

Report of ERECON programs in 2010

Following programs were implemented in the program year of 2010 from April 2010 to March 2011.

1. Programs on environmental rehabilitation and conservation in Asian countries

1-1 Encouragement Program on Rehabilitation of Soil Environment in Salt Affected Area of Northeast Thailand

This program aimed to rehabilitate soil environment in salt affected area in Phra Yun of Khon Kaen province, northeast Thailand through applying agro-forestry systems and managing organic model farms. In 2010, fruit trees such as mangoes and rose apples were distributed for applying agro-forestry systems in the model farms.

1-2 Program on Promoting Sustainable Agriculture in Bohol of Philippines

Corella and Tagbilaran in Bohol province are located in the remote mountain areas, where local farmers conduct slash and burn shifting cultivation on deforested slopes (20 to 40 degrees slope) depending on rainwater. On cultivated slope land, massive loss of surface soil that contains abundant nutrients and organic matters occurs with heavy rainfalls. It results in deterioration of farmland quality. Therefore, effective and urgent actions to conserve and improve soil conditions are strongly needed.

This program aimed to establish sustainable farming system for conserving soil and water environment with local farmers. In 2010, the workshops on sustainable agriculture were held and pamphlets and posters were distributed.



Photo. 1 Program (1-2) conducted in Bohol, Philippines

1-3 Program on Environmental Rehabilitation and Conservation through Reforestation of Mangrove with Local Group in Tsunami Affected Area in Southern Thailand

Thung Rak village in Pang Nga province of southern Thailand was affected by Tsunami in 2004. Not only humans but also natural environment were badly damaged by Tsunami. So, this program aimed to rehabilitate mangrove forest through reforestation with Thung Rak tree planting group.

In the year of 2010, the workshops on environment conservation with reforestation were held for deepening the perception of local people on the functions of mangrove forest to prevent disasters and to conserve ecosystem.

1-4 Program on Reforestation and Bridge Renovation in Thung Nang Dam Island, Thailand

Tsunami occurred in 2004 also damaged the bridge of Thung Nang Dam Island, where 114 villagers are living. As the bridge to the dock was broken, not only daily goods but also reforestation materials were not transported effectively in Thung Nang Dam Island So, this program dealt with the renovation of the bridge in Thung Nang Dam Island as well as reforestation.



Photo. 2 Bridge renovated in program (1-4) conducted in Thung Nang Dam, Thailand

2. Programs on sustainable use of natural resources in Asian countries

2-1 Guidance of Sustainable Organic Agriculture and Reforestation for Local Farmers (Phase 4)

The sloping area in Nan province has been damaged by heavy rainfalls. The damage tends to be accelerated by deforestation and burning practices. For improving the situation, this program dealt with the conservation of natural resources through reforestation and sustainable agriculture based on organic farming systems.

In 2010, following activities were implemented in Pua, Chiang Klang and Bo Kluea districts of Nan province; promoting organic agriculture through agro-forestry, setting up the pellet compost center and conducting the workshops for local people to improve understanding of the importance of sustainable agriculture and reforestation.



Photo. 3 Pellet compost center in program (2-1) conducted in Nan, Thailand

2-2 Program on Natural Resource Utilization and Management through SATOYAMA Restoration in Rural Areas of Cambodia

In Kampong Cham, Mondulkiri and Battambang provinces of Cambodia, natural resources were badly damaged by illegal deforestation and land conversion for agricultural purpose. So, this program aims to promote reforestation for conserving soil and water environment as well as the sustainable use of natural resources through SATOYAMA restoration. Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation (ERECON) has been implementing this program under the collaboration with organization members of International Partnership of SATOYAMA Initiative; United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) and Ministry of Environment, Cambodia (MOE).

Following activities were implemented in 2010; holding workshops and seminars, investigating natural resources, setting up tree nurseries, managing trees in the nurseries, conducting reforestation for SATOYAMA restoration and leader training, and distributing pamphlets for restoration of SATOYAMA.

2-3 Program on Capacity Building for Agricultural and Rural Development for Increasing Productivity and Farmers' Income

This program was conducted at Rong Kor village, Kampong Cham province, Cambodia for supporting the Japan Association for International Collaboration of Agriculture and Forestry (JAICAF). The program aimed to increase agricultural productivity and farmers' income through promoting organic agriculture and improving farming systems.

Through the implementation done by the experts, it was concluded that the introduction of organic fertilizer, especially composting and bio-pesticide making, was significant, as local farmers could reduce expenditures for chemical fertilizer and chemical pesticide.



Photo. 4 Program (2-2) conducted in Kampong Cham, Mondulkiri and Battambang provinces, Cambodia



3. Programs on environmental education in Asian countries

3-1 International Training Course at Northeastern and Southern Thailand for International Green Volunteers

This training course was implemented in Khon Kaen province of northeastern Thailand, where salt accumulation is a serious problem, and in Pang Nga province of southern Thailand, where mangrove forest was damaged by Tsunami. The training period was 8 days from 29 December, 2010 to 5 January, 2011.



Photo. 5 Program (3-1) conducted in Pang Nga, Thailand

In this training course, following activities were implemented; observing reforested area by Green Volunteers of National Land Afforestation Promotion Organization (NALAPO), planting trees with local groups, observing daily lives of local farmers in the village through home stay and discussing importance of reforestation in Thailand.

