

The brief report on the first NARBO training course in Thailand was over successfully

The first NARBO training course on IWRM and Strengthening of River Basin Committees (RBC) ended in great success with a great contribution from Thailand Water Resources Association (TWRA) and other organizations. The course lasted almost two weeks. The first week (July 26 to July 31) was constituted of lectures and held in Bangkok, but the second one (August 2 to August 6) was constituted of many site visits and held in Chiang Mai. There were twenty participants from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia and lectures came from Japan, Thailand (TWRA), Indonesia (JASA TIRTA), Korea (KOWACO) and a various International Agencies (MRC, IUCN, IWMI and UNESCAP).

Although the schedule seemed to be tight, all participants learned and worked very hard every day. Especially in Chiang Mai, as participants went out to visit the sites in the morning and got back to the hotel in the evening and had discussions and worked on individual assignments and group assignments (five groups). Due to the hard work, they looked a little bit tired and didn't have enough time to enjoy there. On the last day of training in Chiang Mai, all participants made presentations about their assignments and each group also did the same thing. After all presentations finished, according to the rating by secretariat, three individuals and one group were awarded.

We believe this training course gave the better understandings of IWRM to all participants and the first-hand experiences to see the good cases of IWRM being practiced in Thailand though there still some rooms to improve. We, NARBO Secretariat in JWA, already started preparation for the second NARBO training course scheduled to be held in December in Sri Lanka. We really want the second course to be better one based on the lessons and experiences we got from the first training course. (The participants' evaluation to the training course was relatively good)

Finally, we want to express many thanks to all lecturers and participants, especially Dr. Apichart in TWRA, Dr. Wasan and Dr. Banha in Chiang Mai University.



At the lecture



At Huai Hong Khrai Royal Development Study Center



At Chiang Dao watershed project



Presentation on the last day in Chiang Mai