Tel/Fax: +66-2-589-0503 Email: purmpong@yahoo.com |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 15. | Mr. Surachai Pienpairoj | Sanitary Researcher | Environment and Health Promotion Division Nonthaburi Municipality 139 M.8 Rattanathibeth Rd., Bangkrasor Muang District, Nonthaburi Thailand Tel/Fax: +66-2-589-0503 Email: surachaipien@hotmail.com |
| VIETNAM | | | |
| 16. | Mr. Mai Minh Hung | Vice Chairman | The People's Committee of Chau Doc Town 10 Le Loi Street, Chau Phu B Ward Chau Doc Town, An Giang Province Vietnam Tel: +84-913 791 100 Fax: +84-763 866 211 E-mail: hungtnmt2005@yahoo.com.vn |
| 17. | Ms. Dang Thi Bao Phuong | Deputy Chief of the Office | AN GIANG PROVINCE The People's Committee of Chau Doc Town 10 Le Loi Street, Chau Phu B Ward Chau Doc Town, An Giang Province Vietnam Tel: +84-913 791 100 Fax: +84-763 866 211 |
| 18. | Ms. Tran Thi Mai Huong | Senior Engineer | AN GIANG PROVINCE ENERTEAM 273, Dien Bien Phu Street Ward 7, District 3 Ho Chi Minh City Tel: +84-839 302 393 Fax: +84-839 307 350 E-mail: enerteam@hcm.vnn.vn , huongtran0905@gmail.com |
| 19. | Mr. Nguyen Dang Chinh | Vice Head | HUE Department of Natural Resources and Environment Hue City People's Committee 16 Le Loi Street, Hue City, Vietnam Tel: +84-986 35234 Email: tnmt@thuathienhue.gov.vn |
| 20. | Mr. Dang Quang Vinh | Vice Director In-Charge | DA NANG Da Nang Department of Natural Resources and Environment 57 Quang Trung Street, Hai Chau District Da Nang City, Vietnam Tel: +84-511 386 7579 Fax: +84-511 381 7025 E-mail: vietquocvinh@gmail.com |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details | |
|----------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|
| 21. | Ms. Phan Thi Hien | Head | | General Affairs Division Da Nang Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 57 Quang Trung Street, Hai Chau District Da Nang City, Vietnam Tel: +84-511 386 7579 Fax: +84-511 381 7025 E-mail: phanthihienmt@gmail.com |
| LAO PDR | | | | |
| 22. | Mr. Phoumy Ophetsane | Vice Governor | LUANG PRABANG | Luang Prabang District Lao, PDR Tel: +856-71-260613; 260670; 252156 Fax: +856-71-253017 Email: chikodong@yahoo.com |
| FRANCE | | | | |
| 23. | Mr. Fouzi Benkhelifa | Associate Director | EXPLICIT | EXPLICIT 127, rue de Faubourg Poissonniere 75009 Paris, France Tel: +33 (0) 1 47 70 47 21 Fax: +33 (0) 1 47 70 47 11 Email: fbenkhelifa@explicit.fr |
| 24. | Mme. Anne Ged | Director of the Parisian Climate Agency | PARIS | L'Agence Parisienne de Climat Pavillon de Lac, parc de Bercy 3 Rue Francois Truffaut 75 012 Paris, France Tel: +33 (0) 1 58 51 1529 Mobile: +33 (0) 7 86 86 9616 Email: anne.ged@apc-paris.com |
| 25. | Mr. Yann Françoise | | | Ville de Paris 29 rue de Rivoli 75004 Paris France Tel: +33-1-42-76-58-32 Email: yann.francoise@paris.fr |
| 26. | Ms. Elodie Thuet | | MULHOUSE | Delegue au Developpement Durable 2 Rue Pierre et Marie Curie BP 90019 68200 Mulhouse Tel: 03 89 33 7994 Email: Elodie.Thuet@mulhouse-alsace.fr |
| ADEME | | | | |
| 27. | Dr. Dominique Campana | Director | ADEME | International Affairs French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) 27 rue Louis Vicat 75015 Paris, France Tel: +33 1 47 65 2007 Email: dominique.campana@ademe.fr |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 28. | Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty | Regional Adviser for Asia | French Environment & Energy Management Agency & AIT Visiting Faculty 27 rue Louis Vicat 75015 Paris, France Tel: +33 1 47 65 2007 Email: mohanty@ait.ac.th ; mohanty@vsnl.com |
| Presenters | | | |
| 29. | Mr. Adnan Aliani | Officer-in-Charge | UN-ESCAP Sustainable Urban Development Section Environment and Development Division United Nations Building, Rajdamnern Nok Avenue Pranakorn, Bangkok 10200 Tel: +66-2-288-1602 Fax: +66-2-288-1048 Email: aliani.unescap@un.org |
| 30. | Ms. Sylvie Margat | Deputy Country Director | AFD French Development Agency (AFD) 35/F Exchange Tower – Unit 3501-02 388 Sukhumvit Road, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110 Thailand Tel: +66-2-663-6090 ext. 152 Fax: +66-2-663-6077 Email: margats@afd.fr ; margats@groupe-afd.or |
| 31. | Dr. Bharat Dahiya | Human Settlements Officer | UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) 2 nd Floor, Services Building, Rachadamnern Nok Avenue Bangkok 10200, Thailand Tel: +66-2-288-2858 Fax: +66-2-288-1089 Email: dahiya@un.org |
| 32. | Mr. Karsten Holm | Chief Consultant | DEM Danish Energy Management Danish CDM Programme, Thailand Ploenchit Center/Elite Office Suite 9 Sukhumvit Soi 2, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110 Tel: +66-8-17345490 Fax: +66-2-305-6607 Email: kah@dem.dk |
| 33. | Mr. Sumit Pokhrel | Climate Change Officer | ADB Environment Operations Center (EOC) 23 rd Floor, Offices at Central World 999/9 Rama 1 Road, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330 Tel: +66-2-207-4424 Fax: +66-2-207-4400 Email: sumit@gms-eoc.org |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 34. | Ms. Mahallah Adalia | Project Coordinator | ICLEI ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability Southeast Asia Inc. Units 4, The Manila Observatory Building Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights Quezon City 1108, Philippines Tel: +63-2/426-0851; 426-5921 to 23 Fax: +63-2/426-0851 Email: mahallah.adalia@iclei.org |
| 35. | Ms. Shom Teoh | Associate Researcher | IGES IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre International Village Centre, 2F 1-1-1, Hirano, Yahata-Higashi-Ku Kitakyushu City, Japan 805-0062 Tel: +81-93-681-1563 Fax: +81-93-681-1564 Email: teoh@iges.or.jp |
| PARTICIPANTS FROM THAILAND (MUNICIPALITIES) | | | |
| 36. | Ms. Piyanun Ratchathani | Head | LAMPHUN Planning and Budgetting Lamphun Municipality 27 Tessaban 1 Road, T. Naimaung, A. Maung Lamphun Province 51000 Tel: +66-819931440 Fax: +66-53-561-524 Email: piyanutty2000@yahoo.com |
| 37. | Mr. Pompetch Sukontakanit | Vice Mayor | KRABI Krabi Municipality Office 292 Maharaj Road, Paknum Meaung District Krabi 81000 Tel: +66-75-611-120 Fax: +66-75-620-603; +66-75-637-051 |
| 38. | Mr. Rong Pookaolan | Secretary | KRABI Krabi Municipality Office 292 Maharaj Road, Paknum Meaung District Krabi 81000 Tel: +66-75-611-120 Fax: +66-75-620-603 Email: rong@krabiresort.net |
| PARTICIPANTS FROM THAILAND (PRIVATE SECTORS) | | | |
| 39. | Ms. Hanying Li | Program Coordinator | IUCN Northeast Asia Program IUCN Asia Regional Office 63, Sukhumvit 39, Bangkok, Thailand Tel: +66-892024866 Fax: +66-2-662-4388 Email: hanying.li@iucn.org |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-----|---|--------------------------|---|
| 40. | Mr. Dickella Gamaralalage Jagath Premakumara | Policy Researcher | <p>IGES</p> <p>IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre International Village Centre, 2F 1-1-1, Hirano, Yahata-Higashi-Ku Kitakyushu City, Japan 805-0062</p> <p>Tel: +81-93-681-1563 Fax: +81-93-681-1564 Email: premakumara@iges.or.jp</p> |
| 41. | Mr. Manuel Soriano | Senior Technical Adviser | <p>UNDP-Energy</p> <p>Energy and Climate Change United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Asia Pacific Regional Centre 4th Floor, UN Service Building, Rajdamnern Nok, Avenue Bangkok 10200, Thailand</p> <p>Tel: +66-2-288-2720 Fax: +662-288-3032 Email: manuel.soriano@undp.org</p> |
| 42. | Ms. Piyachatr Pradubraj | Programme Specialist | <p>UNDP-Environment</p> <p>Environment Unit United Nations Development Programme Country Office United Nations Building, 12th Floor Rajdamnern Nok, Avenue Bangkok 10200, Thailand</p> <p>Tel: +66-2-288-1827 Fax: +66-2-280-0556 Email: piyachatr.pradubraj@undp.org</p> |
| 43. | Ms. Sutharin Koonphol | Programme Analyst | <p>UNDP-Environment</p> <p>Environment Unit United Nations Development Programme Country Office United Nations Building, 12th Floor Rajdamnern Nok, Avenue Bangkok 10200, Thailand</p> <p>Tel: +66-2-288-2148 Fax: +66-2-280-0556 Email: sutharin.koonphol@undp.org</p> |
| 44. | Dr. Somrudee Nicro | Senior Director | <p>TEI</p> <p>Thailand Environment Institute 16/151 Bond Street, Bangpood, Pakkred Nonthaburi 11120</p> <p>Tel: +66-2-503-333 ext. 501 Fax: +66-2-504-4826-8 Email: somrudee@tei.or.th</p> |
| 45. | Mr. Seksan Sangdow | Environmentalist | <p>PCD</p> <p>Pollution Control Department Management Bureau 92 Phaholyothin 7, Phaholyothin Road, Phayathai Bangkok 10400</p> <p>Tel: +66-2-298-2369 Fax: +66-2 298-2385 Email: seksan.s@pcd.go.th</p> |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-----|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 46. | Ms. Cécile Faraud | Regional Cooperation Officer | Embassy of FR Embassy of France in Thailand – Regional Office 29 Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120 Tel: +66-2-627-2143 Fax: +66-2-627-2144 Email: cecile.faraud@diplomatie.gouv.fr |
| 47. | Mr. Martin Brechter | Advisor | TGO GIZ Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization) The Government Complex, Building B, Floor 9 120 Chaengwatana Road, Laksi, Bangkok 10210, Thailand Tel: +66-2-141-9814 Email: martin.b@tgo.or.th |
| 48. | Dr. Tritib Suramaythangkoor | Senior Official | TGO Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization) The Government Complex, Building B, Floor 9 120 Chaengwatana Road, Laksi, Bangkok 10210, Thailand Tel: +66-2-141-9814 Email: tritib@tgo.or.th |
| 49. | Ms. Natchanan Wathanachinda | Official | TGO Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization) The Government Complex, Building B, Floor 9 120 Chaengwatana Road, Laksi, Bangkok 10210, Thailand Tel: +66-2-141-9853 Fax: +66-2-143-8405 Email: natchanan@tgo.or.th |
| 50. | Ms. Wiriya Puntub | Official | TGO Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization) The Government Complex, Building B, Floor 9 120 Chaengwatana Road, Laksi, Bangkok 10210, Thailand Tel: +66-2-141-9853 Fax: +66-2-143-8405 Email: wiriya.p@tgo.or.th |
| 51. | Mr. Thongchai Roachanakanan | | DPW Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning Ministry of Interior Email: t_roachanakanan@hotmail.com |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| 52. | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Savitri Garivait | Chairperson | JGSEE-KMUTT JGSEE-KMUTT Environment Division 126 Pracha-Uthit Road, Bangmod, Tungkru Bangkok 10140 Thailand Tel: +66-2-470-8309 ext. 4134 Fax: +66-2-872-9805 Email: savitri_g@jgsee.kmutt.ac.th |
| 53. | Mrs. Suwanna Jungrunrueng | Director | BMA Air Quality and Noise Management Division Environment Department Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Mitmitree Rd., Dindaeng District Bangkok 10400 Thailand Tel: +66-2-246-0341 Email: suwannajung@hotmail.com |
| 54. | Act. SubLt. Wiruch TanChanapradit | Head | BMA Environmental Study and Analysis Sub-Division Air Quality and Noise Management Division Environment Department Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Mitmitree Rd., Dindaeng District Bangkok 10400 Thailand Tel: +66-2-246-0341, 6090 |
| 55. | Mrs. Siriporn Tantiwanich | Head | BMA Vehicle Pollution Control Division Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Mitmitree Rd., Dindaeng District Bangkok 10400 Thailand Tel: +66-2-246-0341, 6090 |
| 56. | Dr. Anond Snidvongs | Director | SEA START Southeast Asia START Regional Center Chulalongkorn University, Chulawich 1 Bldg., 5 th Fl., Henri Dunant Rd., Bangkok 10330 Tel: +66-2-218-6464-7 Fax: +66-2-251-9416 Email: anond@start.or.th |
| 57. | Dr. Turenjai Doolgindachbaporn | Asst. Prof. | Khon Kaen University Lecture in environmental science department faculty of science Khon Kaen university Tel: 66 43 342 912 Mobile ;66 81 717 4630 Fax: 66 43 342 912 E-mail: turdoo@gmail.com |
| AIT | | | |
| 58. | Prof. Joydeep Dutta | Professor & Director | AIT Nanotechnology Center of Excellence Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: +66-2-524-5680 Email: joy@ait.ac.th |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-----|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 59. | Prof. Sivanappan Kumar | Professor | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 5410 Fax: 02 524 5439 E-mail: kumar@ait.ac.th |
| 60. | Prof. Chettiyappan Visvanathan | Professor | Environmental Engineering and Management (EEM) School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 5640 Fax: 02 524 5625 E-mail: visu@ait.ac.th |
| 61. | Dr. L.A.S. Ranjith Perera | Associate Professor | Urban Environmental Management (UEM) School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 5619 Fax: 02 524 6380 E-mail: ranjithp@ait.ac.th |
| 62. | Dr. P. Abdul Salam | Assistant Professor | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 5420 Fax: 02 524 5439 E-mail: salam@ait.ac.th |
| 63. | Dr. Kyoko Kusakabe | Associate Professor | Gender and Development Studies (GDS) School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 6131 Fax: 02 524 6166 E-mail: kyokok@ait.ac.th |
| 64. | Dr. Charles O.P. Marpaung | Visiting Professor | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD) Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: (+66) 2 524 5405 Fax: (+66) 2 524 5439 E-mail: cmarpaung@ait.ac.th |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-----|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 65. | Mr. Pravakar Pradhan | Research Associate | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 6212 Fax: 02 524 5439 E-mail: pravakar@ait.ac.th |
| 66. | Ms. Neriza Cabahug | Research Assistant | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 6212 Fax: 02 524 5439 Email: brenda_cabahug@yahoo.com |
| 67. | Ms. Sheree Ann Mendoza | Research Assistant | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 6212 Fax: 02 524 5439 E-mail: shereeb@ait.ac.th |
| 68. | Mr. Albert Pedrajas | Program Officer | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Tel: 02 524 6212 Fax: 02 524 5439 E-mail: pedrajas@ait.ac.th |
| 69. | Ms. Sirirat Muneesawang | PhD student | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand E-mail: st111640@ait.ac.th |
| 70. | Mr. Nikhil Kolvepatil | Master's student | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand E-mail: st109833@ait.ac.th |

| No. | Name | Position | Contact Details |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 71. | Mr. Surawut Chomaitong | PhD student | Urban Environmental Management (UEM) School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand Mobile: 081-498-0469 E-mail: Surawut.Chomaitong@ait.ac.th |
| 72. | Mr. Adeel Waqas | PhD student | Energy Field of Study School of Environment, Resources and Development Asian Institute of Technology P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120 Thailand E-mail: st106053@ait.ac.th |