Public Awareness on Climate Change in Thailand



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- > Introduction
- >UNFCCC Article 6 on promoting public awareness
 - Government agencies
 - Local communities
 - •NGOs, academic and private sectors
- > Future needs

Introduction: Public Awareness and

Introduction

- Participation
 Thailand Signed the UNFCCC in June 1992 and ratified in March 1995. The country considers education and public awareness as important parts of the policy.
 - > Public awareness has been promoted in various ways:
 - Information dissemination
 - Campaign launching
 - Seminars, workshop and training
 - Active participation on environmental protection program
 - > Government agencies play a pivotal role, contributing with direct local participation in natural resources conservation activities, and active roles of NGOs, academic and private sectors.

Role of Government Agencies

> Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), a national focal point for UNFCCC, is responsible for establishing the climate change policy and strategies; coordinating in implementation of the policy and strategies.

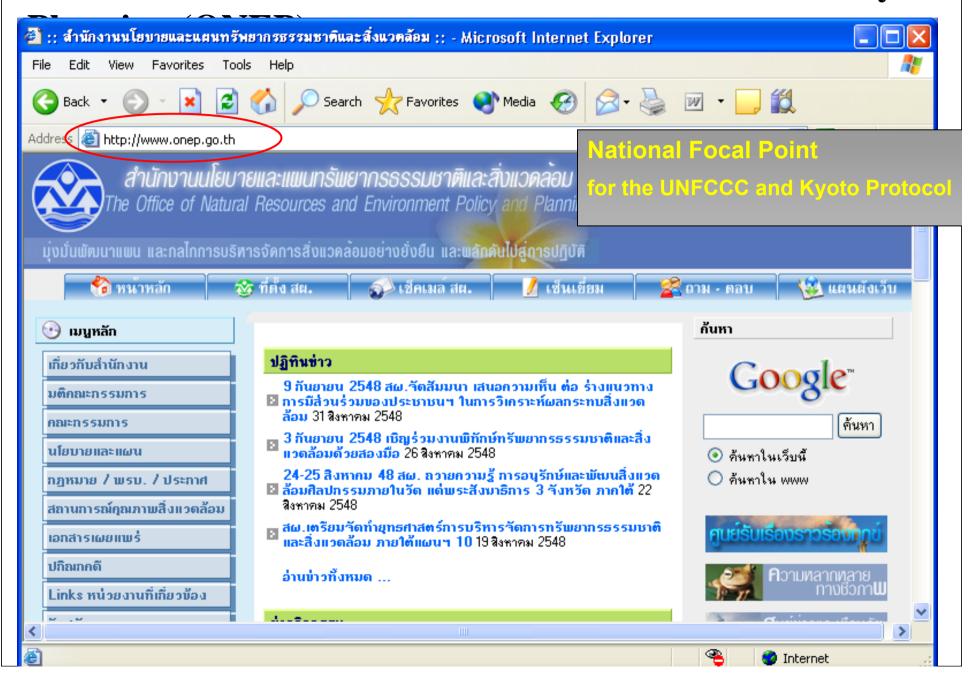
Role of Local

Communities

- > ONEP provides through seminars, workshops, media interview, publications and website.
- on Article 6 of the Convention have been strengthened.

In 2005, with cooperation of Denmark, Japan, World Bank, Thai NGOs and academic institutes were conducted. ONEP with support from DANIDA will host a climate change event on

Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and



- Currently, ONEP is improving the organisation and climate change information website. The new website will provide database and knowledge products on climate change.
- Thailand State of the Environment Report" This Thai-language report is annually published and distributed to central and local government agencies, educational institutes, public libraries & interested persons.

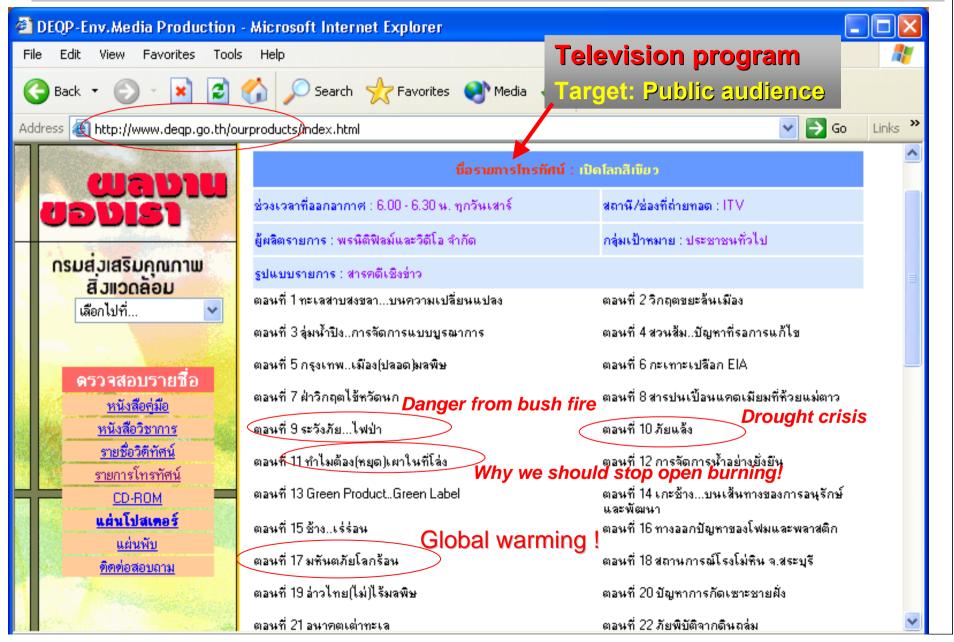
The 2004 report (currently under preparation) provides one chapter on global warming and climate change issues.

> ONEP also provides

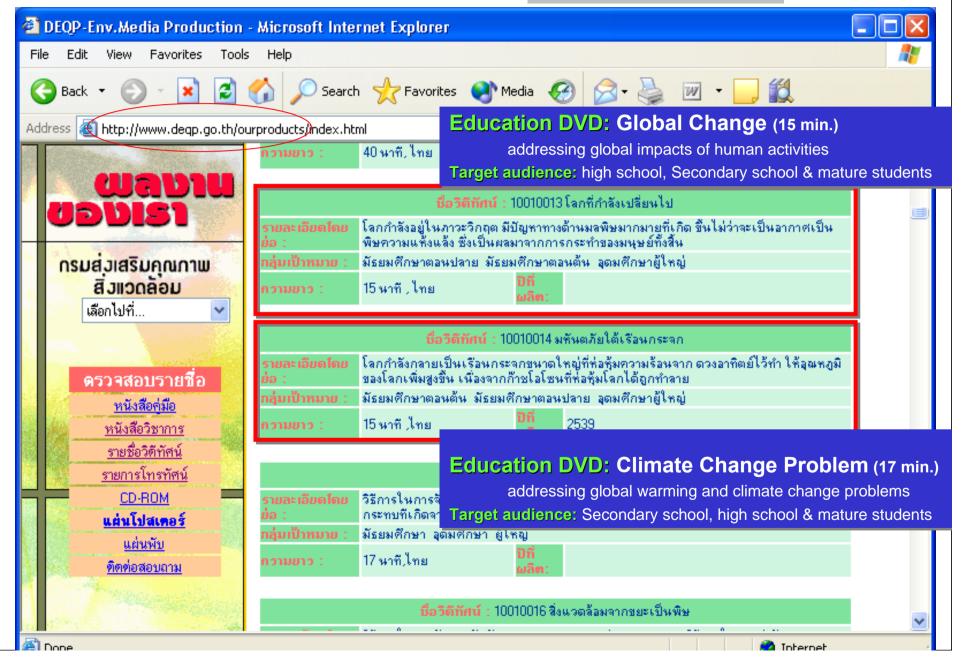
in Thai language.

- Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) of the MoNRE is the main agency responsible for implementing and coordinating public awareness campaigns and disseminating information on natural resources and environmental conservation.
- Thailand's approach to education and public awareness is provided by the DEQP in various ways:
 - Information dissemination i.e. website, publications, posters
 - Campaigns launching
 - Active participation on environmental protection i.e.
 reforestation Seminars, workshop, training

Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) Television programs (Saturday morning on ITV channel)

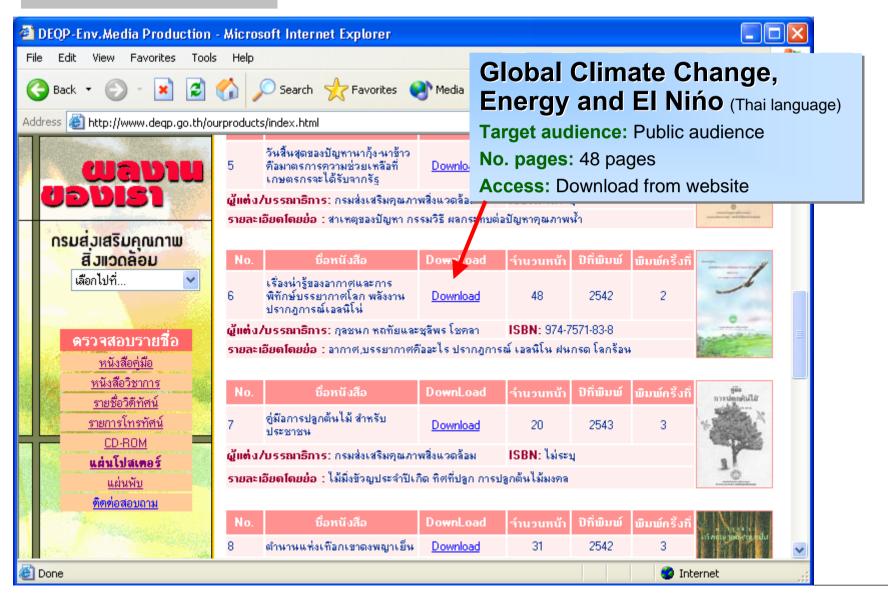


Education DVD for distribu DEQP website



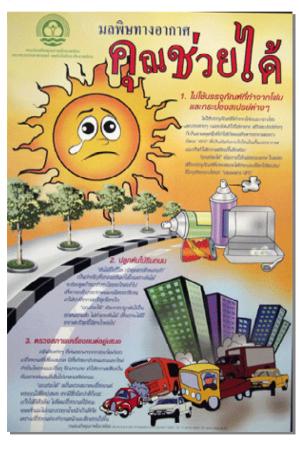
Downloaded Guidebook

DEQP website



Posters

Air pollution: You can help!



Energy Saving: You can help!



> Other relevant government agencies include:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

- Department of Pollution Control
- Royal Forestry Department
- Department of Coastal Resources
- Department of Water Resources

Ministry of Energy
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative
Ministry of Transportation
Ministry of Education
Thailand Research Fund

Examples of key actors' URL

http://www.monre.go.th

http://www.onep.go.th

http://www.eppo.go.th

http://www.deqp.go.th

http://www.pcd.go.th

http://www.thaigov.go.th

http://www.moac.go.th

http://www.trf.or.th

Introduction

- > Local communities have a vital role to play in promoting public awareness.
- > Thai policies and laws have been proposed to promote the local participation in natural resources conservation, i.e. community forest law, coastal and mangrove conservation by local communities.
- > These developments will increase local participation in natural resources management and enhance awareness of sustainable development process

Role of NGOs, Academic and Private Sectors

- ➤ NGOs and academic institutions in Thailand have been actively participated in rural development and resource conservation. Interaction:
 - among NGOs
 - Between NGOs and academic institutions
 - Between NGOs and the government agencies

have increased substantially in recent years.

International and local NGOs now play an important role in building capacity in resource management and enhancing environmental awareness among local communities.

Role of NGOs, Academic and Private

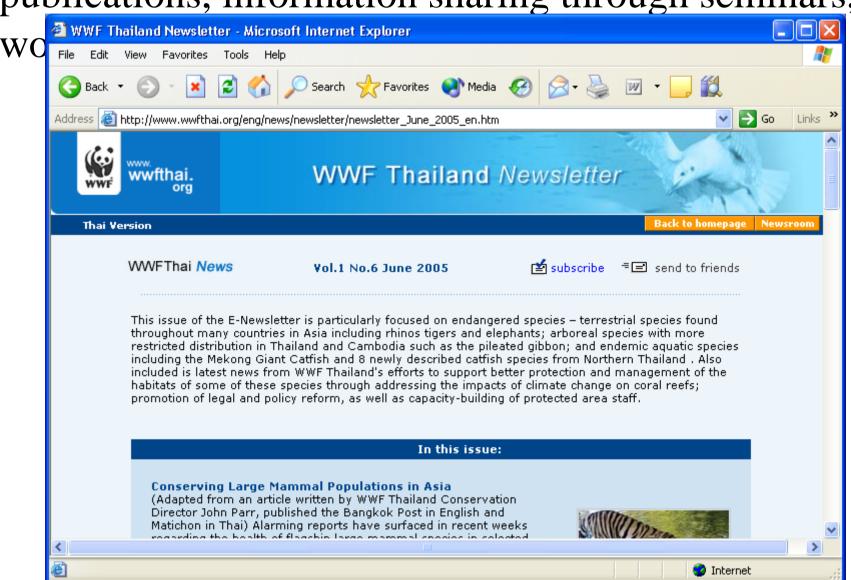
Sectors Examples of the NGOs' initiatives are:

- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) with Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) launched researching and public awareness raising on energy & climate change in 5 major municipalities: *Chiangmai, Nonthaburi, Rayong* and *Pagpraek* Municipalities.
- World Wildlife Thailand launched the energy and climate change workshop and project in Krabi Municipality in order to address importance of GHG reduction, energy conservation and renewable energy promotion.



World Wildlife Thailand

Provides information via the website and various publications, information sharing through seminars,



Homepage of NGOs and Academic Institutes (key actors) include:

Thailand Environmental Institute http://www.tei.or.th

Thailand Development Research Institute http://www.tdri.or.th

World Wildlife Thailand http://www.wwfthai.org

Southeast Asia START Regional Centre http://www.start.or.th

Chulalongkorn University http://www.ku.ac.th

KMUTT http://www.kmutt.ac.th

Kasetsart University http://www.ku.ac.th

Asian Institute of Technology http://www.arrpeec.ait.ac.th

Homepage of Private Sector that provides information on greenhouse gas mitigation at its business activities:

A.T. Biopower http://www.atbiopower.co.th

ICC Thailand http://www.iccthailand.or.th

Educational homepage at school level that provides information on climate change:

http://www.school.net.th

http://www.teenet.chula.ac.th

http://www.thaisarn.net.th

Future needs:

- More actions and supports, both technical and financial supports, are needed for raising awareness and participation of local communities. Promoting climate change knowledge to the public through the channel of media should be supported and funded.
- Database and information system need to be develop, as well as evaluating and monitoring system should be established.
- Build up electronic tools as information resources in order to enhance partnership and networking in the area of education, training and dissemination of information.

Future needs:

- Networking, training and sharing of ideas, information and experiences on climate change education and public awareness at the local, national and regional levels should be promoted, by involving the role and partnerships from NGOs and IGOs.
- Promote public participation in climate change decision-making and public access to information processes. This includes an effort on ensuring that libraries and educational institutes can offer a full range of materials on climate change education, i.e. in Thai & English languages, the IPCC translated into Thai language.

Thank you

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