“Capacity Building for Implementing a ‘Measurable, Verifiable and Reportable (MRV)’ Model in a Mid-Sized Thai Municipality”

APN Side Event

3rd Annual Meeting of the LoCARNet

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Project Overview

Overall Objective:

To build capacity of local governments in East Asia to become **'pioneers' and 'policy leaders'** in low carbon city development, particularly in MRV of GHG mitigation projects.

Cities involved:

- Indonesia: Surabaya, Medan
- Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh, Hai Phong
- Thailand: Nonthaburi, Phitsanulok
- Philippines: Cebu
- China: Shanghai

Five Milestones towards Low Carbon Municipality/City

1. **Conduct a baseline GHG emissions inventory (Municipal & City-wide) and forecast**
2. **Adopt an emissions reduction target for the forecast year**
3. **Develop a Local Climate Action Plan**
4. **Implement policies and measures**
5. **Monitor & Verify Results**

Reference: ICLEI 5 Milestone Methodology

Research Questions

We wanted to understand:

- How to effectively train local government officials to develop and sustain a municipal and city-wide GHG Inventory (using established protocols/standards?)

- What are the practical challenges and potential solutions to address these challenges?

Overview of the MRV Project in Phitsanulok

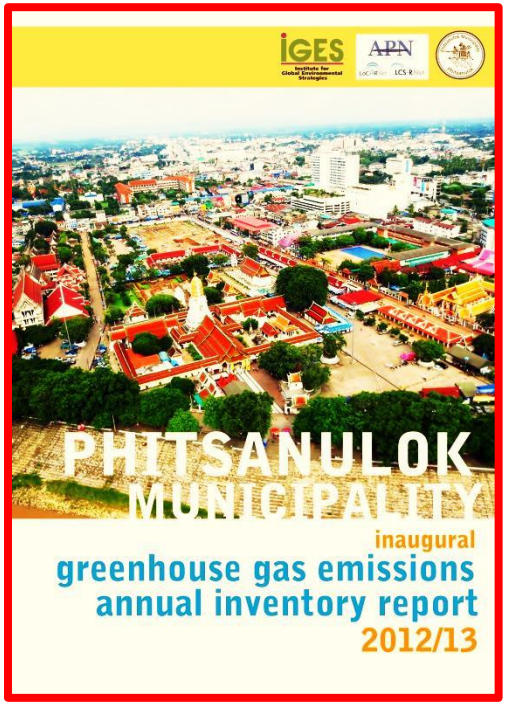
Specific Objective:

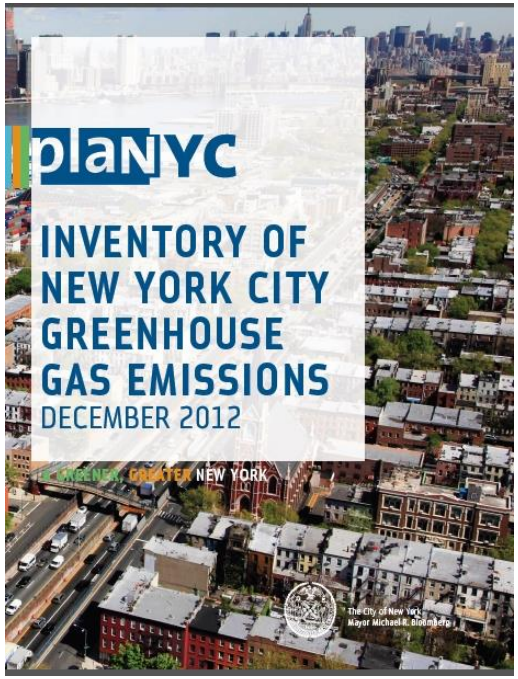
- Develop the municipality's **capacity** to establish **a draft city GHG inventory** and ***sustainable*** **institutions** (**working group)/data management systems** for that (referring to pilot global protocol (GPC) for community-level greenhouse gases)

Final Output:

- Phitsanulok Municipality's Inaugural City GHG Inventory report (in English and Thai)
- Sustained institutions within Phitsanulok Municipality for maintaining the inventory

November 2014





Summary of Activities & Outputs

Activities	Phitsanulok	IGES	Partners	Output
Set up formal working group for low carbon city	Coordination	Support		**Progress Reports to APN**
Stock-taking	Provide and collect data	Provide guidance	Nonthaburi Municipality, WRI, research community	
Training • **JICA-IGES Kitakyushu** • **Mid-term WS/Training** • **Final WS/Training** • **In-between training (as necessary)**	Help to organise and participate in the training, Provide feedback	Conduct and Coordinate the training	JICA, Nonthaburi and universities	
GHG Inventory Development	Collect data and set up necessary institutions to sustain it	Make calculations and analysis, provide guidance	Research community	**Municipality In-house Energy Reporting System** **Inaugural GHG Inventory of Phitsanulok Municipality (Publication & Website)** **APN/IGES Policy Brief**

Assessment of Developed Inaugural GHG Inventory

1. Relevance

- National policy to reduce electricity consumption in municipal buildings by 10% (unfortunately, not strictly monitored and enforced, while perverse subsidies are also in existence)
- Use the baseline data to support Phitsanulok's sustainable development goals

2. Completeness

- Municipal GHG Inventory is reasonably complete for important sectors, for a first attempt;
- Citywide GHG Inventory still requires substantial future effort especially for stationary (buildings) & mobile energy sector

3. Consistency

- Referred to international and national protocols (TGO, ICLEI, WRI)

4. Transparency

- Data sources and methodology are clearly explained.

5. Accuracy

- Data quality should be improved over time

Challenges Faced

Most data are already collected in pre-existing procedures, but are fragmented, incomplete or lack accuracy

- Some data (especially bottom-up data for city-wide GHG inventory) needs cooperation from the private sector or other government agencies (e.g. fuel stations, electricity generation authority)

- Some data cannot be collected as the existing database does not have such functions (especially to delineate data according to organisational and municipal geo-political boundary)

Lack of dedicated, capable and cooperative staff

- Lack of incentives and awareness
- ‘Silo mentality’ among department heads

Policy Recommendations to National Government

Capacity building and awareness building should not be limited to local government only, but also include:

- Stakeholders who need to cooperate with data collection efforts (provincial government, private sector)
- Stakeholders who have influence over procurement policy and decisions (audit authority)
- 'Peer-to-peer' approach may be encouraging/inspiring

Enhance existing data management systems (database design) to enable collection of GHG data according to organisational and city boundaries

Provide persuasive incentives ((financial & reputational) for high-level leadership on local-level climate change mitigation initiatives'

- Appeal to 'co-benefits' to pragmatic local priorities such as SWM, health, employment etc

Institutionalise the GHG data collection and reporting responsibility (if possible, with legal framework). Then, provide regular and systematic training with incentives and monitoring

- Mandate the provincial government and private sector's cooperation with local government
- Create dedicated bureau/department/division within the local government for climate change activities

Overview of the MRV Project in Phitsanulok

Education

Public Works

Public Health & Env.

Phitsanulok supporters and ‘fans’

Finance

Social Welfare

Tech Services & Planning

Water Supply

Office of Municipal Clerk

Towards a Low Carbon Phitsanulok!