



Welcome Address

Facilitation Workshop under the T@W Project “Matchmaking between CDM Project owners & EU stakeholders and other forms for business cooperation in the field of sustainable energy”

**by
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Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be here today for opening ceremony in this Facilitation Workshop and to have the opportunity to welcome you all in Bangkok.

Due to the oil price crises during the recent past years and the energy consumption continue to increase, the Ministry of Energy has managed to substantially reduce energy consumption in both public and private sectors with the goal to lessen the country's dependency on imported oil, and when possible, substitute the usage of oil by indigenous alternative energy. To ensure that energy would be accessible and affordable by all Thai people. The major energy strategies comprising: promotion of energy saving, energy efficiency, improvement enhancing energy security and utilization of renewable energy as alternative energy resources have been introduced.

Thailand has set the energy conservation targets to reduce energy elasticity or the growth rate of energy consumption per GDP from 1.2:1 to be 0.85:1 by the year 2011. Meanwhile many measures such as taxes incentive, BOI, Soft loan have been introduced to encourage designated facilities ensuring that implementing of energy efficiency measures will be economically justified.

A roadmap to promote renewable energy utilization has also been formulated by aiming to increase the share of commercial renewable energy from 0.5% in the year 2003 to be 8% of country final energy demand in the year 2011. To achieve this target many possible potential of renewable energy resources such as biomass, biogas, small hydro power, wind, solar, biofuels have been reviewed and estimated economically. Three categories of renewable energy utilizations in terms of electricity generation, thermal uses, and biofuels development have been classified with equivalent to total amount

of oil substitution about 6.96 million tons. These will lower greenhouse gases emission about 21.35 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

However, the energy sector is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases which accounted for 56% of greenhouse gas emission in Thailand. Therefore, increasing use of renewable energy and energy efficiency and conservation can help Thailand not only less dependency on imported energy but also be well contribution to global environmental concerns and sustainable use of domestic energy resources.

The Clean Development Mechanism or CDM can be a good incentive measure to promote efficient use of energy and to enhance greater use of renewable energy. As you know CDM projects in Thailand mostly are renewable energy projects including biomass biogas from manure and industrial waste water and municipal solid waste to energy. Furthermore, research & development of other new alternative energy and technology transfer would be essential for solving the global environmental problems like climate change.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the organizer who set this workshop and wish you all success in the workshop objectives.

Thank you.
