

# Environmental Governance Priorities & Activities



# Background of TEI

- ❖ TEI is a non-profit organization, founded in 1993 by Mr. Anand Panyarachun, Honorary Chairman of TEI
  - ❖ Former Prime Minister of Thailand
- ❖ TEI serves as a reliable, trusted, and up-to-date **source of environmental knowledge** & is an **action-oriented think tank**.
- ❖ TEI was founded on the belief that **partnerships** are the most effective approach to achieving sustainable development and a better quality of life.



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# Sources of Funding



# Global Think Tanks

- Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) is among the 70 world's top environment think tanks, globally from 2012-14

Source: Pennsylvania University – 2015 Global Go to Think Tank Index Report, Table 18



# TEI's Vision

- ❖ To be a regional center of excellence in the Southeast Asia region.
- ❖ To operate as a national think tank, providing foresight on sustainability issues
- ❖ To be well recognized and respected by international communities

# TEI's Mission

- ❖ To serve as a **national research institute** for high-quality research, supporting meaningful evidence-based action, committed to sustainable development
- ❖ To propose **key policy agendas** and **national strategies**
- ❖ To participate in **environmental governance** and social engagement
- ❖ To undertake extensive **dissemination** of quality information on environmental issues
- ❖ To build **long-term partnerships** with key environmental organizations in Thailand, the SEA Region and beyond



# TEI as Southeast Asia Core Team Member on Environment Governance

The  
**Access**  
Initiative



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- ❖ The Access Initiative (TAI) has been established in 2000 by the World Resource Institute (WRI), an environmental think tank in order to ensure that governments provide access to citizens in decision-making about natural resources and the environment.
- ❖ More than 150 civil society organizations (CSOs) around the world have become TAI partners.
- ❖ TEI has been selected to be Southeast Asia Core Team Member during 2000-2012, 2016-19.

# TAI Network Members

## In Southeast Asia

- ❖ **Indonesia:** Center for Environmental Law (CEL)
- ❖ **Malaysia,** Friends of Kota Damansara
- ❖ **Lao PDR:** Community Development and Environment Association (CDEA)
- ❖ **Vietnam:** Vietnam Association for Conservation of Nature and Environment (VACNE)
- ❖ **Cambodia:** The Advocacy and Policy Institute (API)
- ❖ **Philippine:** Ateneo School of Government
- ❖ **Yunan province,** Yunnan University, China

## In Thailand

- ❖ King Prajadhipok's Institute (KPI)
- ❖ Good Governance for Social Development and the Environment Institute (GSEI)
- ❖ School of Law, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU)
- ❖ Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF)
- ❖ The Network of Eastern Friends: Agenda of Eastern Change
- ❖ Lawyers Council of Thailand



# Good Governance Framework



Source: [www.opdc.go.th](http://www.opdc.go.th)

## New Public Management

- Responsiveness
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency/Value for money

## Democratic Value

- Equity
- Rule of Law
- Transparency
- Accountability

## Administrative Responsibility

- Morality/Ethics

## Participatory State

- Participation/Consensus Oriented
- Decentralization

# Previous work of TAI Thailand

- ❖ TAI Thailand can influence the public with access to information about government decisions, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice when their rights to information, participation.
- ❖ Outputs: Initiated and influenced the formulation of **Article 9 (8) of the Official Information Act, 1997**, so that environment and health-related information has been opened to the public in 2007.
- ❖ During 2000-2001 as the Asian representative, TEI worked with members from 4 other continents to develop **an environmental good governance indicator** tool to assess government and industrial sector performance in securing public participation.
- ❖ During 2001-2009 this indicator was used with several development projects throughout Thailand, including the industrial development project in Map Ta Phut Industrial Estate, also known as **Map Ta Phut Environmental Governance**.

# Upcoming work of TAI Thailand

- ❖ Initiation of national report on environmental governance with other ASEAN members
- ❖ Campaign on free water and air pollution including freedom of information
- ❖ Study on safety of ASEAN environmental defenders
- ❖ EIA toolkit on power plants development and related activities for CSOs and the public

# TEI work on environmental governance

## Upcoming Research:

- Governance assessment on **Special Economic Zones including Eastern Economic Corridor Policy**, with 6 case studies, funded by Thai Public Health Funding from Sept. 2017 to Dec. 2018

**SDG # 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

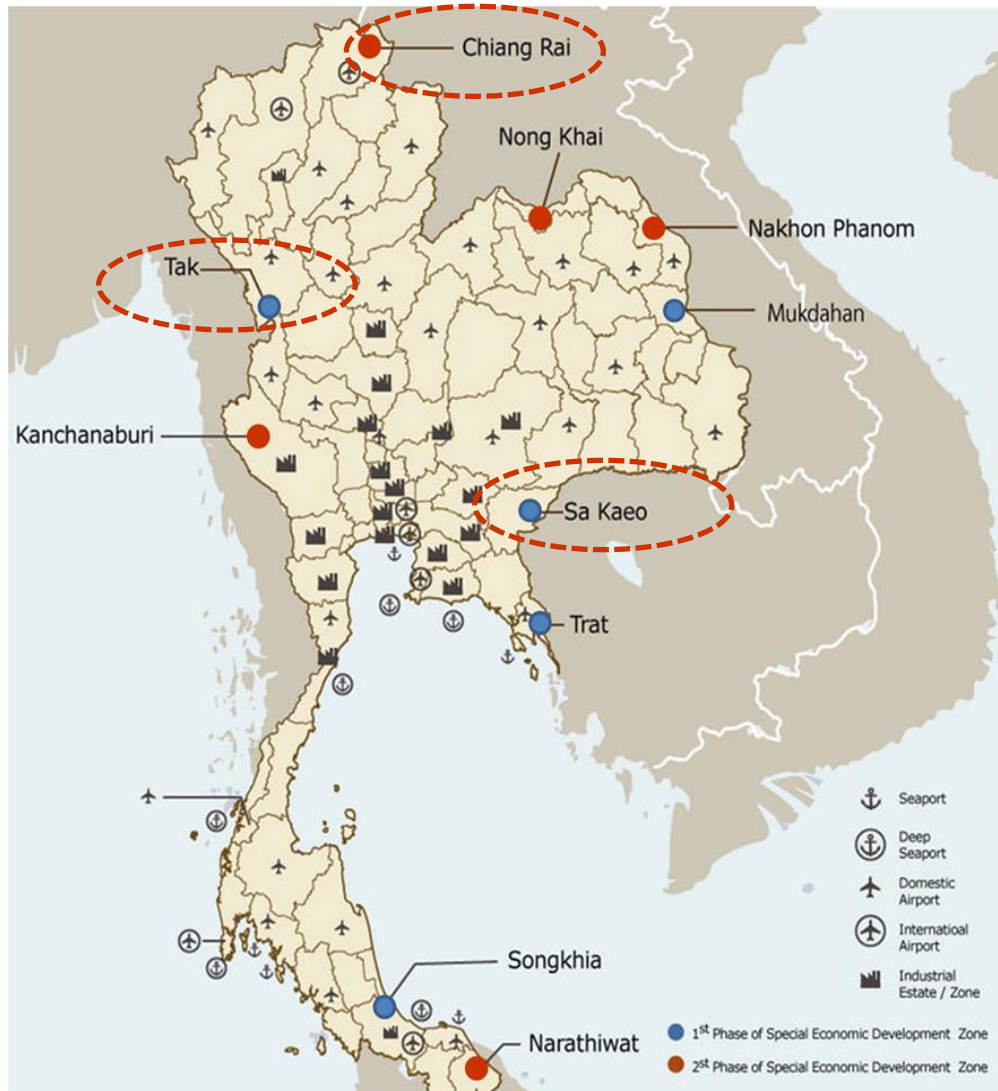
**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



- **16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- **16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements



# Locations of Special Economic Zones in Thailand



## Eastern Economic Corridor



## 6 case studies:

- Chiang Rai
- Tak
- Sa Kaeo
- Chachoengsao
- Chonburi
- Rayong



## News clipping on SEZ

- The Thai junta leader has urged the relevant authorities to speed up a special economic zone project in northern Thailand despite opposition from local people who are to be evicted. (Ref: <https://prachatai.com/english/node/5483>, on Tue, 22/09/2015 - 11:17



- The government push for economic zones, mining runs into local opposition as forests, water sources and livelihoods come under threat.** (Published: <http://www.bangkokpost.com/print/815784/5/01/2016> at 03:30 AM)



# TEI work on environmental governance

## Upcoming Research:

- Regulatory Impact Assessment on IUU fishing policy with 4 case studies, funded by Thailand Research Fund, in 2018
- Establish a Local Socio-Economic Data Base Directory such as Eastern Economic Corridor Area and border special economic zones

# IUU Fishing

## Tackling **illegal**, **unreported** and **unregulated** (IUU) fishing

### Fishing is illegal if:



- no authorisation
- against conservation and management measures by RFMOs
- against national laws or international obligations.

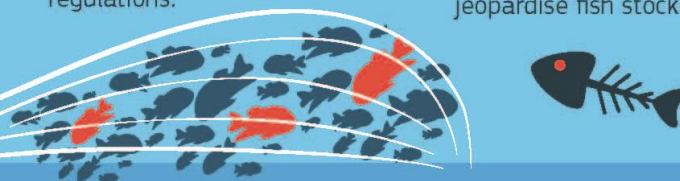


### Fishing is unreported if:

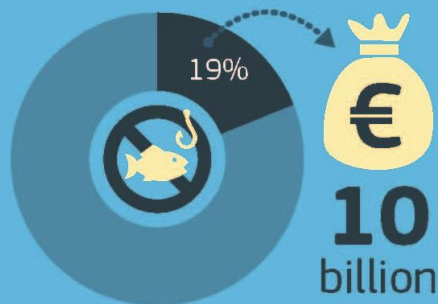
not reported, or the reporting contravenes international, RFMO or national laws and regulations.

### Fishing is unregulated if:

- the fishing vessel has no nationality
- fishing activities jeopardise fish stocks.



### IUU fishing practices:



- €10 billion every year worldwide
- 19% of the worldwide reported value of catches
- serious threat to sustainable fishing
- damages the marine environment
- affects socio-economic conditions

### The EU's fisheries control system:



1. The “**IUU Regulation**”: establishing a Community system **to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing** - Council Regulation (EC) N°1005/2008

2. The Regulation concerning **authorisation for fishing activities** - Council Regulation (EC) N°1006/2008

3. The Regulation establishing a Community Control System for ensuring **compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy** - Council Regulation (EC) N° 1224/2009



# Preliminary Assessment on Ocean Governance of Thai authorities

Principles of Ocean Governance	Yes	No	Remarks
• Planning and implementation based on R&D	✓		Only certain extent
• Management at national and local levels	✓		Mainly at national level
• Coordination mechanism	✓		Only among government agencies
• Having Think Tank organizations	✓		For government agencies
• Stakeholders' engagement in value chain system starting from Planning process			???

# Conceptual framework

Responses IUU Fishing ban

- Conflicts among government agencies and stakeholders in value chain system
- No engagement of stakeholders in value chain system
- Limited access to justice and mitigation for local fisher folk and small and medium sized enterprises
- Confusion of migrant workers registration system

Increase of engagement, decision-making of and mitigation to fisher folk and small and medium sized enterprises

*Assessment on  
ocean governance  
and  
Regulatory Impact  
Analysis (RIA)*

- Ocean Governance
- Sustainable fishery in Thailand



# TEI work on environmental governance

## **Advocacy work in 2016**

- ❖ Contamination of organic products
- ❖ Negative impacts of river ways along Chaopraya River in Bangkok
- ❖ Safety of fishery migrant workers (upcoming in 2017-18) with the Department of Health, Thailand

## **Development project for rights of marginalize people and indigenous people**

- Building capacity of Myanmar migrants on Community-based Environmental Management in Siray Island Mangrove Area, Phuket Thailand
- Building capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) on climate change adaptation towards sustainable development of Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS) during

# Project on Building Capacity of Myanmar Migrants on Community-based Environmental Management in Siray Island Mangrove Area, Phuket Thailand



**Supported by:** U.S. Embassy

**Project Location:** Siray Island Mangrove Areas, Phuket, Thailand



## **Objective :**

- To increase awareness in the Myanmar migrants' community of environmental condition and to increase their willingness to participate in environmental management
- To increase their capacity to reduce solid waste in their community, to restore targeted mangrove areas, and to ensure better sanitation and hygiene in public community areas



**Project Duration:** Jul 2016 - Jun 2017

# **Project on Building the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations for Climate Change Adaptation in Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS-CCA)**

during 2011-2015

Funded by Swedish Government





# Finding of the results



- Countries of the GMS face common natural disaster risks related to climate change which affects agricultural-based livelihoods and population in the region. Farmers are mostly poor and have limited access to resources and climate adaptation learning opportunities.
- As Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) work directly with local communities, they are best-positioned to reach out effectively at the grassroots level.
- Involvement of mass media enabled CSOs to communicate their experience to national policy makers responsible, especially related to national and regional economic development strategy formulation.
- Gender equality, poverty reduction, human rights based approaches and inclusive environmental governance were priority considerations common to all aspects of the GMS-CCA Project, starting from the sub-project selection criteria and design.

# Achievements against the expected outcomes

## Project objectives

1. To initiate a regional forum for CSOs in the GMS to share ideas & perspectives on the impacts of climate change on water resources, and to propose practical adaptation approaches
2. To enhance the knowledge and understanding among CSOs in the GMS of national adaptation strategies or plans for water resources management that will enhance the CSOs' capacity to facilitate adaptation
3. To promote access to information & participation among CSOs in the GMS in water resource management activities related to climate change

## Project Achievement

1. A regional forum for 70 CSOs in the GMS has been established.
2. CSOs: (i) Improved their knowledge on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) & Water Resource Management (WRM). (ii) Strengthened networks among CSOs in the region. (iii) Enhanced awareness on gender equality among CSOs re WRM.
3. The media gained better understanding of CSOs' work & roles in society, particularly related to CCA and WRM. An on-going collaborative relationship between media and CSOs has been formed. The media helped to publicize the regional CCA movement at national, regional and global levels.
4. The selected CSOs had the opportunity to meet and establish ties with regional and international networks & exchange work experience.



# Achievements against the expected outcomes (cont.)

## Project objectives

4. To provide inputs to regional organizations/forums, including the Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRC) and the Asia and Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), related to filling the knowledge gaps in climate change adaptation at the GMS local level
5. To implement useful ideas from national and regional forums across the GMS countries

## Project Achievement

5. MRCs and APAN initially communicated with CSOs through the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Dialogue in 2013. Learning from the initial adaptation activity (responding to early flooding) in central Vietnam was transmitted to APAN. CSO networks in Laos and Cambodia were introduced to the national offices of MRCs.
6. Participating communities had the opportunity to take part in local as well as national activities, including dissemination of lessons learned through local research and field activities. This learning was passed upwards to local & national government authorities contributing to their adaptation, mitigation, & policy and programming capacity.

# Access to land for poor farmers

- Working with the Provincial Department of Agriculture and the Chiang Rai Municipal Government, and local NGOs, as part of TEI's urban climate resilience program, TEI has significantly established agricultural activity on green designated land.
- The land has been allocated to more than 20 landless, poor, ethnic minority group farmers.

An additional component of the program facilitates marketing of the produce. Although the plots are small, the value of the organic vegetables produced is high given access to market, and high fertility of the land. Previously, much of this environmental services land was not utilized most of the year.





# Empowerment of indigenous women in local natural resource management



*Empowerment of ethnic women in natural resource management, based on appreciation, access to local resources and sustainable development*

*Funding from Ratchaburi Electrical Generating Company Limited (Oct. 2014-Dec. 2018)*

## **Main areas include:**

- Upgrading community-based forest management for conservation and for quality of life of villagers
- Improving eco-tourism
- Enhancing community-based solid waste management



## **City and Local Government Enabling Environment: Rating in Asia and the Pacific**



***This survey aims to provide a rating for countries in the Asia Pacific based on the enabling institutional framework for the efficient discharge of assigned responsibilities by local governments to promote sustainable urban development in 30 countries***

**Criteria 1 – Constitutional Framework, Criteria 2 – Legislative Framework**

**Criteria 3 – Local Democracy, Criteria 4 – Financial Transfers from Central Government to Local Government, Criteria 5 – Local Governments' Own Revenue**

**Criteria 6 – Capacity Building of Local Government Administration, Criteria 7 – Transparency, Criteria 8 – Citizen Participation, Criteria 9– Local Government Performance, Criteria 10– Urban Strategy, Criteria 12 – Environmental and Climate Change Governance**

**Criteria 11 – Women's Participation in Local Governance**

- National provisions on temporary special measures for women/'quota system' at local level meets none of the following:
- no rotation system is applied
- minimum percentage of women is above 30%
- quota consists of reserved seats or placement mandates
- quotas are enforced by law

# Partnership with private sector and others



## Thailand Business Council for Sustainable Development





THAILAND BUSINESS  
COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

Members of TBCSD 2016 : 39 Organizations in 6 major areas





**TBCSD**

THAILAND BUSINESS  
COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

## **Main activities of TBCSD**

- Green meeting practices with 100 companies
- Sustainable and Green Procurement Initiative
- Driving Behavior Change toward Sustainable Consumption
- Eco–School Award
- Eco–Hospital Award
- Development of a Community Power Plant in Mae Hong Son Province
- Water Resource Management
- Promotion and awards of universal design

An illustration of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, cupping a bright green globe. A small green plant with two leaves grows out of the top of the globe. The background is white with some faint green speckles.

# Thank you.

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