Multi-stakeholder Engagement: A case from the Green and Livable City of Nadee, Samut Sakhon

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Socio-economic Background of Nadee, Samut Sakhon Province, Thailand

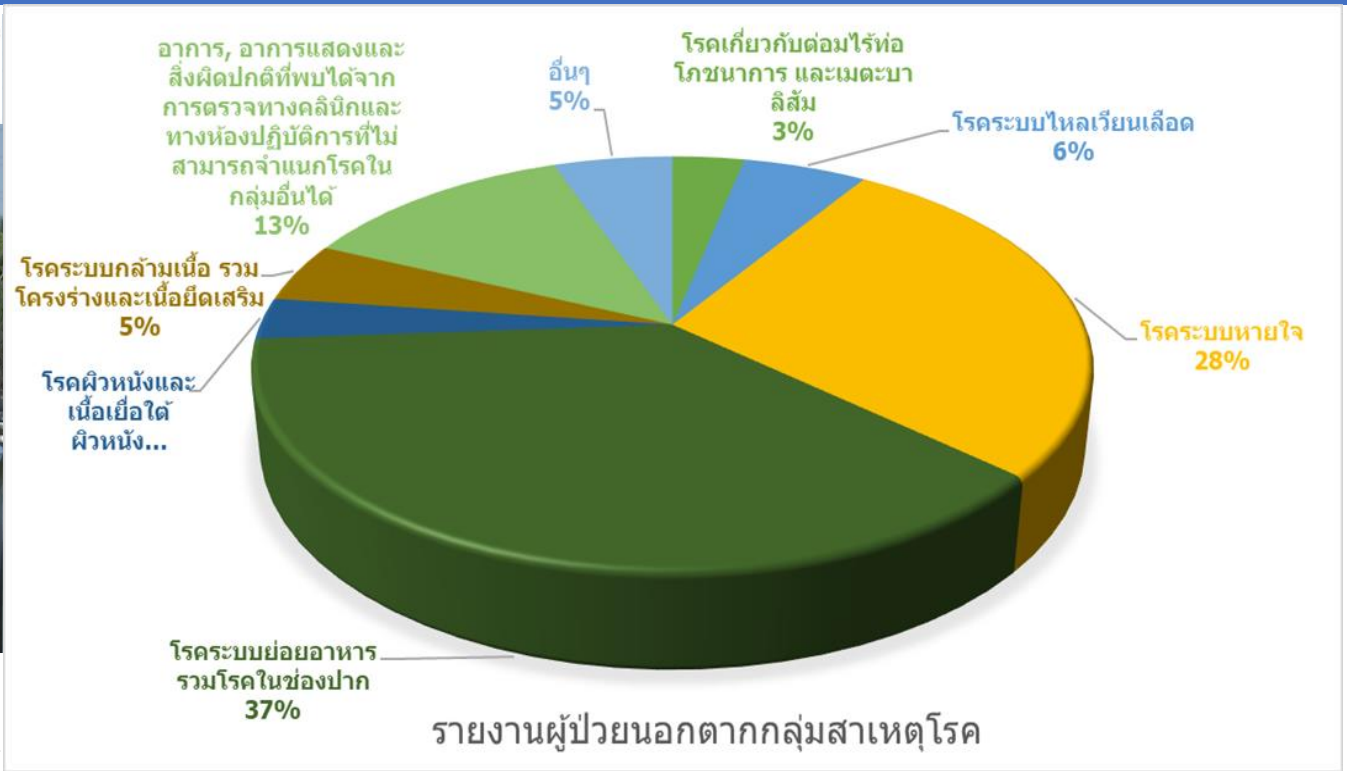
- Population: Registered Population 25,962 + about 10,000 Migrant Workers (Mainly from Myanmar with limited education and Thai language understanding)
- Key Economic Sector: Industry [616 Factories], SMEs = 90% (540)
- Highly Specialised Economic Base: Labor Intensive Processing and Distribution of Various Types of Food Exported to the World.

"Kitchen of the World"

- Factories are Strung out along Main roads; No Industrial Parks, with Negative Environmental Implications

Challenges …

- 8,313 Cubic Meters of Waste Water Discharged into Canals Daily (Source: Natural Resources and Environmental Office of Samut Sakhon Province, 2017)
- No Data Available on Waste Water from Households, Aqua Farming and other Activities, e.g., restaurants (Estimate: 3,113 cubic meters daily)
- Solid Waste Blocks water flow in Canals and Drainage causing Severe Flooding Every Year



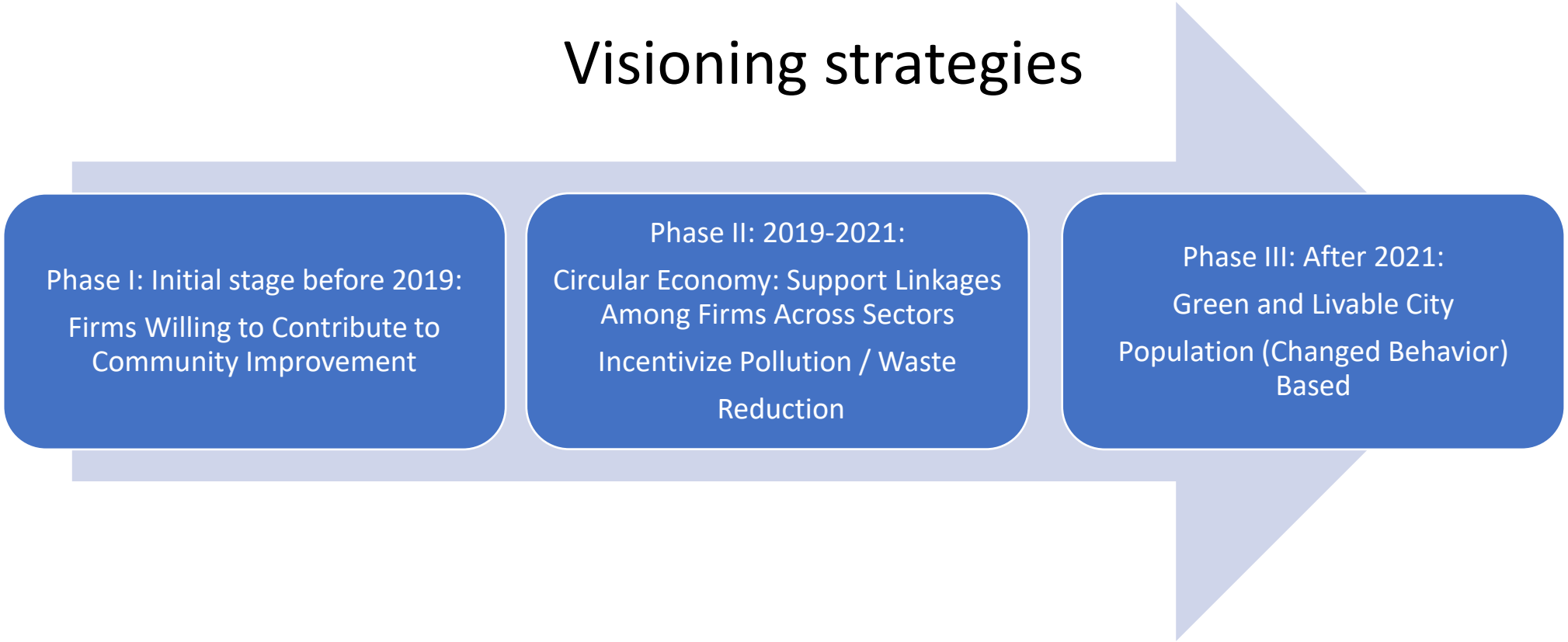
Health Problems related to the Environmental Situation

- In 2018, high number of out-patients with food digestion problems and oral diseases (37% - dark green) & respiratory diseases (28% - yellow) (Source: Nadee Basic Health Center, July-Aug. 2018)

Nadee Implementation Timeline

Nadee City Vision: Good governance, delivery of infrastructure & services, promotion of a healthy environment, learning based on ethics and local culture <http://www.nadee.go.th/index.php >

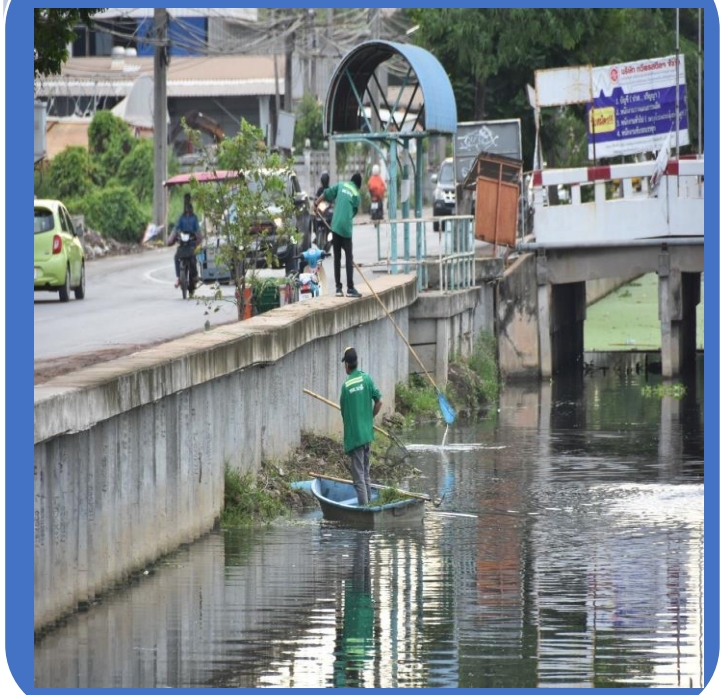
Visioning strategies



Phase I (Before 2019): Firms Willing to Contribute to Community Improvement

- Networking of 22 firms and Communities (CSR Mode)
- Implementation beyond Municipal Resources

- Emphasis on Apparent Visible Problems, e.g., Cleaning Canals

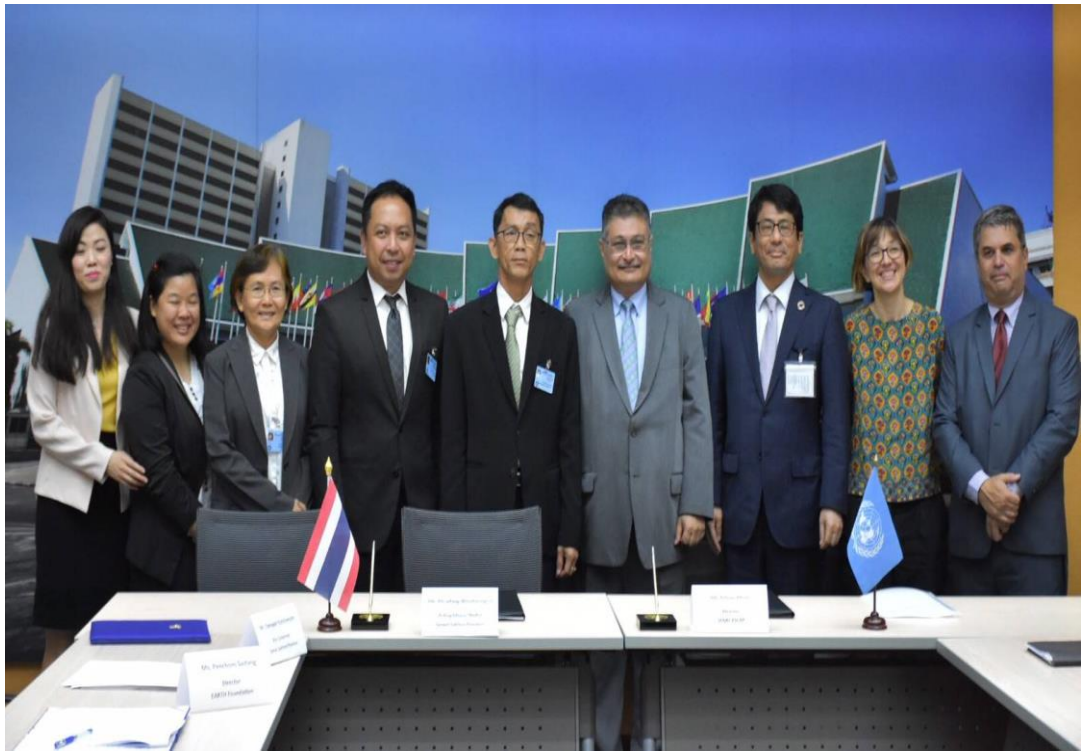


Experimental Application of Local Technology such as Water Turbines

Support of UN-ESCAP, Thai Health Promotion Foundation & EARTH Foundation 2019-2021

Partnership arrangement for the UN-ESCAP project on *'Localizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Urban Resource Management (SURM) in Nadee, Samut Sakhon, Thailand' with the support of EARTH Foundation*
(Reference: https://www.unescap.org/projects/da11/pilotcities/nadee)

Project on An Integrated Approach to Environmental Rehabilitation in Samut Sakhon
(Green Samut Sakhon Project)
(https://www.facebook.com/greensamutsakhon)



Current Stage Challenges

- Limited Capacity and Resources of SMEs, Migrant Workers, and Unregistered Population (Thai Domestic Migrants) to Participate in the Planning and Implementation processes
- Local Government Relies on Regulations & Law enforcement over Awareness & Behavioral Change
- Limited Baseline Data on Environment, Socio-economic Conditions; Data Needs to be Disaggregated by place (villages), Gender, Income, etc. to enable Systematic Planning; Missing Data on Migrants, e.g., Obstacle During Dengue Fever Outbreak
- New Culture needed based on Formal and Continuous Collaboration among Nadee City, the Private Sector, Polluters and Communities, e.g., Ad Hoc donation Requests Clash with Private Sector Culture

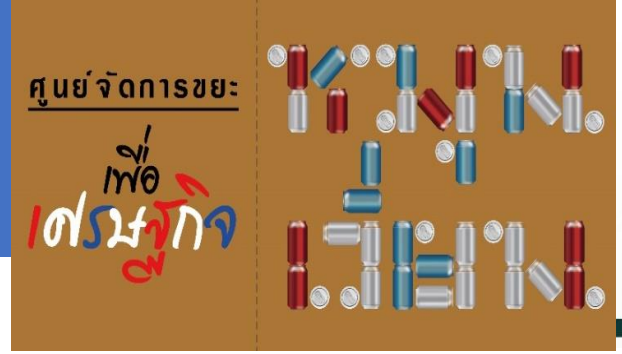
Current Stage Approach: Multi-stakeholder Engagement

- Formalized Continuous Working of Committee on *Nadee Sustainable Development* with Multi-stakeholders Representing Different Actors / Interests

- Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Underway to Implement Vision and Planning of *Green and Livable City Nadee 2030*

- Linkages with Local and External Research and Development & Educational Institutes (Samut SakhonTechnical College, KMUTT, Chulalongkorn University) for Systematic Data Collection & Planning, plus Building Capacity

Multi-stakeholder Driven Actions



- Technical Support & Coaching to SMEs (Priority – Key Polluters), e.g., Building Capacity & Technology Transfer on Implementation of Circular Economy Concepts based on the National *Green Industry with Business Benefits* **S**tandard (e.g., Waste Management Cost Reductions to Firms, SME Waste to Agriculture)

- Building Networks with Migrant Workers and the Unregistered Population, Owners of Rental Housing - Initially Based on Garbage Separation, Garbage Banks, and Vertical Gardening in Rental Housing Areas to Improve Well-being and Sanitation

-Technical Support to Grease Taps for Food Waste & Wastewater at Food Shops & restaurants - Labelling Participating Businesses

Lessons learned

- Need to Better Identify Key Change agents (e.g., Health Volunteers, School Teachers, Skilled Staff of Large Firms to Mentor SMEs); *Cannot Only Depend on Local government Structure & Formal Leaders*
- Firms & Households Need Positive Reinforcement: (i) Not “Blame & Shame”, (ii) Avoid Over Dependence on Regulation (Better: Regulation + Incentives [Economic, Awards] + Awareness)
- Need to Identify Pilot areas, e.g., SME Factory Clusters; Particular Housing Areas [e.g., Dormitories, Rental Housing, Migrant Communities]; Restaurant Clusters
- Avoid Overreliance on CSR which is Ad Hoc and may Skew Community Strategy