

## Activities to Support the Establishment of the Adaptation Platform in Thailand

### Introduction

As a part of the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) initiative promoted by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), technical support project was provided for the establishment of Thailand Adaptation Information Platform (T-PLAT), which leads the dissemination of adaptation information in Thailand as well as in Southeast Asian countries. Under the intergovernmental Memorandum of Cooperation between the MOEJ and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) of Thailand, Japanese consultants assisted the activities of the T-PLAT secretariat under the Environmental Research and Training Center (ERTC) in Thailand.

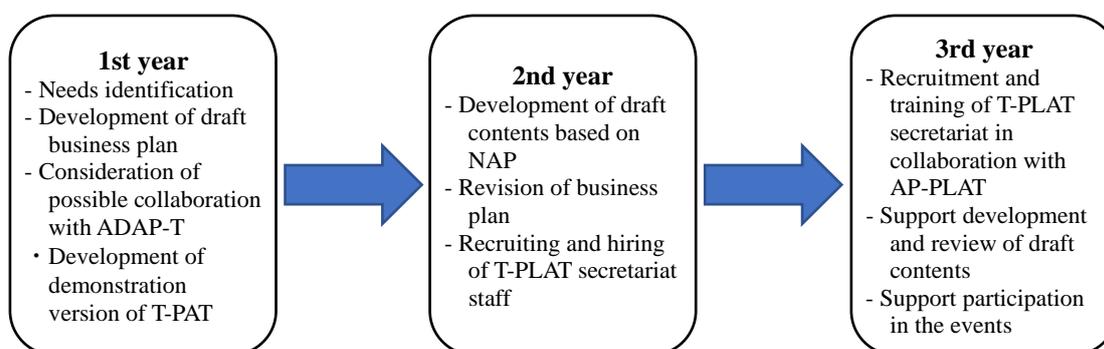


Figure 1: Flow of the Platform Development Cooperation Project

### First year (from June 2017 to March 2018)

#### (1) Confirmation of the current situation, identification of needs at the relevant organizations, and preparation of a draft business plan

Green Pacific and the Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC), the consultants commissioned by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), discussed with the related Thai government officials such as Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) under the MONRE to identify local needs, and studied the specific structure and operation of T-PLAT. As a



Source: ERTC Website

first step toward the realization of the project, the consultants prepared a draft business plan to show the vision, mission, contents, targets, and methods of T-PLAT, and enhanced the plan through discussions with Thai officials. In March 2018, the Environmental Research and Training Center (ERTC) was officially designated as the secretariat of T-PLAT.

**(2) Survey of available existing research results, especially consideration of possible collaboration with the Japan-Thailand cooperative research "Advancing Co-design of Integrated Strategies with Adaptation to Climate Change (ADAP-T)"**

In Thailand, the development of a national adaptation plan had started in 2015. However, at that time, the dissemination of information was limited in a way easily understood by beginners on adaptation, including national and local government officials newly assigned to adaptation related positions.

There are diverse examples of existing studies on adaptation in Thailand, some of which are unique to Thailand and some of which are the result of international cooperation. Among them, the ADAP-T project, which is being conducted in collaboration with dozens of researchers in Japan and Thailand, is consolidating the latest findings, and ONEP was also interested in the possibility of citing this research in the NAP. For this reason, the consultants discussed with the ADAP-T principal scientist and other sub-team leaders to discuss the desirable method and content for T-PLAT to cite and disseminate some of the results of ADAP-T.

Website of ADAP-T: <http://adapt.eng.ku.ac.th/cc/>

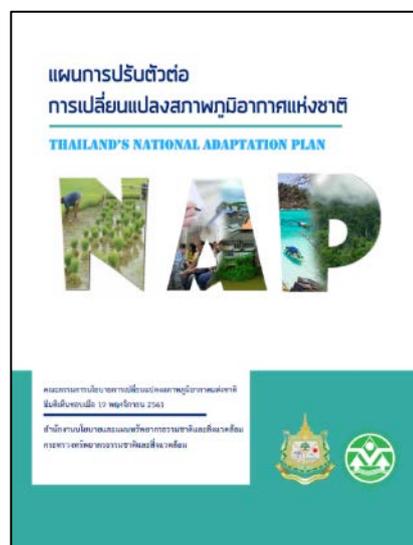
**(3) Development of demonstration version of T-PLAT**

In collaboration with ADAP-T researchers, a demonstration version of the platform using some examples of ADAP-T results was developed and provided to the Thai counterparts based on the envisioned T-PLAT configuration.

## Second year (from May 2018 to March 2019)

### (1) Development of draft contents based on the NAP

The draft of Thailand's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), which has been under consideration since 2015, was released by ONEP. Based on the draft NAP, T-PLAT has decided to collect information and prepare T-PLAT contents focusing on the priority areas covered in the NAP. The research areas of ADAP-T, which T-PLAT had been focusing on as precedent research cases, do not cover some of the priority areas of NAP such as health and tourism. Therefore, it was decided to seek advice from the Steering Committee of T-PLAT on how to obtain the latest information on these sectors from the ministries and agencies in charge. The project supported these efforts by the T-PLAT secretariat.



### (2) Revision of the Business Plan

Based on the business plan prepared in the first year, the consultants supported the effort of T-PLAT secretariat for the establishment of the implementation system. In the course of examining and revising the business plan, the consultants provided the Thai side with examples of Japanese knowledge and experience that could be used as reference. For example, how the MOEJ promoted cross-ministry efforts for adaptation, and how the MOEJ and related external organizations such as National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) or OECC collaborated with each other. Using the above as references, the project cooperated with the T-PLAT Secretariat to consider a feasible and desirable management structure of the T-PLAT.

### (3) Support for recruiting and hiring of T-PLAT secretariat staff

In the business plan, the competencies and experience of the staff required for T-PLAT were identified. Based on this, the project supported the hiring of two secretariat staff to be recruited.

## Third year (from June 2019 to March 2020)

### (1) Recruitment and training of T-PLAT secretariat staff and collaboration with AP-PLAT

With the resignation of the T-PLAT secretariat staff hired in the second year, the cooperative project supported the recruitment and hiring of new staff. As part of the support for capacity building of the new T-PLAT secretariat staff, the consultants promoted the staff to participate the meeting organized by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) to discuss the Climate Change Master Plan in Bangkok, and their participation in meetings with local city officials in charge of adaptation administration.

In addition, as part of the collaboration with AP-PLAT, the project supported the technology transfer training program, in which AP-PLAT staff visited Thailand and provided training to T-PLAT secretariat staff in order to enable T-PLAT to operate WebGIS in the future.

### (2) Support development and review of draft contents

It was decided that the main part of the contents of T-PLAT would be in line with the NAP. In order to support the development of the draft contents, a new local expert was hired who can provide daily guidance to the T-PLAT secretariat staff. In addition, an expert from Japan who had served as the Coordinating Lead Author of the IPCC participated in this work as an advisor and reviewed the draft contents prepared by the Thai side.

### (3) Support participation in the events for the demonstration of T-PLAT

An AP-PLAT Side Event organized by the MOEJ was held at COP 25 in Madrid, Spain in December 2019, and this work supported the participation of Thai officials. The ONEP officer participated as a presenter and introduced Thailand's policy on climate change adaptation as stipulated in the NAP.

It was also introduced that the T-PLAT website is being developed as a tool for steady implementation of the NAP, aiming to be released by the end of the fiscal year.

In January 2020, the Japan-Thailand Environment Week was held in Bangkok, Thailand, jointly organized by the MOEJ and the MONRE. During the event, a bilateral policy dialogue was held to discuss further cooperation in the environmental field between the two countries. In the field of climate change adaptation, the current status of the T-PLAT was reviewed and further



Side Event in COP 25

Report by an ONEP officer about T-PLAT project

cooperation for its establishment was agreed upon.

In March 2020, T-PLAT was officially launched, and follow-up work is underway from July 2020 to March 2021.

**Please visit the T-PLAT website:**  
<http://t-plat.deqp.go.th/en/home-page/>

