

**2005 Annual Report  
Department of Water Resources  
Thailand  
Submitted to NARBO  
5 April 2006**

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The Department of Water Resources' organization chart and its mandate can be found in the 2004 Annual Report. Referring also to the 2004 Annual Report submitted in 2005, progress of work under the topic water shortages solving is elaborated as attached. It covers cross-cutting sectors such as management system, investment, decentralization, training, and awareness raising. Access to safe drinking water is focused in the national water resources policy and according to it by the year 2008 every village in Thailand will access to pipe water supply, which will be saved for drinking purpose.

As of NARBO activities, the representative of Department of Water Resources attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Southeast Asia Water Forum with financial support from NARBO. On the other occasions, its representatives attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> NARBO Training Workshop during 14 – 18 November 2005 in Korea and the 1<sup>st</sup> NARBO Thematic Workshops on Water Allocation and Water Right during 5 – 9 December 2005 in Vietnam. There are also representatives from other agencies that were chosen to attend the Workshop and the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting during 14 – 17 February 2006 in Indonesia.

For other international conferences during April 2005 – March 2006, the representatives of the Department attended many international conferences for example the International Workshop organized by World Bank on River Basin Management at the Lowest Appropriate Level in Poland during 22-25 May 2005, the International Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management organized by Green Cross Spain in Spain during 24-25 November 2005.

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**Department of Water Resources' Important Project in 2005-2008**  
**Project of Eradication of Water Shortage Problem for Consumption and**  
**Domestic Uses**

**Achieving of MDGs**

Regarding target 10 of Millennium Development Goals, it is stated that by 2015 reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water. It was reiterated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 and the target then includes halving by 2015 the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, developing by 2005 integrated water resources management and significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. Thailand sets a goal to increase village water supply to all villages of the country in 2008.

**Project Implementation**

**Justification**

The Cabinet Resolution on 28 June 2005 approved of the implementation of the project for solving the problem of water shortage for domestic and consumption uses and assigned the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to be the responsible agency. The project aims to provide sufficient safe water for all villages where no water supply system exists or existing ones are not sufficient or unfunctoned .It is targeted that by the year 2008 all villages in Thailand will access to safe water supplied by village water supply system.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has surveyed data and information on water supply system in 50,270 villages in order to aware the needs for village water supply system in August 2006. It was found that 39,559 villages have existing water supply system; 14594 villages require improvement of the existing system and 10,711 villages are still lack of water supply system.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has then prepared the project based on the surveyed data and presented to the Cabinet for approval. On 6 September 2005, the project was approved .

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has named this project that " Water for Domestic and Consumption throughout Thailand Project" and has expedited the implementation to respond to the government policy and the Cabinet Resolution especially to practically serve the needs of villagers. The new pattern of implementing the Project by decentralization of authority to the local authority is initiated. The participation of people and local authority at every steps of implementation are emphasized to solve the water shortage problem in their own communities. Also, the capacity building for local authority is promoted so that they could sustain the transferred mission. In addition, the role of the central government agencies such as the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Ground Water Resources are adjusted from the executing units to become the facilitating units whose activities included supervision of master plan, monitoring the implementation of the local authority operation to be cope with the decentralization policy.

**Implementation** are separated in 3 phases as follows:

**Phase 1** (1 Oct. 2005 – 31 May 2006) The implementation are scheduled to start in 16 provinces confronting with severe drought that are ready and competent to construct and improve the existing system. The tasks in these 16 provinces comprise construction of new village water supply system in 1,358 villages; improvement of existing water supply system in 2,190 villages and construction of water supply system in substitution with the former ones in 1,429 villages. Total budget allocated for the implementation is 9,437,310,036 Baht. These first phase provinces are Chiang Mai, Phichit, Sukhothai, Samut Sakhon, Sing Buri, Ang Thong, Trad, Samut Songkhram, Nakhon Phanom, Mukdahan, Nong Bua Lam Phu, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Phatthalung, Phuket, and Ranong.

**Phase 2** : The activities are to construct and improve the water supply system for the remaining villages throughout the country within the year 2008.

**Phase 3** : The raw water sources will be developed to secure the availability of water for all water supply system constructed and improved in Phase 1 and 2 as well as to support other water supply system to be constructed in the future.

### **Implementation Steps**

1. Villages proposed their needs.
2. The Sub-district Authority units gather all requirement from villages and submit to the Ministry .
3. The Ministry analyzes , identify village requirement to select standard model and technique that are proper for each particular village and give advice to the Sub-district Authority units for further operation.
4. The Sub-district Authority units consider the Ministry advice and check physical feasibility of the site, then prepare all project details to the Provincial and District authority.
5. The Provincial/District authorities check the proposed projects and certify the projects prior to submit to the Ministry for final consent and budget allocation.
6. The Ministry check through the proposed detailed projects and transfer money by open the saving account for money transfer and control the expenditures.
7. The Bank pay as approved by the Ministry and report disbursement progress to the Provincial /District authorities.
8. The Sub-district Authority Units disburse partial payment to undertake the tasks.
9. The Provincial/District authorities follow – up the task progress and report to the Ministry.

### **Implementation Monitoring Measures**

1. Nominate the Coordination Committee Bodies for the Projects throughout the country charging of monitoring the implementation to be in line with the principles approved by the Cabinet.
2. Provide implementation handouts including handouts for users, sub-district authority units, provincial/district authorities as the guidelines for all involved units.
3. Create clear understanding for all concerned sectors in order to foster good cooperation during project implementation.

Public Sector: Coordinate with involved agencies such as the Department of Local Government, the Governors and District Heads etc. to create information linkage and cooperation.

Local Sector : Create clear understanding among the executives of the local authority units

People Sector : Conduct public relations campaign to allow people to know about the Project implementation.

4. Create the network with the academic institutes in order that they should assist in design, construction and maintenance.

### **Steps of Implementation carried out by the Ministry**

1. Coordinate with the Budget Bureau to reserve the remaining budget for the fiscal years 2003 and the budget for the fiscal year 2005 totalling to 3,163,990,000 Baht combined with the special budget approved by the Cabinet for the fiscal year 2006 totalling to 6,273,320,036 Baht for the implementation of the Project Phase 1.
2. Open the saving account for sub-district authority units with Government Savings Bank.
3. Nominate the Coordinating Committee Bodies.
4. Readiness for implementation is to be checked by the representatives of the Ministry and of the Provincial Authorities. Data involved including name lists of villages, list of SML program in villages are to be checked to avoid the individual benefit.
5. Provide handouts, medium and public relations scheme . Schedule the exact date and venue for live release on the official opening ceremony of the Project. Transfer money to the sub-district authority units to implement the tasks as assigned.

### **Steps of Budget Approval**

1. Project measures are separated in 3 categories as follows:
  - 1.1 Maintenance and improvement of the existing water supply system to increase their capacity.
  - 1.2 Construction of the new water supply system in substitution with the old ones.
  - 1.3 Construction of the new water supply system in villages and communities where no water supply system existed.
2. Budget approval and money transfer
  - 2.1 Inform all Sub-district Authority Units to prepare to receive the budget through banking transfer for the tasks in category 1 on the Project Opening Ceremony date.
  - 2.2 Transfer disposition budget to Sub-district Authority Units when the design drawings for the tasks in category 2 is ready.
  - 2.3 Transfer disposition budget for the task category 3 to Sub-district Authority Units when design drawing is ready.

In case any Sub-district Authority Unit is ready to start all three tasks categories, money will be transferred simultaneously on the Project Opening Ceremony date.

### **Recent Project Progress**

After the Project was approved, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has conducted the survey in all 75 provinces numbering to 74,532 villages. The latest information as of 31 October 2005 revealed that there are 62,593 villages with existing village water supply system ; 25,185 villages need the improvement

of the existing water supply system; and 11,274 villages without water supply system. In the 16 pilot provinces, the new constructed water supply system are to be carried out in 1,329 villages; construction of the new ones in replacement of the existing unfunctioned ones are to be undertaken in 1,927 villages ; and improvement of the existing ones will be performed in 3,139 villages. Total budget for the pilot phase are 11,625,463,275 Baht.

**What villagers and sub-district authority units should do**

- Prepare themselves to be ready for working during construction and use the new service
- Conduct a survey in their villages to know whether there are water supply system in the villages or not; if not they have to consult to find out water sources for new water supply system and draft out the project proposal.
- In case water supply system is available, it should checked whether it could function well or need to be improved.

**Official Opening Ceremony of the Project**

The official opening ceremony of the Project in 16 pilot provinces was held on Friday 7 October 2005 at 17.00 hours at the Government House.