

Press Release

Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation Seed Environmental Awareness:

Build Check Dams, Plant Trees & Vetiver Grass to Support Sustainable Development



Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation, striving to raise environmental awareness, organized the "Check Dam Building, Tree and Vetiver Grass Planting" activity in collaboration with Utokapat Foundation Under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King and 11 Mitsubishi Electric Group companies in Thailand. Executives and more than 200 employees together with local communities participated in building check dams and planting tree and vetiver grass to conserve soil and water resources at the Ban Khao Yai Community Forest, Phluang Thong Subdistrict, Bo Thong District, Chonburi Province.



For the “Check Dam Building, Tree and Vetiver Grass Planting” activity, the executives and employees together planted 800 trees to help conserve the forest with Jamun tree, Mahogany tree, Padauk, Hopea Odorata, and Resin tree (*Dipterocarpus alatus*). To assist in the alleviation of drought in the dry season,



4 check dams were built together with the planting of 30,000 vetiver grass to protect the banks from erosion during the rainy season. H.E. General Chalmchai Sitthisad, Privy Councillor and the executives also planted Yellow Star Tree in honor of his Majesty the King to marks the auspicious occasion of His Majesty King Rama X’s birthday anniversary

in this coming July. These activities were held in collaboration with the Utokapat Foundation Under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King in addition to the water source conservation project (Drought Relief Project) for the second consecutive year. The project aims for the capacity building of the community in managing water and engage the communities in sustainable development. The project is conducted in the Ban Khao Yai community forest which is a Kachanurak Village under the Patcharasutha Kachanurak Project, preserving forest and elephant and reduce the conflict between people and wild elephant to live peacefully together.

Mr. Kunihiko Seki, Vice-President of Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation, said, *“This is the latest project by Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation with the intention to raise awareness on the conservation and protection of nature and environment in the past 9 years beginning in 2014. Apart from tree planting, we also constructed check dams to help conserve the forest and provide the community with a more reliable water source during the dry season.”*





Dr. Royol Chitradon, Director and Secretary of Utokapat Foundation Under Royal Patronage of H.M. the King said, “Utokapat Foundation and Hydro Informatics Institute (HII) has taken H.M. the late King Rama 9 granted initiatives on water resources management and H.M.’s comprehensive understanding on water source reservation and restoration into practice and build

community network on water resources management. The improvement and restoration of water source requires the balance adaptation to each specific geographic condition and each community water usage. Partnership with all sectors in operating the water management is key factor in driving for success and promote learning through collaboration. Utokapat Foundation collaborates with Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation for the water resources management under the Royal Initiative since 2021, starting with area in Kachanurak Village under Patcharasutha Kachanurak Project at Ban Khaochan Community in Khao Chamao District, Rayong and Ban Noen Champa Community in Gaeng Hang Maew District, Chantaburi and this year the support to Ban Khao Yai Community which the volunteer activity is taken placed today as well. The Ban Khao Yai community is a Kachanurak village under the Patcharasutha Kachanurak Project, the project aims to alleviate friction between people and wild elephants that frequently come out to the community and impact community livelihoods and property. The Project addresses the issues with three strategies: keep wild elephants within the Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary with natural buffer tracks, engage with the community to promote awareness of wildlife conservation, and promote community livelihood. Lastly, I hope the community water resource development will be expanding to create a water management network and help drive for sustainable development.”





Upon this occasion, Mitsubishi Electric Thai Foundation also donated sport equipment to two local schools in the community: the Ban Khlong Kum and Ban Khao Yai Schools. The school directors and students representing each school received the sporting equipment from the foundation executives.