



Celebrating World Environment Day 2020

## THAILAND 2020s AND BEYOND: BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

A Webinar to enhance sustainable society in Thailand, through promotion of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Biodiversity Conservation to celebrate UN's World Environment Day 2020

**DATE:** 5 June 2020

**TIME:** 10.15 - 12.30 hrs.

IPPD online event platform (conducted mostly in Thai)

**Link to the webinar:** Platform: [ZOOM](#) Facebook [Streaming](#)

**KEYWORDS:** #UNEP #IPPD #sustainability #SCP #biodiversity #ForNature #WorldEnvironmentDay @switchasia

### HOSTS AND PARTNERS

1. SWITCH-Asia RPAC ([funded by EU](#))
2. UNEP ([UN Environment Programme](#))
3. IPPD ([Institute of Public Policy and Development](#))
4. EEC ([Environmental Education Center](#))

### BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The current COVID-19 pandemic is a reminder to our society that there is intimate relationship among humans, animals and the environment. The transmission pathways of diseases, such as COVID-19, from animals to humans highlight the extent to which human activity is placing increasing pressures on the health of our natural environment, with damaging consequences to the society. It is increasingly recognized that, in the post-crisis recovery process, we cannot continue with the business-as-usual approach, which would further increase environmental externalities such as carbon emissions and pressure on biodiversity and ecosystems. As governments introduce stimulus packages to support job creation, poverty reduction, development and economic growth, we need to support efforts towards “building back better”, by ensuring that the health of our planet, including our natural resource base, as well as people’s well-being are not undermined, while efforts should be made towards capturing opportunities for leap-frogging to green investments, such as renewable energy, smart housing, etc., to be guided by the principles and standards of sustainable production and consumption.

### Raise awareness and educate the public on issues related to sustainable society through Celebration of WED

Building A Sustainable Society not only relies on the wellness of the natural environment but also the equity of our gains and the inclusiveness of our growth, thus, no one can build a sustainable society alone. Through each one of our actions, we are playing our roles in creating larger changes to our society. Thus, in addition to the joint research on the IWR of Thailand, IPPD and UNEP also see the need to join forces in raising the awareness and educating the public on sustainability and biodiversity as steppingstones to building sustainable society and support the wellness of our biodiversity.

The Thailand 2020s and Beyond: Building Sustainable Society event is part of our effort to continue communicating and starting dialogues on sustainability and biodiversity, so that when the time of post-COVID-19 comes, we all can help build back better for a sustainable Thailand.

## Promote awareness and dialogue on sustainable society, SCP and biodiversity

World Environment Day (WED) is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment and engaging more people to take necessary actions. Held annually since 1974, the Day has also become a vital platform for promoting progress on the environmental dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals. With the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at the helm, over 150 countries participate each year. Major corporations, non-governmental organizations, communities, governments and celebrities from across the world adopt the World Environment Day brand to champion environmental causes. **The 2020 World Environment Day theme is "biodiversity" and this global campaign will highlight how humans are inextricably linked to and depend on nature for our existence and quality of life.** The European Union recently released its new growth strategy, called EU Green Deal that aims to transform member states into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of GHGs in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. (EU, 2019). To achieve these aims, it is essential to increase the value given to protecting and restoring ecosystems to the sustainable use of resources and to improving human health.

The SWITCH-Asia RPAC, funded by European Union (EU) through UNEP Regional office for Asia and the Pacific is constantly working in the region to promote sustainable use of natural and environmental resources with careful attention to potential trade-offs among economic, environmental and social objectives through Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). The concept is to ensure sustainable consumption and production practices necessarily entails to respect the biophysical boundaries of the planet and to reduce current global consumption rates in order to fit with the biophysical capacity to produce ecosystems services and benefits. (SDG12)

The organization of the Policy Webinar is proposed as a part of WED celebration to recognize the importance of biodiversity and to highlight important linkages between sustainable use of natural resources and human well-being especially safety and quality of life. Increasing threats to the health of humans and ecosystems is at an alarming rate and calling for more sustainable action-oriented policies from different authorities for a better and safer life. The Webinar will discuss common goals and understanding on sustainable society shared and share good practices and experiences in greening key sectors with SCP principles that contribute substantially to poverty alleviation and transition towards low-carbon and green economies. The Webinar will then end with recognition of value in building cooperation. Means and measures to build sustainable society in Thai context among different sectors will be highlighted. Different roles and responsibilities and innovative way forwards for closer cooperation will be discussed.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

Friday 5 June 2020 at 10:15-12:30

Time	Programme
<b>10:15 - 10:45</b>	<b>Opening session</b>
1015-1020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Background and rationale of the webinar and Announcement of the collaboration between UNEP and IPPD</li> </ul>
1020-1025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announcement of UNEP Thai Ambassador with a short interview: <b>Alex Rendell (EEC)</b>:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What inspired you to start EEC?</li> <li>What have you accomplished with EEC?</li> <li>What are your next steps with EEC and how can people join your cause?</li> <li>What are your suggestions for people to start working on their own environmental cause?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1025-1030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Official Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Dr Dechen Tsering,</b> Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, UN Environment Programme</li> </ul>
1030-1035	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Opening Remarks</b> <b>H.E. Mr Pirkka TAPIOLA,</b> Ambassador of the European Union to the Kingdom of Thailand</li> </ul>
1035-1040	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Keynote Speaker</b> <b>HE. Varawut Silpa-archa,</b> Minister to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand <b>(tbc)</b></li> </ul>

1040-1045	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Introducing panelists</b></li> </ul>
<b>10.45-11:40</b>	<b>Technical session</b>
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Introducing interactions:</b> Q&amp;A, live poll, and FB comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Poll:</b> What is your impression with the word “sustainability”? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I know it by heart, I’m actually doing something about it.</li> <li>○ I know it and want to help, but not sure how to get on board.</li> <li>○ I know it in passing but I need more convincing rationales to get on board.</li> <li>○ I don’t know about it and I’m here to find out.</li> <li>○ I know it but don’t believe in it. (Please let us know why in the comment.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>IPPD (Dr.Sorapop):</b> Concept and definition of sustainable society for Thailand</li> </ul>
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>UNEP (K.Tunnie):</b> Importance of Biodiversity in sustainable society context : Overview of WED Theme and linkages to sustainability context (Biodiversity and SCP)</li> </ul>
(total of 40 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Action showcase:</b> What are the actions taken under your responsibilities or your organization that promote sustainable society? How are those action also help preserve biodiversity or nature in Thailand and how they are contributing to overall achievement of SDGs, sustainable development, sufficient economy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Private sector:</b> showcase green supply chain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Deesawat</b> by K.Jirawat Tangkijngamwong</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Civic sector:</b> showcase community-led action to increase livable/sustainable city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Jaibaan Studio</b> by K.Supawut Boonmahathanakorn</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Individual:</b> showcase and encourage individual actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Little Big Green</b> by K.Kanatip Soonthornrak (Loukgolf)</li> <li>● <b>EEC</b> by Alex Rendell</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10 mins	
10 mins	
10 mins	
10 mins	
<b>11:40-12:20</b>	<b>Q&amp;A session:</b>
20 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Q&amp;A prepared:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Challenges:</b> Recognizing that it is a process, a journey, what are challenges you face to initiate/implement your actions to achieve sustainable society</li> <li>○ <b>COVID19:</b> How COVID19 pandemic is affecting or interrupting your initiatives and how it can trigger more sustainable actions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
20 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Q&amp;A from audience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>4-6 questions</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>12:20-12:30</b>	<b>Closing session</b>
2 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Closing poll:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Poll:</b> How is your impression with the word “sustainability” changed/not changed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I’m among my peers here. It inspires me to continue working on sustainability.</li> <li>○ I want to connect with one of the panelists/organizations here to play a part in Building A Sustainable Society.</li> <li>○ I’m on board! Let me know how I can play a role.</li> <li>○ I learned a lot! It inspires me to learn more.</li> <li>○ Others (Let us know in the comment.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Arts and Media Campaign:</b> call for entry</li> </ul>
8 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Closing remarks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How to get involve and contacts</li> <li>○ Thank you</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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