

2008 Greenpeace Southeast Asia (GPSEA) Annual Report

Organizational Development Highlights

Since the start of its 2006-2010 Five year plan, GPSEA has been consistently and effectively contributing to the delivery of Greenpeace's global campaign program objectives, while developing staff capacity, systems and infrastructure, and supporter numbers at the same time.

In 2008, GPSEA prioritized the development of our Indonesian operations including introducing additional campaigning and support positions, strengthening the office infrastructure, and additional investments in Fundraising - to better deliver our program objectives on Forest-Climate. In the process of strengthening our Indonesian operations - which occurred during a transition year when the new Executive Director was starting - we faced some office development challenges. Despite the internal challenges we faced in Indonesia, we were still able to exceed our Indonesia Fundraising targets, and deliver a strong Paradise Forest ship tour to support the global Forests-Climate program.

In Fundraising, GPSEA has posted an impressive 66% growth rate for the whole region, also increasing the number of paying supporters to 33,275 by the end of 2008. This growth rate was one of the highest among all Greenpeace offices worldwide.

In 2008 we also carried out a review of our Communications unit, and commissioned a Market Survey to help us gauge public perception on environmental issues as well as the growing strength of the Greenpeace brand in the 3 countries. These reviews formed part of the Mid-term evaluation of our 2006-2010 Five Year plan – out of which we crafted a new, updated and more aggressive Three-year Plan for GPSEA (2009-2011).

Campaign Highlights

- Enactment of Renewable Energy Law in the Philippines.
- Successful completion of 3 ship tours in the region (“Quit Coal” in Thailand and Philippines, “Paradise Forests in Indonesia”).
- Thailand’s Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency announced an ambitious program to increase investments in research and development of wind, solar, biomass, and other clean renewable energy sources.
- Gained political commitment of 2 provinces in the Philippines against the construction of new coal fired power plants.
- Renewed commitment from the Thai Rice Traders Association ensuring that rice exports remain GE-free.
- Launched a positive and solutions driven project in the number one tourist destination in the Philippines (Boracay) with commitments from the resort, establishment owners and associations to make the island a ‘Climate-Friendly Tourist Destination’.
- Galvanized growing opposition to proposed coal power plants in Thailand and generated momentum in support of a citizen’s initiative to spur the development of progressive Renewable Energy targets in the country.
- Launched the Forests for Climate initiative in Jakarta, whose key elements include the setting up of a global financial mechanism to help secure forest protection in developing countries and to drastically cut carbon emissions due to deforestation - a lasting solution to the forest and climate crisis.
- Temporary shut down of Angono waste dump in the Philippines which is polluting the Laguna Lake, third largest inland freshwater body in SEA.

Quit Coal, Clean Energy Now!



Our major victory for the year was the much awaited passage of the Renewable Energy Law in December of 2008, culminating 10 years of work in seeing it through.

The ship tour in the Philippines gained commitment from 2 provinces declaring a ban on the construction of new coal fired power plants. As more and more communities are rejecting coal, we are close to getting 6 more

Philippine provinces to become 'coal free zones'.

We launched a solutions driven project in the number one tourist destination in the Philippines – Boracay. We were able to get commitment from the resort, establishment owners and associations to make the island a 'Climate-Friendly Tourist Destination'.

In Thailand, we were able to galvanize growing opposition to proposed coal power plants and generated momentum in support of a citizen's initiative to spur the development of progressive Renewable Energy targets in the country.



Taking advantage of the Quit Coal ship tour, we also ran a New Media test project in Thailand aimed to establish a growing base of cyberactivists and on-line supporters – with over 5,000 supporting the "Lead the Energy Revolution" petition.

Before the year ended, the Thai Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency announced an ambitious program to increase investments in research and development of wind, solar, biomass, and other clean renewable energy sources.

Save Forests, Save Climate



We welcomed a big win when the governor of Riau declared support for a temporary halt on deforestation in Sumatra. The Forests for Climate initiative was also launched in Jakarta, whose key elements include the setting up of a global financial mechanism to help secure forest protection in developing countries and to cut down carbon emissions due to deforestation.

The Paradise Forests Ship tour in Indonesia reached a fitting climax with the completion of palm oil shipment actions in the port of Dumai in Sumatra. The series of campaign activities conducted with the Esperanza and supported by European offices reverberated worldwide and unsettled the palm oil industry ahead of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) meeting in Bali.

Clean Water

To begin 2008, we released the results of a national opinion poll on water contamination in the Philippines. The poll showed that 72% of Filipinos are of the opinion that the problem of water contamination is a serious threat to health and the

environment. Public awareness of environmental laws is very low; with 50% admitting they do not know any environmental law. On enforcement of environmental laws, 40% of those surveyed say these are 'rarely enforced', 29% say they are 'occasionally enforced', with only 8% saying environmental laws are 'almost always enforced'.

In Thailand, we released the results of the water poll survey we commissioned. Among the findings: 86.5% of urban Thais consider water pollution a serious environmental problem and thinks that the government agencies are failing to protect the country's water resources from industrial pollution.

Also in Thailand, we launched our Photo Exhibit: "Endangered Water, Endangered Lives" which visualizes water scarcity and water pollution in Thailand – targeting industrial sources. Our public engagements have put us on the centre of things in terms of water pollution in the 2 countries.

Keep our rice GMO Free

Our GE campaign in Thailand suffered a setback with the ruling from the Administrative court acquitting the Department of Agriculture for its role in the illegal GE papaya contamination event which we had exposed some years back. The campaign is now considering appealing this decision, a legal move which will also provide us with an extra arena to challenge the decision made by the military-backed government last year to lift the GMO field trial ban in the country.



We decided to highlight the national pride that Thai people feel for their rice with our "Thai Rice, My Pride" campaign.

This was followed by the launch of the GMO-free restaurant initiative in Thailand and Philippines getting on board some of the top food establishments in both countries to protect the most important staple food from threats of GMOs.

The year ended with a commitment from the Thai Rice Traders Association to GE-Free Rice exports only.

Thanks for your ongoing support. We couldn't have achieved the above without you

Von Hernandez,

Executive Director, Greenpeace Southeast Asia