



ฝ่ายเกษตร ประจำสถานกงสุลใหญ่ ณ นครลอสแอนเจลิส Thailand Office Of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles

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2022 will be a turning point for Thailand into a new era of greenhouse gas reduction

Mr. Alongkorn Ponlaboot, Counselor to Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives gave a special lecture on “*Potential for blue carbon projects in Thailand*” at the international conference hosted by Worldview Climate Foundation (WCF) in Bangkok on 24 October 2022.

During the lecture, he portrayed Thailand's future vision of becoming a **Low Carbon Nation** in order to help solve the climate change problem by aggressively reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), in line with the commitment made by Thailand's Prime Minister at the COP26 meeting in Glasgow, Scotland. Thailand's goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and zero carbon by 2065; as a result, all stakeholders, including the government, private sector, and civil society organizations, have been directed to intensify efforts to reduce greenhouse gases, which cause global warming. In this regard, Thailand's Standard for Greenhouse Gas Emission Certification (as part of the Thailand Voluntary Emission Reduction Program: T-VER) has been established and is working to meet international standards by a collective cooperation from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the Department of Fisheries, the WCF Foundation, and leading companies such as the Siam Cement Group

(SCG) businesses, the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT), the Shell Company of Thailand, the Bangchak Petroleum Company Limited, and the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization (GTO).

According to Mr. Ponlaboot, the carbon trading price index tripled in a year, rising from 34 baht per ton of carbon in 2021 to 107 baht this year. Both the price and the quantity are expected to rise exponentially, making 2022 an important turning point for Thailand in driving the Blue Carbon project into a new era of reducing greenhouse gas, the source of global warming. Furthermore, several projects are being implemented as a result of the awakening of the private and public sectors, such as a reforestation project, a project to plant 300,000 rai of mangroves within 10 years, and the most recent project to promote seaweed cultivation in 22 coastal provinces along the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman, which absorbs 5 times more carbon than normal trees. With these projects, Thailand becomes



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one of the ASEAN countries with the potential to solve Southeast Asia's greenhouse gas emission problem. Other advantages of these projects include

increased income generation, new job opportunities, and the strengthening and improvement of the artisanal fisheries community's quality of life.

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