The Mitigation Action Implementation Network (MAIN)

First MAIN-Asia Regional Academy on the Development of Mitigation Actions and Low-Emissions Development Strategies

MEETING SUMMARY

Phuket, Thailand
October 11-14, 2011

Hosted by:

Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (Public Organization)

Supported by:

Supported by:
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
based on a decision of the Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany

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Overview of the Regional Academy:

The First Mitigation Action Implementation Network (MAIN)-Asia Regional Academy took place on October 11-14, 2011 in Phuket, Thailand. The event was organized by MAIN Partners the World Bank Institute (WBI) and the Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP) and hosted by the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization. Participating teams from Thailand, China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Pakistan and Indonesia convened, along with representatives from developed-country funding agencies, to exchange insights on how Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) could be successfully developed, funded and implemented as part of countries' sustainable-development strategies.

Over the four days of the dialogue, 30 country participants began to form a solid regional peer network and gained an enhanced understanding of the concepts of NAMAs and LEDS – especially among participants outside the UNFCCC process. Through group discussion, role-playing exercises, and peer-to-peer exchanges, donors and country teams began to align their thinking to envision implementable actions that support low-emissions development, as well as strategies for making NAMAs attractive to funders. Numerous policy ideas and regional "success stories" were shared, critiqued and analyzed in a variety of sectors, with interest especially in renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport, and waste management. Team members from key ministries such as finance, environment, planning, transport and energy brought their own perspectives to the table as they worked toward developing NAMA ideas for their governments and potential NAMA funders.

Day 1: Introductions and Overview

Day 1 began with a **welcome** by the host TGO and **introductions into the MAIN initiative** by the World Bank and CCAP partners. Participants then heard overview presentations on **NAMAs and LEDS.** These presentations included updates about the state of the UNFCCC negotiations, including the latest thinking on measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), fast-start finance (FSF), and how NAMAs can be embedded into LEDS to help decouple economic development from increased GHG emissions. Speakers discussed the differences and advantages of NAMAs over the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) process in terms of scope and ease of implementation. This initial discussion helped participants reach a common level of knowledge about NAMAs.

Through a **Tour de Table exercise**, the teams responded with their own understanding of the status of negotiations and outlined various proposals for NAMAs within the context of their national development strategies. While each country's national circumstances are unique, considerable common ground was found, especially in the technological and institutional barriers to renewable energy expansion and in developing comprehensive transport/land-use strategies that balance economic growth with reducing fossil fuel use from motorization. The sharing of information helped bring together practitioners from within the countries as much as between the countries, helping to create networks within country counterparts and with agencies and ministries from other countries.

The group considered a **possible supported NAMA template** developed by CCAP, which participants saw as useful in formulating initial NAMA concepts in their countries. NAMA developers also found it helpful as they thought through the details of a given proposal and identified key questions to be addressed. Other benefits of such a template include prioritizing NAMA ideas domestically, concisely presenting ideas to potential funders for consideration, and standardizing NAMA proposals across countries. Although the template was an informal proposal, it served as a reminder of the level of rigor that could be expected at even the first stage of submitting a NAMA for international funding consideration.

Participants generally agreed that the UNFCCC process should not include NAMA template guidelines and that the voluntary approach of the registry text was adequate. Participants were engaged in comparing the language used in the registry text with the template and saw value in national registries. Participants questioned whether more detail should be left to the Green Climate Fund and bilateral programs. There was also discussion about the balance of technical information required. Developing countries expressed concern about capacity needed to: 1) quantify incremental costs, 2) project emissions and estimate reductions, and 3) choose metrics and report under the UNFCCC. Based on the discussion, the template was revised to show potential information that might be expected. Other capacity needs raised by developing countries included help with data, MRV, sectoral LEDS, technical demonstrations, training for experts, and designing NAMAs in-country.

Day 2: Case Studies in Energy, Waste, and Transportation Sectors

As the dialogue progressed, participants heard **presentations of greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction programs and projects in the renewable energy, transport, and waste sectors** from different Asian developing countries. Speakers outlined a selection of trading schemes, regulatory concepts, and comprehensive sector-wide plans to address GHG emissions and meet sustainable-development objectives. It was clear that there are a wide range of actions that developing countries are preparing – including renewable energy incentives and expansion of bus rapid transit (BRT) systems, among others – and that these vary according to the unique circumstances of each nation.

In **breakout sessions on energy NAMAs**, country teams developed and honed "straw man" energy-sector NAMA proposals for analysis and critique. The energy NAMA combined renewable, waste-to-energy, and smart-grid initiatives into a program that requested support to lower cost, technology, and capacity barriers nationally. The **transport discussion** requested support to address unresolved issues of route optimization, institutional reform, and social and economic displacement arising from a BRT program that was not achieving its desired goals.

Day 3: Case Studies, Breakout Sessions, and Climate Finance Session

Day 3 started with a session detailing **best practices in industrial efficiency**, including experiences from the Netherlands and India. The session – funded by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment – addressed opportunities for energy efficiency in the industrial sector and the potential for industrial efficiency NAMAs among participating countries. Many of these actions will depend on support from the international community. In keeping with the goal of the dialogue to promote NAMA

implementation, the group undertook a series of exercises aimed at exploring the mechanics of taking a concept from idea to action.

In **role-playing exercises**, participants **critiqued NAMA proposals** by assuming the role of senior officials whose approval would be needed for the NAMAs to move forward. By asking probing questions from this point of view, the group generated insights into the possible reaction a NAMA proposal might get domestically from politicians who need to balance economic development, GHG reductions, and political goals. A key topic was that the evaluation of co-benefits from the NAMA – for example, reduction of traffic congestion and pollution, or improved access to electricity in rural areas – would be an important selling point for domestic audiences and in garnering political support.

A second role-playing exercise asked team members to take on the **role of a potential funder** of a NAMA. As in the previous instance, the hypothetical NAMA proposals were explained and defended in front of a group. This discussion led to a better understanding of the need to carefully craft a NAMA proposal to be able to respond to potential objections and clarifying questions. The group noted a number of key issues that would need to be part of any NAMA proposal. These included details of financial requests, potential GHG-reduction calculation methodologies, and assessments of downside risks if the NAMA were to be funded.

In preparation for a discussion with contributing countries, participants heard **presentations on the state of climate finance**, including fast-start finance, long-term concessional finance, and linking NAMAs to other instruments. Discussion during this session specified several potential uses of climate finance in developing countries: incentives; writing down the costs of feed-in tariffs and new technologies; funding renewable resource guarantees; paying for substantive staff and training; helping with data and MRV needs; and training/financing of special purpose vehicles for banks.

Day 4: Climate Finance continued and Next Steps for MAIN initiative

Day 4 began with presentations by a number of donors outlining their funding programs and highlighting the need for developing countries to propose concrete, implementable actions to be attractive for funding. A frank discussion of the ways the dialogue succeeded, and how it could be improved, led to plans for future dialogues and continuing collaboration to refine NAMA ideas and move toward implementation. Participants indicated the following **topics as focus of interest in follow-up discussions** (in order of frequency mentioned):

- Energy efficiency in buildings and industry (x8)
- Transport sector (x7)
- Technology transfer (x5)
- MRV (x4)
- Feed in Tariff for Renewable Energy (x4)
- Guidelines / templates / minimum criteria / relevant methodologies for NAMA implementation (x3)
- Waste to energy (x3)
- Financing mechanism for NAMAs and LEDS (x3)

- Forestry and biodiversity (x2)
- Energy sector
- Land use
- Web site / repository of information on NAMAs and LEDS
- A website to develop NAMAs collaboratively and exchange ideas
- How to enhance current energy policy toward NAMAs
- Examples of projects submitted as NAMA
- Specific case studies such as electric vehicles
- Market mechanisms
- Energy labeling of appliances
- Smart grid development

In terms of **broad needs**, country participants identified the following areas:

- Follow-up technical presentations with external experts from the region
- Showcasing of concrete proposals from the countries
- Development of proto-NAMAs
- Assistance to 'translate' sustainable development policies into LEDS and NAMAs

Conclusion:

Overall, the first MAIN-Asia academy successfully raised developing countries' awareness of funds that are available to support NAMAs that are aligned with LEDS and national sustainable-development goals and addressed barriers facing potential NAMA implementers. Participants saw value in continuing MAIN-Asia Regional Academies periodically with the goal of becoming a long-term information-sharing mechanism between countries.

After reviewing the feedback from participating countries, MAIN partners have been developing a schedule for MAIN Asia in 2012. The schedule will include "e-vents" utilizing the Virtual Network, following up technical discussions with case studies by country and regional experts. This work will be done in a series of webinars and videoconferences. A second Regional Academy is also proposed for 2012, pending necessary resources.

Appendix: List of Participants

	Country	Title	Name	Organization	Title
1	Thailand	Dr.	Chaiwat Muncharoen	Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization	Deputy Executive Director

2	Thailand	Dr.	Sorawit Nunt Jaruwong	Ministry of Energy	Senior Engineer - Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency
3	Thailand	Mr.	Akharint Khuhapinant	Ministry of Industry	Department of Industrial Works
4	Thailand	Ms.	Woranuch Emmanoch	Office of Natural Resources and Environment	Environmental Official
5	Thailand	Ms.	Siwaporn Rungsiyanon	Pollution Control Department	Environmentalist, Professional level - Air Quality and Noise Management Bureau
6	Philippines	Mr.	Arnold Grant Belver	Climate Change Commission	Development Management Division
7	Philippines	Mr.	Alexis Lapiz	Climate Change Commission	Development Management Division
8	Philippines	Ms.	Gerarda A. Merilo	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Senior Environmental Management Specialist, Environment Management Bureau
9	Vietnam	Mr.	Truong, Anh Son	Ministry of Planning and Investment, Vietnam	Department of Sciences, Education and Natural Resources and Environment
10	Vietnam	Mr.	Thanh Bao	Sub-Institute of Hydrometeorology and Environment of South Vietnam (SIHYMETE)	Vice President
11	Vietnam	Mr.	Sinh Tanh Pham	Ministry of Industry and Trade	Industrial Safety Technics and Environment Agency
12	Vietnam	Ms.	Cao Tue Minh	Ministry of Finance	Officer, Bilateral Division I, Department of Debt Management and External Finance
13	China	Mr.	Lu, Chuanyi	Tsinghua University	Associate Researcher
14	China	Dr.	Wang, Yu	Tsinghua University	Assistant Researcher, Institute of Energy, Environment and Economy
15	China	Ms.	Tong, Qing	Tsinghua University	Assistant Researcher

16	China	Mr.	Wang, Jianwu	Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Assistant Researcher
17	China	Mr.	Li, Qing	Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Senior Engineer
18	Indonesia	Mrs.	Nyimas Nina Indrasari	Ministry of Public Works	Head Section of Solid Waste Eastern Region, Directorate of Environmental Development
19	Indonesia	Mr.	Alvinsyah	Ministry of Transport	Chairman of the Urban Transportation – MTI
20	Indonesia	Mr.	Widya Adi Nugroho	Sub Directorate of Clean & Efficient Energy Techology Implementation	Staff
22	Malaysia	Dr.	Teddy Lian Kok Fei	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Under Secretary, Environmental Management and Climate Change Division
23	Malaysia	Ms.	Zarina Ali Merican	Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister Department	Deputy Director, Environment and Natural Resources Section
24	Malaysia	Mr.	Mohd Sukri Mat Jusoh	Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister Department	Deputy Director, Energy Section
25	Malaysia	Ms.	Eizan Azura Zainudin	Ministry of Green Technology, Energy and Water	Principal Assistant Secretary (Energy Efficiency), Regulatory and Industry Development Division
26	Malaysia	Mr.	Elzak Shafarrino bin Mohamed Anuar	Land Public Transport Commission	Senior Officer (Development)
27	Speaker	Mr.	Rajiv Bansal	Central Electricity Regulatory Commission,	Secretary

				India	
28	Speaker	Mr.	Saurabh Kumar	UNEP	Programme Officer, RAOP
29	Pakistan	Mr.	Jawed Ali Khan	Planning & Development Division	Director General (CC & Env)
30	Pakistan	Mr.	Amjad Mahmood	Ministry of Finance	Joint Secretary
31	Pakistan	Mr.	Mirza Salman Babur Baig	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director (UN-II)
32	Pakistan	Mr.	Ahsan Sadat	Ministry of Water and Power	Research Officer, ENERCON
33	CCAP	Mr.	Ned Helme	CCAP	President
34	CCAP	Mr.	Anmol Vanamali	CCAP	Director
35	CCAP	Mr.	Charles Kooshian	CCAP	Senior Policy Analyst, Transportation Program
36	CCAP	Mr.	Michael Comstock	CCAP	Manager, International Climate Dialogue
37	World Bank	Mr.	Bruno Laporte	The World Bank	Director
38	World Bank	Mr.	Neeraj Prasad	The World Bank	Manager
39	World Bank	Mr.	Kai-Uwe Barani Schmidt	The World Bank	CF-Assist Program Team Lead
40	World Bank	Ms.	Rutu Dave	The World Bank	Climate Change Specialist
41	World Bank	Mr.	Marcos Castro	The World Bank	Environmental Specialist
42	World Bank	Mr.	James Monday	The World Bank	Senior Environmental Engineer
43	World Bank	Mr.	Josefo Tuyor	The World Bank	Senior Operations Specialist

44	World Bank	Mr.	Johannes Heister	The World Bank	Senior Environmental Specialist
45	World Bank	Ms.	Waraporn Hirunwatsiri	The World Bank	Environmental Specialist
46	World Bank	Ms.	Julia Fraser	The World Bank	Senior Financial Analyst
47	World Bank	Ms.	Tran Thi Van Anh	The World Bank	Transportation Specialist
48	World Bank	Ms.	Chutima Lowattanakarn	The World Bank	
49	World Bank	Mr.	Puguh Imanto	The World Bank	Jakarta Office Energy Sector
50	Speaker	Mr.	Orestes Anastasia	USAID	Regional Environment Advisor
51	Speaker	Ms.	Julia Schweigger	Germany - Programmbüro der Internationalen Klimaschutzinitiative	
52	Speaker	Ms.	María Simó	Embassy of Spain	Economic and Commercial Counsellor and Head of the Commercial Office
53	Speaker	Mr.	Ingo Puhl	South Pole Carbon Asset Management	Chief Growth Officer and Director
54	Speaker	Mr.	Michiel Storek	Ecofys	Consultant Energy and Climate Strategies
55	Observer	Mr.	Manuel Cocco	South Pole Carbon	Business Development Manager