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Project 61: SEACHEM – Sound Management of Chemicals and their Associated Wastes in Southeast Asia (NO IFS/2017/385-130)

SEACHEM NEWSLETTER

February 2019

2018: A YEAR IN REVIEW

It has been a year since our last newsletter. Now, as we enter the second phase of Project 61 – SEACHEM - Sound Management of Chemicals and their Associated Wastes in Southeast Asia (SEA), we reflect on what we have learned so far and what we aim to achieve in the remainder of the project. Last year was a busy, productive and successful one. Missions, meetings and engagement with national teams in all 10 ASEAN countries have provided a solid platform that has informed future project activity and set the team up nicely for work in 2019 and beyond. Although this newsletter covers the last year, as the project gathers pace and begins to deliver training and awareness-raising across the South East Asia region, future newsletters will be published more often.

May 2018 – Thailand

Thailand’s main areas of interest in P61 are preparedness and response to chemical incidents (Work Package (WP) 4) as well as in laboratory capabilities (WP3). Therefore, the discussions



Figure 1. Thailand National Team

during the Fact-Finding Visit (FFV) to the National Institute of Health, Nonthaburi and the Laem Chabang Port Dangerous Cargo Section focused on these two topics. Despite her broken arm we were ably hosted throughout by Dr Noppavan Janejai.



Figure 2. Port of Laem Chabang Dangerous Cargo Section

May 2018 – The Philippines



Figure 3. The Philippines National Team

In May the P61 Team travelled

to the Bureau of Fire Protection in Quezon City, where we met the National Team.



Figure 4. Maj Gen Servando and Nick Apps

We were also able to meet Major General Danilo Servando (ret.) (seen above with SCJS Director Nick Apps) Head of the SEA Regional Secretariat, and his team, that is hosted in the Office of the President of the Philippines in Manila.



Figure 5. The Philippines, Work Package 3 - Laboratories

This Project is implemented by



In cooperation with:



After a productive plenary session, we broke down into WP Groups to establish needs and priorities in each area of the project

June 2018 – Consortium Training Design Workshop – Chilton, England

By June, we had visited most countries in the region and a clear picture was emerging on the management of chemicals and their associated wastes in SEA. So, the P61 Team came together at PHE, Chilton in the UK to conduct a training design workshop and gap analysis.



Figure 6. Consortium meeting Chilton, UK

Global projects such as P61 that involves 13 different countries tend to be 'virtual' a lot of the time, so these face-to-face meetings are very important.

June 2018 - Kick Off & Steering Committee Meeting

The Hotel, Brussels was the location for the combined kick-off and steering committee meeting that happened on the 22nd June.



Figure 7. P61 1st Steering Committee Meeting, The Hotel, Brussels

It was chaired by DEVCO Project Officer, Ms Silvia Bottone and in attendance was the Head of Regional Secretariat, Major General Danilo SERVANDO, representatives from SEA Regional Secretariat, National Focal Points and delegates from 8 of the 10 SEA

countries. Further representation came from European Commission Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), the European Joint Research Centre (JRC) and members of the P61 Consortium.



Figure 8. 2nd Steering Committee – one of the Bilateral Meetings.

After a short plenary session to review progress and agree the way ahead, important bilateral meetings took place with all partner countries.

July 2018 – Project 46 Final Event



Figure 9. P46 Final Event

Following the successful delivery of CBRN CoE Project 46 across the region, Andrew Proudlove, (Team Leader) and DR Sam Collins (WP Leader), attended the final regional conference. Data, information, knowledge and Best Practice from P46 was shared freely during the event enabling us to build upon existing networks, resources and competences.



Figure 10. LtoR Dr Sam Collins, Andrew Proudlove, Nigel Tottle, John Jones

Congratulations and thanks go to John Jones and his team on the successful completion of P46

November 2018 – Viet Nam

November saw a follow-up visit to Viet Nam, ably hosted by Mr Pham Hoai Long. The first day was spent in plenary session at the Viet Nam Chemicals Agency (VINACHEMIA) in Hanoi.



Figure 11. Vinachemia Plenary meeting hosted by Mr Long (far right)

During the second day a trip to the Viet Tri Chemical Company (Vitri Chem) took place. Here, the team discussed practical aspects of the Management of Chemicals and their Associated Wastes in Viet Nam.



Figure 12. Viet Tri Chemical Plant

November 2018 – Indonesia

November also found the P61 team in Jakarta, kindly hosted by Mr Ricky Ichsan, MoFA. We spent the first day at the MoFA in plenary and WP group sessions establishing Indonesia's baseline for the project.



Figure 13. Indonesia National Team led by Mr Ricky Ichsan (Centre)

During the 2nd day Three sites visits were arranged to visit:

- **Research Center for Chemistry: Indonesian Institute of Science**



Figure 14. Research Centre for Chemistry

- **The Center for Chemical and Packaging: Ministry of Industry, Jalan Balai.**
- **The Prasadha Pamunah Limbah Industry (PPLI) Waste Treatment Facility: Nambo, Klapanunggal, Bogor, West Java**



Figure 15. PPLI Waste Treatment Facility

December 2018 – Singapore



Figure 16. DSO Laboratories, Singapore

The DSO National Laboratories in Singapore provided the setting for the final fact finding visit of 2018.

It is hoped that P61 WP3 (Laboratory) Regional Training Courses will take place here.

December 2018 – Lao PDR - Annual Steering Committee



The Landmark Mekong Hotel in Vientiane, Laos, provided the backdrop for the 2nd Steering Committee meeting chaired by DEVCO Project Officer, Ms Silvia Bottone



In attendance was the Deputy Head of Regional Secretariat, General Ke Da, representatives from SEA Regional Secretariat, National Focal Points and delegates from all 10 Partner Countries.

A review of the first phase of Project 61 followed by a plan for the delivery of phase 2, moving into 2019, was presented by WP leaders who outlined their plans for training programmes and in-country missions in the year ahead. 5 Partner Countries signed off their approval of the plans, and

it is hoped that the other 5 will do so soon.

2019: The YEAR AHEAD

To date, 2019 may seem a little quiet but, as planned, during the first half of the year, the Consortium Team is busy:

1. making the logistics arrangements for training courses and awareness raising activities in all 10 Partner Countries and;
2. Designing the content of those activities to meet the needs of each Partner Country in the Project.

P61 activities will kick off in June 2019 with a European Study Visit for SEA National Emergency Response Planners who will experience European Best Practice in the management of chemicals and their associated wastes and develop guidelines on how to clearly define responsibilities amongst national services, avoiding overlapping mandates.

This will be followed by regional and national training events across the region. The full programme can be found at the end of this newsletter.

The activities planned for each work package are briefly described below.

WP1 Legal

The activities under Work Package 1 focus on the legal aspects of chemicals management. During Phase 1 of the Project, which consisted of Fact-Finding Visits, we gathered information on Partner Countries' national legal frameworks concerning chemicals. We collected laws and regulations and discussed the comprehensiveness of such legislation, including with respect to international obligations and standards.

Since the Steering Committee Meeting in December 2018, VERTIC (the lead organisation on Work Package) has been

designing templates for legislation surveys. These templates are our methodology to analyse the legislation and regulations together with the Partner Countries and to identify areas for improvement.

Whilst no events will be organised under Work Package 1, VERTIC will be in communication with each Partner Country to develop country-specific analyses, such as the omnibus legislation surveys covering the Partner Countries' national legislation for the implementation of multiple international instruments on chemicals.

In addition, VERTIC will cooperate with the Partner Countries on the development of regional analyses, including regional legal mechanisms to manage chemicals, their wastes, and chemical facilities.

Finally, together with PHE, VERTIC will present the 'international legal framework for chemicals workshop' during the Regional Workshop in Lao PDR in July 2019.

WP3 Laboratories

Here in the Netherlands, our team of experts started with the shaping of a regional training course. The set-up of the training will be a 5-day session during which different modules will be provided. The itinerary contains a mix of lectures, assignments and (tabletop) exercises. Two experts from each of the participating countries will be sponsored by the project to attend the training, which will most likely be in Singapore. Preliminary dates (8-12 and 19-25 July) and venue are currently under discussion.

Since the Steering Committee meeting, progress has been made on several topics that will be in the sessions, such as handheld equipment, GCMS & LCMS introductions, and forensic aspects. Additional topics that will be addressed in the training include ISO 17025; (laboratory) waste management; (agent related)

new developments; tips and tricks for buying equipment; and handling unknown samples. Tabletop exercises will also be prepared so that knowledge gained by the participants can be put into practice during discussions about potential real-life events.

WP4 Preparedness and Response

Here in the Slovak Republic our experts have been working on the upcoming Study visit and planned national training courses that begin later this year. Study visit is 03/06/2019 to 07/06/2019 in Czech Republic and Slovak Republic with the aim to inform selected experts of best practice from the EU, in multiagency cooperation in the management of chemicals and their associated wastes, focused on emergency response in the case of chemical incidents. We will hold a workshop to develop guidelines on how best to clearly define responsibilities amongst national services, avoiding overlapping mandates.

The content of national training has been finalized and our experts are currently developing supporting documents like presentations, lessons plan templates and videos for interactive activities. It will be most important to select the right participants for the study Visit and the national training courses. In addition, we have been working on brochures, flyers and poster for raising awareness with respect to the human and environmental effects of mismanaged chemicals and their associated wastes.

WP2 Prevention and WP5 Recovery

Here in the UK we have been developing the first Regional workshops covering several key topic areas such as International legal frameworks, regional cross border chemical incidents and national chemical risk assessment. These events will be delivered in Vientiane,

Lao PDR between the 2nd and 10th July 2019. Several participants from each Partner Country will be sponsored to attend the workshop. We hope that a mix of presentations, interactive activities and chemical incident scenarios will ensure the workshops are engaging and productive for all delegates. We would like to express our particular thanks to Lao PDR for hosting these workshops.

Together with our colleagues from ISEMI (WP4 leaders) we are continuing to develop material for the National Training workshops, to be delivered in each Partner Country commencing in September 2019.

Project Website

www.cbrn-project61.com



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P61 Event Calendar @ 22/02/2019

03-07/06/2019 WP4 EU Study Visit - National Emergency Response Systems, Plans

11/06/2019 Steering Committee Meeting with NFPs – Brussels (To Be Confirmed[tbc])

02-10/07/2019 WP 2,4,5 Multiple Regional Workshops in Lao PDR

08-19/07/2019 WP3 Laboratory Regional Workshops in Singapore (tbc)

09-20/09/2019 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Viet Nam

23/09/2019 – 04/10/2019 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Lao PDR

04-15/11/2019 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Indonesia

18-29/11/2019 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Cambodia

Nov or Dec 2019 - Steering Committee Meeting Date / Place to be notified (tbn)

13-24/01/2020 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Myanmar

27/01/2020 – 07/02/2020 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Malaysia

11-20/03/2020 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in The Philippines

23/03/2020 – 03/04/2020 WP 2,3,4,5 Multiple National Workshops in Brunei

01-26/06/2019 - WP 2,4,5 Regional Train the Trainer Courses

Jun or Jul 2020 – Final Steering Committee Meeting Date / Place tbn

01/09/2020 Project ends

N.B. The Calendar above was correct at the time of going to press but may be subject to change. The live P61 on-line calendar can be viewed at:

<https://teamup.com/ksq9onkvrmvkc9av>



Figure 17. The P61 Team at the Steering Committee Meeting in Vientiane