

**Concept Note**  
**Regional Meeting of the Swedish-supported Programme**  
**“Towards a Non-toxic Southeast Asia”**  
**Bangkok, Thailand, 21-23 September 2016**

***Background:***

The Swedish-supported Programme “*Towards a Non-toxic South-East Asia*” aims to reduce health and environmental risks by monitoring, regulating and managing agricultural, industrial and consumer chemicals. The programme covers the Mekong Region countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam as well as the Yunnan, Guangxi and Hainan provinces in China PR.

Throughout Phase I (May 2007-June 2013) and first half of Phase II (September 2013-August 2016), regional meetings were organized by FAO, regional CSO partners Thai Education Foundation/The Field Alliance, Pesticide Action Network-Asia Pacific (PAN-AP) and their programme partners. These meetings had served as a forum for review and planning of various community education initiatives and advocacy/awareness addressing pesticide risks. Whereas each of the regional and country programme partners have its own distinctive implementation role in this joint Programme, these meetings have acted as a forum for exchange and facilitated a dialogue on GO-NGO collaboration and joint planning as to strengthen the impact and sustainability of community education for pesticide risk reduction programmes. Mid-way during the implementation of Phase II (July 2013-June 2018), there is a need to review and summarize the accomplishments of community education programmes on pesticide risk reduction over the past three years (September 2013-August 2016), identify implementation challenges faced and define revised and new strategies to strengthen collaboration and explore/demonstrate the added value of working together to address pesticide risks in convergence areas. The meeting will be different from previous forums as partners of the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) looking at the broader Chemicals Management Component and partners of KemI and FAO implementing the Policy Component will be participating to identify future areas of work, including possible linkages and collaboration among the various Programme Components working together to address pesticide and broader chemical risks. The meeting will also coincide with the de-briefing of the Mid-term Review Mission of the Phase II Programme. For this purpose, a regional meeting of the Swedish-supported Programme “*Towards a Non-toxic South-East Asia*” is scheduled to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 21-23 September 2016.

***Objectives:***

The overall objectives of this meeting will be:

1. To share highlights of achievements and impact resulting from Community Education for Pesticide Risk Reduction work during the first half of Phase II, including follow up on pledges made for joint GO-NGO work in the 2013 meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand;
2. To share highlights of achievements and impact of policy formulation, enforcement and implementation challenges with regards to reducing pesticide and chemical risks;
3. To present and discuss findings and recommendations of the Mid-term Review Mission for Phase II of the Swedish-supported Programme “*Towards a Non-toxic Environment in Southeast Asia*”;
4. To identify needs, opportunities and challenges for strengthening country and regional strategies for continued collaboration and sustainable impact of the Pesticide Risk Reduction Community Education initiatives and chemicals management, especially in pilot convergence areas as part of Phase II Programme implementation planning for the remaining years (2016-2018).

***Organising and Funding Body:***

The meeting will be organized and hosted jointly by all Regional Programme partners, including the FAO, KemI, TFA and PAN-AP. FAO and TFA, both based in Bangkok, will take the lead in local organization of -and logistics for- the workshop. Costs, including participant travel and partial per diem, will be covered by all Regional Programme partners from their individual project budgets. FAO will negotiate a meeting package with the hotel which will cover coffee/tea breaks, lunch and meeting room service fees with costs covered by the FAO project component.

***Dates, Location and Schedule:***

The Meeting will be held in Bangkok, Thailand for three days (not including travel) from Wednesday to Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. A tentative schedule is attached.

***Participants:***

Participants at the proposed workshop will total some 40 persons, including representatives from each of the core Greater Mekong Sub-Region member countries (Cambodia, China PR, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam). Selected representatives from KemI, Regional Partner Organizations, other National IPM Programmes in the Asia region, resource persons and FAO staff will also be invited to participate in the meeting. For reasons of continuity and follow up, participation of those involved in the 2013 Chiang Mai WG-CEPRR meeting and still involved in PRR community education work will be prioritized.

***Preparation:***

Each country is expected to prepare for the various agenda items included in the meeting. A brief outline of these expected preparations, along with general logistical information, will be provided in an Information Note to be circulated upon confirmation of selected participants.

*National IPM Programmes and local partner CSOs (i.e., under the Working Group on Community Education Programmes for Pesticide Risk Reduction) are expected to work together in the preparation of a poster and/or photo exhibit. The exhibition will replace formal country presentations in plenary sessions on Community Education Programmes for Pesticide Risk Reduction. More information about the exhibits will be provided in the Information Note.*

*All participants - Regional Programme partners, country government and local CSO partner representatives - are encouraged to bring along relevant publications, case studies, awareness raising and training materials and other relevant documentation for sharing at the regional meeting.*

## Annex 1

**Draft Programme**  
**Regional Meeting of the Swedish-supported Programme**  
**“Towards a Non-toxic Southeast Asia”**  
**Bangkok, Thailand, 21-23 September 2016**

<b>20 September: Tuesday</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Notes/ Facilitators/ Chairperson</b>
AM/PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrival in Bangkok</li> <li>• Hotel details</li> <li>• Registration</li> <li>• Setting up of exhibits on <i>GO-NGO Country Presentations</i></li> </ul>	-Refer to Information Note on instructions on <i>How to Get to the Hotel</i> -US \$1 = 34.85 Baht
<b>21 September: Wednesday</b>		
	<b>Opening Session &amp; Regional Partner Presentations</b>	<i>Chairperson:</i> Mr Piao Yongfan, Senior Plant Protection Officer, FAO RAP
AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening and Introductory Notes</li> <li>• Meeting Objectives, Expected Outputs and Agenda</li> <li>• Introduction of Participants</li> </ul>	Mr Jan Willem Ketelaar, Chief Technical Adviser, FAO Asian Regional IPM/Pesticide Risk Reduction Programme Ms Jenny Rönngren, Adviser/Programme Manager International Unit, Swedish Chemicals Agency Ms Sarojeni Rengam, Executive Director, PAN-AP Mr Marut Jatiket, Director, TEF/TFA
	Tea/Coffee Break	
	<i>Regional Programme Overview of Community Education on Pesticide Risk Reduction</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer Education on IPM and Pesticide Risk Reduction</li> <li>• Awareness Raising, Health and Environmental Education, and Advocacy in Support of a Non-toxic Environment</li> </ul>	Mr Jan Willem Ketelaar, Chief Technical Adviser, FAO Asian Regional IPM/Pesticide Risk Reduction Programme
	⇒ Pesticide Action Network-Asia Pacific (PAN-AP) and Partners: (CEDAC, PEAC, SAEDA-Laos, PAN Philippines, Research Centre for Rural Development and CGFED-Vietnam)	Ms Sarojeni Rengam, Executive Director, PAN-AP
	⇒ The Field Alliance and Partners (TFA) and Partners: (ATSA, CDECF, ICERD and TEF)	Mr Marut Jatiket, Director, TFA
	Lunch Break	
PM	<b>Official Opening and Viewing of Exhibits</b>	Ms Jenny Rönngren, Adviser/Programme Manager, International Unit, Swedish Chemicals Agency
	<b>Other Plenary Presentations</b>	<i>Chairperson:</i> Mr Ngo Tien Dung, Adviser - IPM and FFS Programmes, Vietnam
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Regulatory Control of the Importation, Distribution and Use of Pesticides</li> <li>• Capacity Building for Better Chemical Management in Southeast Asia</li> </ul>	Mr Piao Yongfan, Senior Plant Protection Officer, FAO RAP Mr Ule Johansson, Senior Advisor Development Cooperation, KemI

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Reception and Dinner hosted by FAO</li> </ul>	Anantara Riverside Resort (boat cruise)
<b>22 September: Thursday</b>		
	<b>Food-for-Thought Presentations</b>	<i>Chairperson:</i> Mr Ngin Chhay, Director of Rice Department, MAFF, Cambodia
AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact Assessment of the Swedish-supported IPM/Pesticide Risk Reduction Training: Results from the longer-term assessments in Cambodia and Vietnam</li> <li>Launching of the FAO Impact Assessment Report</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemicals Management</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional studies on pesticide impacts to children and community</li> </ul>	FDA, MOPH Thailand
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of the FAO FFS Guidance Document and Summary of FFS Institutionalization Workshop Results</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agroecology and Farmers Field Schools</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status of Brassica IPM and Biological Control Work in SEAsia</li> </ul>	
	Lunch Break	
PM	<b>Plenary and Consultations with Mid-Term Review Mission</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Presentations of Preliminary Findings and Discussion of Mid-Term Review Mission Findings</li> <li>⇒ Country-level validation of and discussions on draft findings/recommendations Mid-Term Review Mission</li> </ul>	
<b>23 September: Friday</b>		
AM	<b>Working Session: Way Forward for Remainder of Phase II</b>	<i>Chairperson:</i> Mr Ule Johansson, Senior Advisor Development Cooperation, KemI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Country-level discussions on collaboration in Community Education Initiatives for Pesticide Risk Reduction in GMS</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Regional Programme partners meeting with country partners</li> </ul>	
	Lunch Break	
PM	<b>Plenary on the Mid-Term Review Mission</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Brief introduction to the new regional strategy for Asia and the Pacific (2016-2021)</li> </ul>	Ms Louise Herrmann, Programme Manager Environment and Energy, Development Cooperation Section, Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Presentation on country-level consultations on findings/recommendations of the Mid Term Review Mission and identification of needs/priorities for future Regional Collaboration, if any.</li> </ul>	Mr Klas Markensten, Tem Leader, Mid Term Review Mission. NIRAS Indevelop
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrap up, evaluation and closing notes</li> </ul>	Regional Coordinators, Working Group - Community Education for Pesticide Risk reduction Mr Ule Johansson, Senior Advisor Development Cooperation, KemI Mr Piao Yongfan, Senior Plant Protection Officer, FAO RAP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Farewell Dinner hosted by KemI</li> </ul>	Sukosol Hotel
<b>24 September: Saturday</b> Departure from Bangkok, Thailand		