

Report of ERECON Programs in 2007

Following programs were implemented in the program year of 2007 from April 2007 to March 2008.

1. Programs on environment rehabilitation and conservation in Asian countries

1-1 Encouragement Program on Reforestation for Agro-forestry in Salt Affected Area in Northeast Thailand (Phase 2)

This encouragement program aimed to initiate an agro- forestry system co-existing wood lands and agricultural fields in salt affected area on Kham Pom of Khon Kaen, Northeast Thailand.



Photo. 1 Program (1-1) conducted in Khon Kaen

In 2007, this program dealt with the reforestation of *Acacia mangium* and *Syzygium jambos* at 2 ha of salt affected area, the establishment of 10 model farms with applying rehabilitation and conservation strategy for salt affected soils, the brochure distribution and the workshops for enhancing more participation through deeper perception of local people.

1-2 Program on Soil Environment Rehabilitation of Tsunami Affected Farmlands in Ranong Province, Southern Thailand (Phase 2)

The aims of this program were to provide guidance to local farmers on evaluating soil salinity and water quality, to improve soil characteristics of farmlands after the Tsunami, to introduce measures against soil degradation and to promote recycling agriculture with composting in Suksamran district of Ranong province.

The following activities were conducted in 2007, the leader training to guide how to check and analyze salinity or acidity of soils, the illumination on organic farming with composting and the distribution of 3,000 brochures in Ranong province, not only for farmers but also for students at elementary, junior high and high schools. Also questionnaire surveys were conducted to grasp their needs and understandings.

1-3 Reforestation Program for Rehabilitation and Conservation in Tsunami Affected Islands of Andaman Sea, Southern Thailand

The aims of this program were to conduct the reforestation for disaster prevention, rehabilitation and conservation in Tsunami affected islands of Andaman Sea, Southern Thailand.



Photo. 2 Program (1-2) conducted in Ranong

As the top soil layer in the coastal area affected by Tsunami were covered with sandy soils, trees of *Terminalia catappa* or *Casuarina* sp. were planted at Tsunami affected islands of Andaman Sea. Also the distribution of 1,000 brochures for illuminating the importance of reforestation, the investigation on surviving rate of planted trees and the workshops including the questionnaire survey were implemented in 2007.



Photo. 3 Program (1-3) conducted in island of Andaman Sea

1-4 Reforestation Program for Environment Rehabilitation in Tsunami Affected Area of Southern Thailand (Phase 2)

Tsunami disaster occurred in Southern Thailand proved the conservation effects of mangrove trees. However, many mangrove trees were damaged by Tsunami waves. So, this program dealt with the reforestation of mangrove trees for disaster prevention and environment conservation in coastal area located in Ranong and Phang Nga provinces.

The main contents in 2007 were planting 26,000 trees of *Nypa fruticans* and *Rhizophoraceae* with local people and capacity building through the workshop for illuminating the importance of reforestation with mangrove trees for disaster prevention and environmental conservation in coastal area and training for sustainable activity of reforestation.



Photo. 4 Program (1-4) conducted in Ranong

2. Programs on sustainable use of natural resources in Asian countries

2-1 Guidance of Sustainable Organic Agriculture and Reforestation for Local Farmers

The sloping area in Pua district of Nan province has been suffered from great damage by heavy rainfall. The damage tends to be accelerated by deforestation and burning plant residues. For this situation, this program dealt with illuminating the importance of conserving natural resources through reforestation and guidance on sustainable organic agriculture for local farmers.

The following activities were conducted in 2007; the reforestation at unused lands damaged by soil erosion, the guidance on organic agriculture showing how to make compost and bio-pesticide and the leader training for deeper perception on sustainable agriculture and reforestation.



Photo. 5 Program (2-1) conducted in Nan

3. Programs on illuminating campaign of environment in Asian countries

3-1 Technical Guidance of Eco-Agriculture for Local Farmers (Phase 3)

The program site was Khiri Mat district located in marginal area in Sukhothai province bounded on Phitsanulok province. The degradation of water quality has been a serious environmental problem due to the excess amounts of chemical fertilizer applied. In Thung Yang Mueang sub-district composed of 5 villages in Khiri Mat district, the compost processing center to make pellet compost was established for supporting local farmers' activity to supply pellet compost steadily. Four big machines to make pellet compost were set up in the center.

Also setting model farms, conducting workshops, leader training and interview and questionnaire survey for program evaluation were implemented in 2007.



Photo. 6 Program (3-1) conducted in Sukhothai

3-2 Encouragement Program on Enhancing Organic Farming for Sustainable Agriculture for Local Farmers and Elementary School Students

The aim of this program conducted in Bangrakam district of Phitsanulok was to illuminate sustainable agriculture to local people, not only farmers but also students in the elementary school, as most of students in this area have become farmers after graduating from the elementary school.

The main activity in 2007 was the guidance on organic farming through workshops showing how to make compost to farmers and students in the elementary schools. Also setting model farm at elementary school, editing and distributing 1,000 brochures and surveying by interview or questionnaire for program evaluation were implemented in 2007.



Photo. 7 Program (3-2) conducted in Phitsanulok

3-3 Encouragement Program on Sustainable Agriculture to Reduce Burning Plant Residues in the Mekong Basin

This program dealt with the illumination on how to make compost at 2 sites in Mekong River Basin in Thailand and Cambodia for promoting sustainable agriculture through resources circulation. In this program, Khon Kaen and Kampong Cham were selected from Thailand and Cambodia, respectively.

The following activities were conducted in 2007; promoting sustainable agriculture through demonstrating how to make compost boxes and compost, leader training for their deeper perception on sustainable agriculture and conducting workshops on sustainable agriculture through composting. Also, editing and distributing 1,000 brochures and surveying by interview or questionnaire for program evaluation were implemented in 2007.



Photo. 8 Program (3-3) conducted in Kampong Cham

3-4 Program on Food, Agriculture and Environment Education System under the Collaboration between NGO and University (Phase 2)

This program focused on the discussion on effective education system regarding food, agriculture and environment under the collaboration between NGO and university through the activities at elementary schools in Khon Kaen of Thailand or Phnom Penh of Cambodia.

In 2007, the guidebook titled ‘Sustainable Agriculture with Organic Fertilizer’ was published. Also, the suitable food, agriculture and environment education system under the collaboration between NGO and university was discussed through the workshops and seminars at elementary schools.



Photo. 9 Program (3-4) conducted in Phnom Penh