

CASE STUDY OF A SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL ATMOSPHERE/AIR POLLUTION PROGRAMME/STRATEGY

1. The problem or issue addressed :

Air pollution in Thailand particularly in urbanization areas such as Bangkok Metropolitan Area and the suburbs, Chiangmai province causes not only adverse health effects but economic concerns as well. In 1995 it was reported that the total suspended particles reached its peak in Bangkok at the average 24-hour of 0.53 milligram per cubic meter. It is strongly realized that the effective control of air quality problems from airborne particulates requires comprehensive insight into source contributions and impacts on human health as well as economic valuation. Moreover, it is important to raise public awareness as well as establish options and measure to reduce air pollution sources.

2. Name of the programme :

R & D programme in the area of air quality management : Bangkok Metropolitan Area

3. Timeframe : 3 years

Year started : 2001

4. Status :

Ongoing

Completed in year 2004

5. Main objectives:

To build up knowledge and information for air quality management. The following tasks were formulated:

- a. Airborne particulate size distribution and source apportionment of fine airborne particulate less than 10 micron in diameter
- b. Epidemiologic study on human health impacts
- c. Economic Valuation on human health impacts
- d. An effective model on monitoring and inspection of air quality by local communities in Bangkok
- e. Effectiveness of engines tune up and maintenance of Bangkok's public buses for emission reduction and energy saving

6. Lead institution: Thailand Research Fund

7. Other implementation arrangements and stakeholders involved :

Pollution control Department (national policy agency), Chulalongkorn University and Suranaree University of Technology (academia), anti air pollution and environmental protection foundation (NGO) and Bangkok Mass Transit Authority as well as private enterprises

8. The results achieved:

Knowledge based tools and information to assist decision making in implementing effective measures

- Draft regulation on national ambient air quality standard focusing on PM –2.5
- Developing diesel pollution reduction strategy
- Training module for maintenance of Bangkok’s public buses

9. The relationship of the programme to internationally agreed and targets:

Johannesburg Plan of Implementation