

Announcement of the 4th Eco-Efficiency Forum

Eco-Efficiency Forum on Sustainable Agro-industrial Clusters towards the Sufficiency Economy

Title

Eco-efficient Agro-Industry and Sufficiency Economy: A Profitable Environment for SMEs

Objectives:

- 1 Contributions to the debate on developing a competitive agro-industrial sector according to the principles of the sufficiency economy.
- 2 Share information on the state-of-the-art of eco-efficiency in agro-industry.
3. Promote initiatives aimed towards a competitive, environmentally friendly and socially sustainable agro-industry sector in Thailand.
4. Enhance awareness among decision makers and opinion leaders in politics, business and public organizations.

Date: **Thursday, 14th Dec. 2006, 08.30 – 14.00 h**

Venue: **Petch Room, 11th Floor, Windsor Hotel, Sukhumvit 18-20, Klongtoey, Bangkok**

Organizers, partners, contributing organisations:

- National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC)
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE)
- Kasetsart University (KU)
- Federation of Thai Industries (FTI)
- Green Net Cooperatives and Earth Net Foundation
- Sustainable Agriculture Foundation (Thailand)
- Thai Environment Institute (TEI)
- Organic Agriculture Certification Thailand (ACT)
- German Technical Cooperation (GTZ, Bangkok)

Rationale

The 4th Eco-Efficiency Forum will focus on the challenges for policy instruments to promote sustainable development, environmentally friendly production, energy efficiency and innovations for eco-efficient value chains. The challenges will be presented in the context of good governance, industrial leadership, cooperatives management and as a factor of competitiveness in national as well as global markets.

Debate on the “Sufficiency Economy” is gaining increasing attention within Thai society. The Thai interim government has expressed its willingness to pursue economic policies which temper free market values with the principles of sufficiency.

Stimulating eco-efficiency for agro-industry and promotion of organic products aims not only at individual enterprises, but also at industrial areas, estates, zones or regional clusters, which can sustainably utilize and add value to natural and human resources, and are compatible with local environmental conditions.

Is there a competitive advantage for such geographic approaches to eco-efficient cooperation? Are Thai SMEs prepared for new cooperation schemes with neighbouring enterprises? Where do the potential synergies lie for agro-industrial clusters? Are clusters capable of improving safety and environmental standards? What public and private support services does the industry need? Is there a need for political action in order to develop the framework conditions?

And finally- to what extent might regional clusters be designed to truly fulfil the principles of a sufficiency economy?

The forum is organised under the Thai-German Partnership Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness (PEC), the aim of which is to enhance the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), focussing on agro-industries. Some of its projects and interventions follow a regional, area-related approach (local clusters, eco-industrial parks) to increase the profitability and at the same time minimize environmental impacts,

The forum is an open, public event. It is aimed particularly at policy and decision-makers in government and non-government agencies, as well as private sector industry representatives.

The Eco-Efficiency Forum is an initiative of the Thai-German Partnership Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness.

The conference language is Thai; simultaneous translation Thai/English will be provided.

4th Eco-Efficiency Forum

Eco-efficient agro-industry and sufficiency economy: A profitable environment for SMEs.

Thursday, 14 December 2006, 08.30-14.00 h (break-out session: 14:00-16:00 h)

Petch Room, 11th Floor, Windsor Hotel, Sukhumvit 18-20, Klongton, Bangkok

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Time	Title	Speakers
08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
09:00 – 09:05	Introductory note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Burghard Rauschelbach, Director of Eco-Efficiency Component, PEC, GTZ (German Technical Cooperation, Bangkok))
09:05 – 09:15	Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chatree Chueyprasit, Deputy Permanent Secretary, MoNRE, Chairman of PEC Management Committee • Mr. Juergen Koch, Country Director, GTZ (German Technical Cooperation, Bangkok)
09:15 – 09:45	Key notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Chutamas Baramichai, Deputy Secretary General, NESDB • Dr. Michael Banzhaf, Minister-Counselor, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy
09:45 – 10:15	Agro-Industry in sufficiency economy: in harmony or discrepancy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Dr. Charan Chantalakanar, Honour Professor, Kasetsart University
10:15 – 10:45	Bio Energy Village Juehnde: experiences in rural self-sufficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Dr. Hans Ruppert, Center of Sustainable Development, University of Goettingen, Germany
10:45 – 11:00	Break	
11:00 - 12:30	Roundtable discussion: Organic Agro-Industry and the Sufficiency Economy: From vision to reality?	Moderator: Dr.Sittanon Jesdapipat , Policy Director, WWF-Greater Mekong Programme, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Werapan Prommontri, Rangsit University • Mr. Tatsanchai Trisat, Administration Director, Wangkanai Group. • Associate Professor Kasidit Erchiewcharnkit, Faculty of Science and Technology, Thammasart University • Mr. Supote Chaivimol, Department of Agricultural Extension.
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14.00 – 16.00	Out-break session for working groups “Next steps for enhancing Eco-efficiency Agro-Industry in Thailand” moderated by Mr. Chanuan Ratanavaraha	

See actual information under: www.ecoefficiency.info

Please fax your confirmation form to 02-6619281 before 8 December 2006.

Further information please contacts:

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 Ms. Chutima Jongpakdee E: chutima.gtzbkk@gmail.com, T: 02-2982768
 Mr. Burghard Rauschelbach, E: burghard.rauschelbach@gtz.de, M: 081-82 707 49

Thai-German Partnership Programme for Enterprise Competitiveness (PEC)

4th Eco-Efficiency Forum

Eco-efficient agro-industry and sufficiency economy: A profitable environment for SMEs.

Thursday, 14 December 2006, 08.30-14.00 h (break-out session: 14:00-16:00 h)

Petch Room, 11th Floor, Windsor Hotel, Sukhumvit 18-20, Klongton, Bangkok

Registration Form

(Please book in advance)

Attendee (1 form per person)			
Name and last name			
Position			
Organization			
Address			
Tel		Mobile	
Fax		E-mail	
Attending period	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning session (08:30-14:00 h) <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch (12.30-14.00 h) <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon Session (14:00-16:00 h)		

See actual information under: www.ecoefficiency.info

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Further information please contacts:

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