

World Environment Day 2019 - Thailand | 5th June 2019

'Green Mobility for Clean Air' Policy dialogue

5th June 2019, Grand Diamond Room, Impact Forum building
Impact Muangthong Thani convention center, Nonthaburi province, Thailand



In collaboration with Department of Environment Quality Promotion,
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand

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For more information, please visit SWITCH-Asia Event Page

World Environment Day takes place every year on 5 June. Since the first celebration in 1974, it has become the largest annual celebration of the environment, with millions of people joining in to leave a lasting legacy for the planet. A host country leads the official celebrations, highlighting its challenges and showcasing the solutions it has adopted. This year, air pollution is the theme and China is the host country. The aim is to spur governments, industry and individuals to come together to explore renewable energy and green technologies and improve air quality across the world.

The problem – Air pollution

According to the World Health Organization, every year, around 7 million people die prematurely from diseases caused by air pollution. That is 800 people every hour, or 13 every minute, dying because of the dirty air they breathe. Approximately, 4 million of these deaths occur in the Asia Pacific region.

Unless we act swiftly, even more lives will be lost: premature deaths caused by air pollution could increase by 50–100 per cent by 2050, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

One of the major sources of air pollution in

cities are emissions from vehicles. The transport sector is currently responsible for about one quarter of energy related carbon dioxide emissions. This is set to grow to one-third by 2050.

A solution – Green mobility

In 2018, the first Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health, organized by the WHO in collaboration with UN Environment and others, was held and participants pledged to aim to reduce air pollution-related deaths by two-thirds by 2030.

A joint report by UN Environment, the CCAC and the Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership, launched at the conference, outlined 25 policy and technological measures that could save millions of lives in the Asia-Pacific region and let one billion more people breathe clean air by 2030.

It is not surprising that increasing the number of electric vehicles is one of the 25 clean air measures outlined in this report.

A shift to a zero-emissions transport sector will combine measures that: (i) reduce travel demand (for example through better city design), (ii) shift to more energy-efficient transport modes such as public transport, and (iii) introduce zero emissions vehicles.

Green mobility and sustainable consumption and production in Thailand

Thailand faces the same challenge on air pollution as the other countries in Asia and the Pacific. In recent years, cities in the country including Bangkok were choked by high level of air pollution.

The good news is that air pollution is preventable. The solutions -- laws, standards, policies, programmes, investments and technologies -- are widely known and can be implemented. And Thailand is already moving in this direction.

Thailand has developed the “Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap 2017- 2036” to further promote the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) concept in different sectors, including the transport sector. This is a great example for the other countries in the region to prioritize SCP practices.

The policy dialogue

This policy dialogue has as main objective to increase awareness on green mobility options in Thailand from both, the consumption and the production perspective.

The dialogue will involve speakers from government, research institute, the private sector and civil society. Among the topics to be discussed are the state of air pollution in Thailand, the health impact of this air pollution, the policy and plan for green mobility and electric vehicles, and the role of green logistics and green supply chain to address air pollution.

The expected outcome of the policy dialogue on green mobility for clean air in Thailand is to increase collaboration among key players of air pollution reduction in the country and advocate for policy action on green mobility.

SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy component

Programme funded by European Union (EU) and implemented by UN Environment to support the mainstreaming of sustainable consumption and production in countries of Asia through dialogue, policy instruments, and regulatory framework focusing on improving resource efficiency and managing environmental pollution in consumption and production for all the sectors.

Activities

Press Conference on 30th May 2019

A joint press conference is hosted by DEQP, UN Environment and SWITCH-Asia.

Time	Event:
	<i>Press Conference "World Environment Day 2019 in Thailand"</i> <i>Thursday 30 May 2019 at 1300 hrs.</i> Room 301, 3rd Floor, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment building
13.00 – 13.30	Register and Refreshment
13.30 – 14.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Wijarn Simachaya (15 mins) Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment • Mr. Ratchada Suriyakul Na Ayudhaya (10 mins) Director General, Department of Environment Quality Promotion (DEQP) • Ms. Isabelle Louis (10 mins) Deputy Regional Director, Asia Pacific Office, United Nations Environment Programme • H.E. Mr Pirkka Tapiola (10 mins) Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand
14.15 – 14.25	Response to media's questions
14.25 – 15.00	Photo session/ End of the conference

Note: Sessions will proceed in both Thai and English

Agenda of World Environment Day Event on 5th June 2019 Including SWITCH-Asia supported Mobility Policy dialogue

Time	Event: World Environment Day 2019
	<i>Wednesday 5 June 2019 at 0900 hrs.</i> Grand Diamond Room, Impact Forum building, Impact Muangthong Thani Convention Center, Nonthaburi province
09.00 - 10.00	Register
10.00 - 10.30	Special Talk on 'Lesson Learnt of Thailand National implementing measures' by Prof. Sirima Punyamatheekul, Chulalongkorn university
10.30 – 12.00	<p>Policy dialogue on 'Green Mobility for Clean Air- Speeding Actions from air quality players'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated by prestige news reporter Ms. Chorpaka Wiriyant • (Each topic takes 10 mins + Q&A 20 mins) 1. Mr. Thalearnsak Petchsuwan, Deputy Director General, Pollution Control Department: "State of Air Pollution in Thailand, Air4Thai" 2. Dr. Danai Theewanda, Deputy Director General, Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health: "Air Pollution- Health impact and personal measures" 3. Ms. Suwimol Wattanawiroon, SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy, UNEP: "Green Mobility, Game of CHANGE" 4. Dr. Nuwong Chollacoop, Head, Renewable Energy laboratory National Metal and Materials Technology Center (MTEC) and Representative from Department of Land Transport: "EV-Electric vehicle: hope or real?" 5. Mr. Kangwarn Laowirojanakul, Chamber of Commerce of Khonkaen: "Smart city-the green concept" 6. Representative from Department of Land Transport: "Q Mark for truck: Government initiative toward Green logistics" 7. President of Pichai Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Lampang: Measures to subdue forest Fire in the North of Thailand
12.00 – 14.00	Break
14.00	Arrival of Chairperson (Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment)
14.00 – 15.00	<p>Official Celebration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Video World Environment Day 2019 (4 mins) 2. Remark by Dr. Isabelle Louis, Deputy Regional Director, Asia Pacific Office, United Nations Environment Programme (8 mins max.) 3. Special remark on SWITCH-Asia Green Mobility for Clean Air by H.E. Mr Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand (8 mins max.) 4. Brief on activities to celebrate World Environment Day in Thailand by Mr. Ratchada Suriyakul Na Ayudhaya, Director General, Department of Environment Quality Promotion (DEQP) (10 mins) 5. Thailand Environmental Awards presented by Chairperson (10 mins) 6. Remark by Chairperson (Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment)(10 mins) 7. Photo session of High level (5 mins) 8. Visit Exhibitions (5 mins)