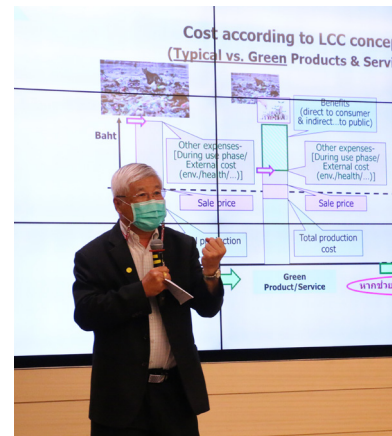


## Initiating the piloting process of the draft Green Integration Policy in Thailand:

Kick-off Seminars with Stock Exchange of Thailand and the Rangsit Municipality

9 February and 12 March 2021





## BACKGROUND

As part of the technical assistance to Thailand, the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility (SCPF), in cooperation with the Pollution Control Department (PCD), the Office of National Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) and the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP), organised Kick-off Seminar for Piloting the draft Green Integration Policy in Thailand on 9 February 2021, at the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), Bangkok, and 12 March 2021 at the Rangsit City Municipality, Pathum Thani.

The seminars aimed to promote green and sustainable procurement in the piloting agencies (Stock Exchange of Thailand, Rangsit City Municipality, and Pollution Control Department), which is a part of the policy development process. More than 380 participants from listed companies virtually and physically attended the seminar on 9 February, and about 90 participants from governmental and local agencies participated in the seminar on 12 March.

The welcome speech was given by Dr Arab Hoballah, Team Leader of the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility, emphasising the importance of Green Public Procurement in enabling green recovery

with business partners and local government. On 9 February, Mr Thalerngsak Petchsuwan, Deputy Director of Pollution Control Department (PCD), gave an opening speech highlighting the government's efforts pushing forward the green public procurement in Thailand and encouraged the listed companies to implement green procurement. Mr Janejob Suksod, Director of the Pollution Analysis and Environment Center, Pollution Control Department, provided an opening speech on 12 March highlighting the importance of cooperation by the local government will highly contribute to National Green Procurement Policy.

The presentation on the Green Public Procurement Policy of Thailand and its rationale was provided by the representative of the Pollution Control Department, Ms Jantira Duangsai. The new legislation on Public Procurement that allows the government to procure environmentally friendly products and services was presented by the representative of the Comptroller General's Department, Ms Suthasinee Srimanasak.

The representatives of the Stock Exchange of Thailand and the Rangsit Municipality introduced their Green Procurement Policy and



implementations. SET and Rangsit Municipality have implemented the green procurement policy through a national programme, "Green Office", in which green procurement is one of the certification criteria. In 2020, SET had set its GPP target at 70% of its procurement and achieved 76% for 2020. The procured products were eco-label certified or environmental criteria

compliance. Rangsit Municipality achieved its green public procurement of 40% in the fiscal year 2020. However, both organisations foresee a potential GPP increasing in monetary value and the number of products and services categories into their green procurement list.

The pilot testing aims to support the pilot agencies performing better GPP by increasing the portion of green products and services, expanding products and services categories into the green procurement list, and obtaining feedback for improving the draft policy to be more appropriate for implementation. During the piloting period (March-May 2021), the experts will collect and review procurement data for 2020 of the pilot agencies. The collected data will be ranked for purchased volume. Top-ranking products and services will then be selected to perform a purchasing during the piloting period by considering if they are available in any of the green-certified products/services according to the project's classification. Environmentally friendly criteria will be recommended for integration into specifications of products/services that are not available in any green certifications so that the pilot agencies can buy. After pilot testing, it is expected that the pilot agencies will be able to perform better GPP that leads to an increase in green products and services in the procurement market. The pilot results and lesson learned will be assessed and utilised as inputs for policy recommendation and improving the draft policy.

## KEY OBSERVATION

A high number of participants from listed companies in Thailand on 9 February 2021 indicated that green procurement is perceived as one of their business priorities.

The strong commitment of the management level of the Rangsit Municipality and the Stock Exchange of Thailand was the key motivation of participating in the pilot testing.

During interactive discussions, the participants were engaged in a Questions and Answers session. The results showed that more than 75% of listed companies have the green procurement policy in their organisations, and 50% have set goals for green procurement. Local government agencies have green procurement policy in place. Still, the implementation is limited due to a lack of understanding about the new regulation and availability of green products in the GPP list.

Knowledge and understanding of how to incorporate sustainability considerations into public procurement remain an important challenge for the private sector, while GPP reporting and monitoring system are the main challenges for the local government

agencies. However, the development of the Green Integration Policy and the creation of a database of green products and services were recognised by participants as very valuable support provided by SWITCH-Asia assistance to Thailand.





## RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS

Among other outcomes, the following could be highlighted:

- Promotion of green and sustainable procurement in the private sector will also contribute to better impact and in achieving SDG 12.7;
- Since the new legislation enacted the need for green public procurement, the government should step forward to promote it with the procurement methodology to central and local governmental agencies and encourage them to perform green procurement;
- Together with concerned stakeholders, the government should focus on collecting the list of available green products and services in the market into the national green directory.

## FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

Among other outcomes, the following could be highlighted:

- Conduct the piloting projects and activities at the Stock Exchange of Thailand, Rangsit City Municipality, and Pollution Control Department according to the plan;
- Monitoring and reporting the results of pilot projects;
- Prepare the 2nd draft Green Integration Policy and the National Green Directory;
- Prepare media materials to promote the final draft of the Green Integration Policy and the National Green Directory;
- Organise a seminar with approximately 200 participants to present the pilot testing results and to promote the 2nd draft policy and National Green Directory.



# PHOTOS

Photos of the event can be found here [9 February 2021](#), [12 March 2021](#).

