

Thailand is Developing its NAMA Strategy for Climate Change



- Supported by the LoCARNet's scientific network -

Background

The concept of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) concept, first introduced in the "Bali Action Plan" in COP13 in 2008, refers to any action that reduces emissions in developing countries. NAMA actions should achieve a reduction in emissions relative to 'business as usual' emissions in 2020 while at the same time contributing to national development plans. Climate mitigation impacts should be measurable, reported and verified (MRV). There are two types of NAMAs: 1) domestically supported and 2) internationally supported. Both need MRV processes to ensure the quantified emission reduction. Thailand is now constructing a national strategy "Roadmap to Thailand NAMAs 2020" with clear targets to set up benchmark and orient the emission reduction activities.



Role of LoCARNet Secretariat (IGES)

The LoCARNet Secretariat (IGES) has been conducting policy dialogues between researchers and policymakers in selected countries in Asia, together with the Asian-Pacific Integrated Model (AIM) Team which includes the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Kyoto University, Mizuho Information and Research Institute. Through these policy dialogues, policymakers have gradually recognised the importance of involvement of the research community in the policy-making process, in Thailand and other Asian countries. LoCARNet has worked closely with the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organisation (TGO), and supported an AIM researcher in Thailand to conduct analysis that has been reflected into Thailand's NAMA development process.

Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet) is an open network of researchers, research organisations, as well as like minded relevant stakeholders that facilitates the formulation and implementation of science-based policies for low-carbon development in the Asian region. LoCARNet has encouraged collaboration amongst researchers in countries whose research capacity and scientific knowledge are firmly grounded in their home countries.



Research results

TGO's first study shows that Thailand has high potential of GHG emission reduction by both domestically and internationally supported NAMAs by about 23-73 million ton CO₂ per year in 2020, accounting for 7-20% of the total GHG emissions. The abatement costs of NAMAs vary from zero to 1000 US\$/t-CO₂. The actions include measures in i) renewable energy, ii) energy efficiency, iii) biofuels in transportation, and iv) environmentally sustainable transport. Co-benefits of NAMAs are also assessed, and they show positive benefits of GHG mitigation under the NAMA framework. The MRV process of these NAMAs needs cooperation among related ministries. *

Impacts

Since 2012, Thailand's voluntary mitigation pledge to the UNFCCC has been prepared on the basis of these measures. In 2014, the roadmap to Thailand's NAMAs 2020 has been laid out by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Thailand, to achieve the CO₂ reduction target of 7-20% in 2020. Research results and scientific analysis was used for setting scenarios and targets. *

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Institutes to which some of potential members of LoCARNet belong. The members are researchers that endorse the activities of the LoCARNet and any supporting group or individual.



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