



Press Release

7 November 2017

Banpu joins Mahidol in organizing Power Green Camp 12 with the aim of encouraging students to learn conservation biodiversity and economic-social balance



Banpu Public Company Limited, a leading Asian Energy Company that works towards social sustainability, collaborated with the Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University in hosting the 12th Power Green Camp on the theme 'Balancing economics, community and biodiversity towards Thailand 4.0 era'. Seventy students from Grades 10 and 11 with science majors were selected from a nationwide candidate pool of 429 for the camp, which held in October 2017. This year, in addition to underlining the concept 'Envi-science: Learning through actions', the camp offered students the chance to experience biodiversity through field trips, business operations and community living, all key components in economic development and local employment. The discovery and specification of biodiversity through technologies that encourage a healthy balance between business operations, environmental conservation and community development were also addressed in the context of building sustainability.

The students spent time in Chonburi and Rayong provinces, home to a wide range of industries, agricultural practices and tourist attractions, and rich in both flora and fauna. The two provinces are also the centers of several information technology departments including the THEOS Control & Receiving Station, the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (Public Organization) and Space Inspirium, a space learning center, all of which offer opportunities to learn, analyze and adapt biodiversity management in building a better balance for the country.

Ms. Udomlux Olarn, Head of Corporate Affairs, Banpu Public Company Limited said, "Banpu always focuses on and emphasizes biodiversity through its business operation and the Power Green Camp. These are directly linked with the Sustainability and Biodiversity policies of the company, which draw up the guidelines to manage and prevent business activities from negatively impacting the environment in both the short and long term, and promote a balanced and beneficial coexistence between society and biodiversity. We have also developed biodiversity knowledge for young people, who are the future of our country, helping them to recognize the importance of biodiversity and apply their learning to change and develop community, society and the environment. Through this camp, they learned how to preserve and maximize the ecosystem for optimum living. This is in line with our belief that **learning is the power of change and development.**"

All 70 students in the Power Green Camp 12 participated in a number of activities that covered both the theoretical and practical aspects of biodiversity including its value and utilization, plant use in coastal areas and mangroves and the application of remote survey techniques to manage sustainable biodiversity by a qualified staff of lecturers. They also had a chance to attend a special seminar on the topic "The cooperation between industry and the community in the development of environmental management based on biodiversity and sustainability" facilitated by entrepreneurs with a keen interest in biodiversity such as Dr. Nonn Panitvong, freshwater fish expert and Ms. Isawan Sutthinark, fashion designer and travel specialist who has created an equitable balance between business, environment and social responsibility through her environmental conservation tour agency, Suntan Tour, by giving opportunities for the Moken to work.

One of the most important destinations on this trip was the home of Pak Khlong Ta Guan Small Boat Fishing Group and BLCP Power Limited, a joint venture between Banpu Company Limited and Electricity Generating Public Company Limited. The area offers a good example of balanced coexistence between business, community and biodiversity.

Mr. Dang Butrboon-in, the representative from Pak Khlong Ta Guan Small Boat Fishing Group said: "In the past, mussel farming has only been a part-time occupation for people in the group. After receiving knowledge, funding and support from BLCP Power Limited, the group can leverage mussels farming as a main occupation, helping everyone in the community to attain better financial status and a good quality of life. Moreover, the operation of the power plant doesn't affect our wellbeing. We support each other and live sustainably"

Associate Professor Rattanawat Chaiyarat, President of the 12th Power Green Camp said, "Thailand is home to one of the largest biodiversity hotspots in the world. Instilling knowledge of this among young people who will become the driving force of the nation in the future will play a significant role in creating a strong foundation for developing countries. This year, Mahidol University brought teachers who specialize in environmental sciences to advise the students in both the theoretical and practical aspects and inspire them to learn through doing. The activities helped shape structured and creative thinking, which will lead them to come up with innovations for the future. This is in line with the Thailand 4.0 policy that seeks to maximize human abilities in creating sustainable benefits for the country in every way."

After theoretical and practical learning, students presented their group projects to the Camp's Committee and the public at an environmental science exhibition. This year, the **ecotourism**

application "SEAN" won first prize of a scholarship worth 10,000 Baht. SEAN is an application that raises awareness of natural resource conservation and promotes ecotourism for tourists in Phuket, which is one of the most attractive tourist destinations but suffers from both the direct and indirect environmental effects of the constantly growing tourism industry. Information about attractions and biodiversity are part of the app for users along with ecotourism activities. They can join and earn points to be redeemed for further awards. Moreover, the application provides data on accommodation and local souvenirs to more broadly promote tourism widely in the province.

Ms. Napatsorn Pinkaew or Saw, 11th Grade Student, Dechapattanayanukul School, Pattani Province, the winning representative, said" "I am very glad that I joined this camp. Power Green Camp is different from other camps. It encouraged me to learn both inside and outside the classroom. The participating students also had an opportunity to learn and to comprehensively experience biodiversity. I really like nature and the environment so this camp exactly answered my needs. Initially, I thought that the theme of this year would be difficult and beyond my understanding, but it is close to us and should be our priority. The study and conservation of biodiversity is a duty of all of us in building a sustainable future."

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Photo captions



Thailand's leading experts who joined a special seminar on the topic "The cooperation between industry and the community in the development of environmental management based on biodiversity and sustainability"

Mr. Dang Butrboon-in, the representative from Pak Khlong Ta Guan Small Boat Fishing Group

(From left to right):

- Mr. Wutthikorn Kumcharoen, Head of Sri Nakhon Khuean Khan Green Area and Eco-Management Center
- Dr. Thamarat Phutthai, Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University
- Ms. Udomlux Olarn, Head of Corporate Affairs, Banpu Public Company Limited
- Ms. Isawan Sutthinark, fashion designer who has created an equitable balance between business, environment and social responsibility through her environmental conservation tour agency, Suntan Tour
- Associate Professor Dr. Nikorn Thongtip, Large Animal and Wild Life Clinical Sciences Department, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Kasetsart University
- Dr. Nonn Panitvong, freshwater fish expert



Exploring biodiversity at the Golden Mangrove Field (Tung Prong Thong), Pak Nam Prasae, Rayong



Pak Khlong Ta Guan Small Boat Fishing Group: the area offers a good example of balanced coexistence between



About Power Green Camp

The Power Green Camp was established in 2006 through the collaboration of the Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University, and Banpu Public Company Limited with the objective to equip high-school students with knowledge about environmental science and the ability to apply it logically in real life, while building strong principles towards sustainable environmental preservation. The camp targets high school students in grade 10 and 11 studying in science fields, nationwide.

About Banpu Public Company Limited

BANPU is a pioneering Asian energy company, operating business in coal, power generation, and integrated energy sectors in nine countries; Thailand, Indonesia, China, Australia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Singapore, Japan and the United States of America.

"Learning is the Power of Change and Development"

Banpu's CSR activities are based on our firm belief that "learning is the power of change and development" for people and society by emphasizing the promotion and development of continued "learning" among young people and communities in a number of ways. Banpu supports sustainable development of communities and society through a variety of learning opportunities for both individuals and teams, ranging from daily real-life experiences both in- and outside classrooms, to hands-on practices which enhance capabilities and skills.

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