

Pre-negotiation Issues - Environmental Impact Assessments

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Overview

- Environment- state of art
- Environmental goods and services
- Linkage to Trade – Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- EIA results to inform the trade negotiation

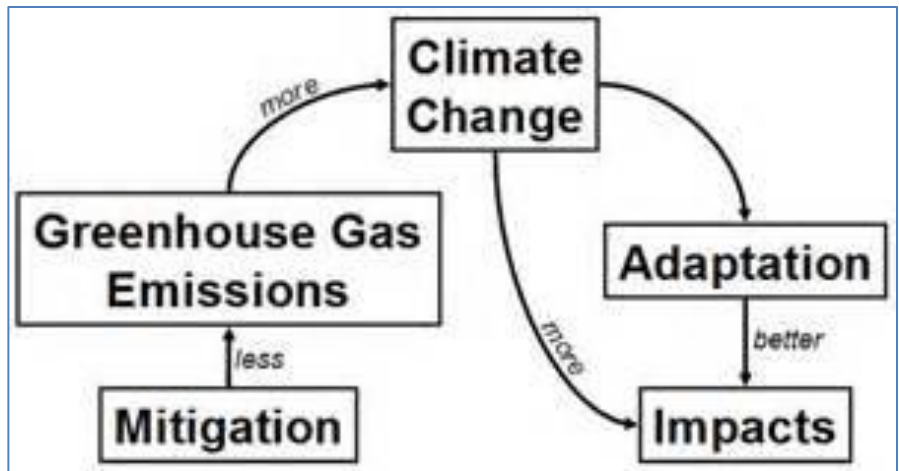


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Climate Change

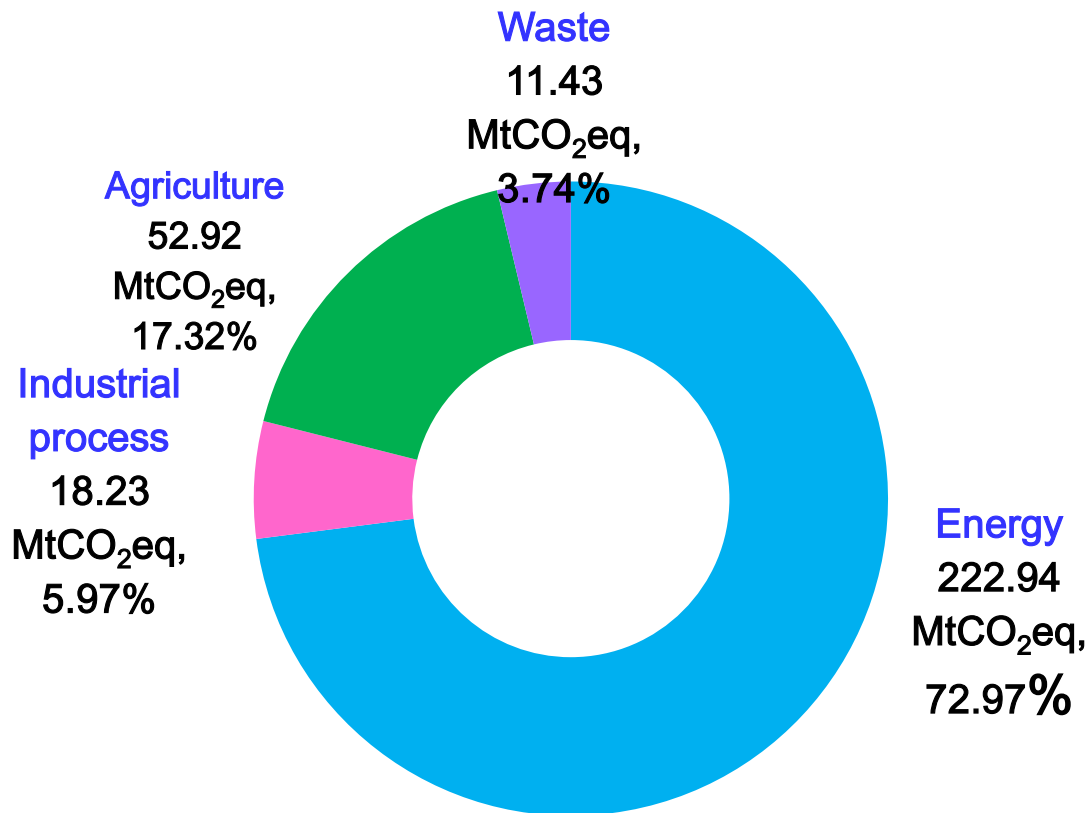
- Climate Change is real and happening
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 - INDC; emission targets and sectors identified
 - Agriculture, Forestry, Transport, Energy sectors in focus



- Countries make decisions on which sectors and activities to focus on
 - Balance economy and INDC targets
 - Target sectors and products
 - Agriculture: single product
 - Forestry: Area with emission factor

Total Thailand GHG Emission 2011

Total Thailand GHG Emission 2011	Exclude LULUCF	305.52 Mt-CO ₂ eq
	Include LULUCF	234.58 Mt-CO ₂ eq



No.	Sector
1	Energy
2	Agriculture
3	Industrial process
4	Waste

Environmental Goods and Services

- Environmental goods for trade will come from emission sectors.
- Countries may come up with different list of goods and services

Actors

Interests

Mechanisms

Emerging Issues

- Commercial gains
- Economy
- Technology Transfer
- Capacities
- Inclusion
- 2030 Agenda

What information is useful to link environmental goods and services to trade ?

- What are the existing knowledge gaps and how science-based information/tools can help to make informed decisions?

Is EIA an Entry-point?

- “The process of identifying, predicting, evaluating and mitigating the biophysical, social, and other relevant effects of development proposals prior to major decisions being taken and commitments made.”

(International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), 1996)

- “As a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have significant adverse impact on the environment, and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority”

(UN General Assembly, 1992)

EIA Process

1. What is the likely impacts due to a proposed intervention?

– Benefits and losses//winner-losers

2. What are the potential risks to intervention/investment?

3. How to mitigate those risks?

1. Screening

2. Scoping

3. Project Information

4. Description of existing environmental and social conditions (BASELINE)

5. Impacts identification

6. Mitigative remedies identification

7. M&E set-up



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EIA Issues

One good has multiple values: what to prioritize?

- **Provisioning:** (carbon emissions, timber, wood, mushroom, employment)
- **Regulating:** (regulation of climate, water, diseases)
- **Cultural:** (non-material; identity of being a fishermen; social relations, aesthetic services)
- **Supporting:** (enrichment for producing all other services)

How to ensure participation and agreement?



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Krabi plant study ditched

PRANGTHONG JITCHAROENKUL

Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ordered the halted environmental and health impact assessment processes for the Krabi coal-fired power plant project to be scrapped, said government spokesman Sansern Kaewkamnerd.

The environmental health impact assessment (EHIA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) processes have been cancelled on the premier's instructions.

He said the prime minister issued the order out of concern that without the cancellation, there might be some issues with public participation in deciding which fuel source was best suited for the controversial project.

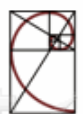
Gen Prayut has instructed the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning to write to the Energy Ministry, getting it to inform the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand formally to scrap both the EIA and the EHIA processes, according to the spokesman.

The processes had been put on hold due to growing opposition to the use of coal to fuel the planned power plant in Krabi. Critics fear its effect on the environment.

The prime minister's order followed some apparent confusion over whether the EIA and the EHIA processes should be resumed from where they had left off, or started from the beginning.

Krabi Power Plant

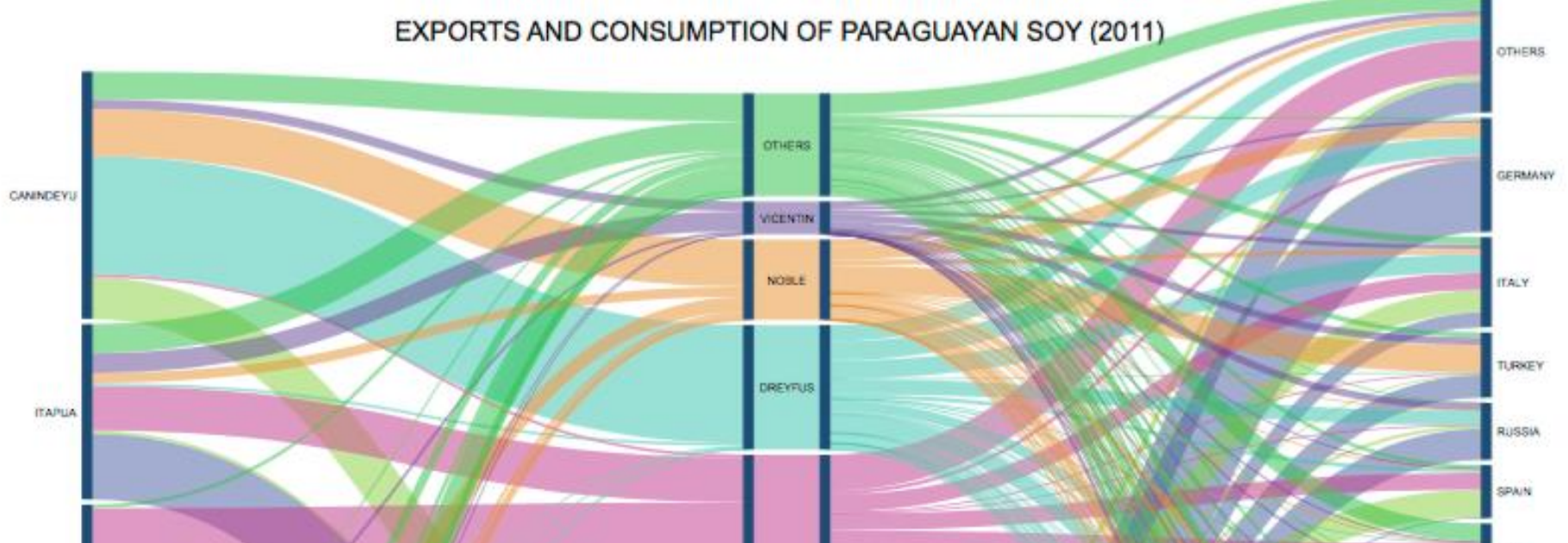
- *CSO's concern: Not adequately participated in EIA consultation + harmful impacts.*
- The environmental health impact assessment (EHIA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) processes of Krabi coal-fired power plant have been cancelled on the premier's instructions.
- Question remains on whether the EIA and EHIA processes should be resumed from where they had left off, or started from the beginning



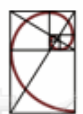
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EXPORTS AND CONSUMPTION OF PARAGUAYAN SOY (2011)



Transparency for Sustainable Economies (TRASE) developed by SEI



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Key message

- EIA allows for cost benefit analysis – **minimizes the risk for failure of investment!**
 - Commercial interests vis-à-vis environmental/holistic gains
 - Winners and losers : Consultation with targeted population in question
 - Multiple goals and mitigative remedies
- EIA results can help to make **informed decisions**
 - Results to inform negotiation; evidence-based knowledge: multiple goals
 - Can feed to the harmonization standard requirements
 - Generational practice of organic farming to influence standard reporting requirements.
- **Coherence** and coordination across Ministries
- **Realistic pathways** to achieve national aims vs. international agreements.



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Negotiation is more than Knowledge!

Science
Content

Evidence-
based
knowledge

Politics
Power Play

Which
knowledge is
prioritized?



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Thank You!



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Group Discussion

Discuss the following questions within your group (30 min)

1. Read the case study and find out who are winners and losers?
2. Discuss what made them winners and losers?
3. If EIA was done beforehand the project's approval, what factors would have been taken into consideration?

Ecosystem Goods and Services?

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)

An assessment of the consequences of ecosystem change for human well-being and the scientific basis for action needed to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of those systems and their contribution to human well-being.

Ecosystem goods:

Resources (forest, fishery, water, energy)

Ecosystem services

Benefits people obtain from [ecosystems](#).

One ecosystem good (product) can provide various services (values):

- **Provisioning services** (carbon emissions, timber, wood, mushroom)
- **Regulating services** (regulation of climate, water, diseases)
- **Cultural services** (non-material; identity of being a fishermen; social relations, aesthetic services)
- **Supporting services** (enrichment for producing all other services)