

The summary of Seminar on the direction of eco-industrial town implementation direction according to Thailand's 20-Year National Strategy

The seminar was organized on the 25th February 2021 at The Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok, to raise awareness in resource efficiency initiatives to reduce GHGs emissions and connect several governmental projects and activities in the eco-industrial town development area together. It was a great honor for the seminar as Mr. Prakob Vivitjinda, Director General of the Department of Industrial Works, kindly delivered the welcoming remarks. Seventy-one representatives (30 males and 41 females) from related central organizations, i.e., eco-industrial town steering committee, EEC policy committee, project steering committee, consisting of the representatives from the Department of Industrial Works, the Office of Permanent Secretary for Industry, the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand, the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, the Department of Local Administration, the Office of the National Economic and Social Development and the Office of Permanent Secretary for Interior, have participated in the event.

The overview of group discussion activities on “The Implementation Direction in Eco-industrial Town Development according to the 20-Year National Strategies” can be summarized as follows.

1. The picture of eco-industrial town is the town with symbiosis and grows altogether with the economy, society, community, environment, and industrial sector, and there are zoning of the residential area, benefits generation area and green area emphasizing on the innovation.
2. In order to develop the eco-industrial town, the focus should be on building the ownership for the local people in the area by letting the local people identify their needs in town development as well as provide the training, capacity building, demonstration, pilot project or implementation among factories, communities, and local wisdom scholars. The governmental organization should create clear development guidelines and adjust the targets of every related organization to be the same, such as improvement of regulations to support the development, enforcement of the existing regulations efficiently, or promoting advanced technology industries (replacement of labor-intensive industries). In addition, the PR channels on eco-industrial town tourism via television or electronics media (YouTuber) should be expanded to be informed by every group and sector.
3. In order for the integration of implementation in the eco-industrial town area to achieve the targets, the announcement of EIT area should be clear in the form of the ordinance of the Department of Local Administration as well as identify the town plan, targets, and indicators of local people's good quality of life. This may be done by driving the EIT to be the national agenda or incorporating the EIT development implementation plan into the sub-district, district, and province development plan and driving to be the indicator in that specific plan. The governmental organizations such as the Department of Industrial Works have the duty to promote the EIT development by making applications, providing information, creating eco-center in the EIT area for learning purposes and acting as the big data center, and using the IT database in managing and solving pollution issues.
4. The significant measures in driving eco-industrial town should be started from planning systematically following the budget allocation mechanism by starting from local to national level. The mutual indicators of every organization should be identified in order to achieve the EIT and EIT development targets by strongly focusing on the strengths or identities of the town. The target should be set on the developing to tree town (low carbon) by driven industries, the improvement of regulations to support the EIT development and circular economy as well as formulating the clear policy supporting the development and enact the policy providing the privileges for every sector supporting the development and promoting the investment for the private sector. Additionally, the knowledge-sharing activities with the young generation are also the way to cultivate the concept and extend the new knowledge, i.e., including in school and university curriculum, EIT area and indicating that the scholarship students from abroad must join in making the EIT development plan.

Application and utilization of knowledge obtained from the seminar

- Improvement of eco-industrial town development implementation to be higher efficiency.
- Informed of the linkages in the operation of several organizations under the eco-industrial town development framework to seek development guidelines, reduce the redundancy, and support in driving the eco-industrial town development in truly and mutually achieving the targets.
- Capable of utilizing the information in identifying the implementation framework and plan on safety in EIT area in relevance to the emerging project according to the eco-industrial town development plan.
- Capable of applying the knowledge obtained in the identification of measures in pollution prevention and reduction.
- Capable of utilizing the knowledge obtained in dissemination to other employees.
- Apply in policy formulation regarding the authority of each organization.

Additional needs and expectations

- Guidelines and lessons learned of UN and member countries
- Open house, site visit, or showcase
- Guidelines for integration of organizations
- Further follow-up of the integrated implementation of several organizations working under the EIT development framework
- Information of eco-industrial town development project on security management of the project whether they exist or not

Suggestions

- Should organize the seminar to create cooperation at least once a year



Figure 1 Pictures from seminar on the direction of eco-industrial town implementation direction according to Thailand's 20-Year National Strategy