

Military Role in the Royally-Initiated Development and Promotion of the Utilization of Vetiver

By Royal Thai Army

The Royally-Initiated Development and Promotion of the Utilization of Vetiver Project, Royal Thai Army

With the initiatives, His Majesty the King Bhumipol Adulyadej has many future visions on how to solve the nation's critical problems, especially the solutions on soil and water resources, which are basically important factors to living of farmers who are the majority of the country.

His Majesty the King had realized on the importance and necessity of solutions to solve and prevent soil erosion, the deterioration of soil and natural resources, the water contamination. He granted his initiative on vetiver grass planting to conserve soil and water in many areas, for examples, in large construction areas which have to clear wide areas, especially the sloping areas. The concept is to use the vetiver's root to hold and rehabilitate the body of soil, which can be destroyed by extreme water flow cause by heavy rain; for example, flooding in the northern part of Thailand occurred at the end of May, 2006.

Royal Thai Army's role and the project

According to the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand 1997, it commands the role of military in Section 5, the Policy of the State, Provision 72.

“Provision 72, the State has to prepare the forces in order to protect the Serenity, The King, and National Interests and the Democracy with the King as the Head of the State and to develop the country”

Royal Thai Army as a part of the Forces has to be bound by the Constitution.

In order to efficiently and sustainably run the project, Royal Thai Army has generated its own Plan which refers to the Master Plan generated by the Royal Development Projects Board as an operation framework between the year 2003 – 2006 as follows;

1. Principle and Reasons

From the first Royal Initiative for vetiver presented in July, 1991 to the last Royal Initiative in September, 13th, 2002, for which is presented to Police Colonel Taksin Shinawatar, The Prime minister. These Royal Initiatives can be summarized as follows;

- a. Use the vetiver to protect and rehabilitate the top soil in the large construction area.
- b. The governmental agriculture demonstration center should promote and distribute the body of correct body of knowledge of the correct breed expansion.
- c. The Master Plan Volume I and II have ended, the Volume III must be generated to continue the project.

2. The Results and the Trends

- a. Promotion: promote organic units to grow the vetiver to conserve soil and water and other utilizations for examples;
 - i. To conserve the soil and water in the deterioration areas
 - ii. To grow the vetiver the edge of water reservation in the unit's areas
 - iii. To rehabilitate deteriorated soil and to improve the landscape or the small dams area or the operation bases, also including the agriculture utilizations and crafting.

3. Vision on the Further Development

According to the past and ongoing developments, Royal Thai Army sees the future development methodology from the partial development to integration development. This new integrated development will focus on "Human" to the center of the development for which can be stated as new vision as follows;

"Sustainably develop the vetiver promotion with the people participation in order to conserve natural resources, especially soil water forest and environmental problem solving"

4. Framework

- a. Bound to the Royal Initiatives presented and continually follows the new Initiatives.
- b. Focus and expand the utilization under all party participations using Army organic units as the core of the operation and expand to the surrounded areas under the supervision of Royal Thai Army. The other utilization will be planned for the future implementation.

5. Objectives

- a. The objectives of the 2003-2006 Master Plan are as follows;
 - i. Develop the local intellectual property and promotion the learning process for the Army personnel, people and target groups to understand the importance of vetiver.
 - ii. Economically increase community opportunities and potentials around the organic units' and project's areas which are under organic units supervision.
 - iii. Increase the vetiver promotion participation between related parties.

6. Goals

- a. Target areas:
 - i. high deteriorated areas in the Army organic unit's areas
 - ii. sloping areas in large construction projects
 - iii. the Royal Initiated project's areas
- b. Field of interest;
 - i. Academic Experiments about vetiver: in charge of Army Science Department and Army Animal Department
 - ii. Promotion of vetiver: in charge Army Organic Units
 1. Vetiver Demonstration
 2. Learning Process
 3. Knowledge Sharing
 - iii. Public Relation:

1. Distribute the body of knowledge of vetiver utilizations to target groups
2. Operate offensively public relation using the psychology units, continually.
- iv. Training
 1. Promote organic unit's personnel at least 50 persons per year to attend "train the trainers" in order to work as knowledge distributors.
 2. Authorize organic unit's personnel to attend useful seminars, timely.
- v. Administration
 1. Organize seminar and workshop between Army organic units to conduct the 4 years Vetiver Strategic Plan and annually action plans to execution abstraction to practical.
 2. Annually report the project performance focusing the results and affects.
 3. Semi annually the project performance for the 4 year plan

7. Methodology and Measurement

Under the stated objectives and goals, the systematic Master Plan has been generated and being used for the implementation between year 2003-2006 as follows;

- a. Expand the vetiver utilization by
 - i. Promote and coordinate to utilize soil and water conservation using vetivers in Army organic units focusing in high deteriorated area, critical areas, high areas and areas with the agricultural-related problems. The cooperation between other governmental agencies also is promoted.
 - ii. Plant vetivers in large construction project areas, especially high slope areas, for examples; water resource, road rehabilitation projects.
 - iii. Integrate the vetiver planting with others conservation methods.
 - iv. Hire personnel and family including civilians living around unit's area to produce vetiver breeding.
 - v. Promote personnel to plant vetiver to understand the appropriate and correct vetiver planting methods.
 - vi. Demonstrate "lively vetiver demonstration" in the field of soil and water conservation in agricultural areas.
- b. Increase the ability to administrate
 - i. Focus in "4 Year Planning" as a vetiver development and promotion tools which can provide guidance, coordination both plans and operations, resource allocation and assessment. This includes existing or continual projects and new projects.
 - ii. Develop a tracking and assessing systems and look forward to outcomes and affect based on systematic key performance indicators.

8. Public Relation

Objectives

- Promote people living around unit's areas to realize the invaluable vetiver's benefit.
- Develop and improve public relations

- Continually promote vetiver planting

9. Timeframe

4 years (2003-2006)

10. Budget

Request the project budget from the Royal Development Projects Board and Royal Thai Army.

11. Administration Organization

- Army Level:** Directorate of Civil Affairs, Royal Thai Army as the core coordinators responsible for generating policies, and frameworks, project initial approve, control, suggest, and solve problems obstructing the promotion operations.
- Army Areas and organic units:** these units are the operation units as specified in the Army Master Plan. They are responsible for project implementation, performance tracking and reporting to the Royal Thai Army

12. Project Implementation

- Operation Plan Generating

Each unit generate an 4 year operation plan and annual operation plan which shows projects/activities, existing and new projects

- Source of Budget

- Governmental Budget
 - Annual budget
 - The Royal Development Projects Board's budget
 - Special budgets
 - National security promotion budget

- Local Government Budget

- Private Sponsor Budget

- Foreign Budget (If available)

- Performance Assessment

- Directorate of Civil Affairs, Royal Thai Army as the overall facilitator
- Operational units as the reporter

Royal Thai Army plants vetiver to celebrate the eightieth birthday anniversary of His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej (2003-2006)

1. Principles and Reasons

Soil deterioration is the critical nation problem which affects the soil and water resources, His Majesty the King has realized its significance to protect and solve this serious problem. He has initiated the use of vetiver for soil and water conservation by protection the deterioration and improves the environment using vetiver long root which go deeply in the lower soil layer and spread out as the net. The vetiver is considered as "lively wall".

2. Objectives

1. To celebrate the eightieth birthday anniversary of His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej
 2. To response to the Royal Initiative to utilize vetiver
 3. To rehabilitate soil and environment
 4. To promote crafting using vetiver as materials
3. Goals: To response to the Royal Initiative to conserve soil and water
 4. Target Areas
 1. Army organic unit's municipal areas
 2. Project areas such as Royal Initiated Projects, other development projects under the Army supervision
 5. Time Frame : 4 years (2003-2006)
 6. Operation Plan
 1. Implement in the Army organic unit areas
 2. Expand to near by areas around the Army organic unit areas
 7. Methodology
 1. Procure and expand the breeding by requesting from Land Development Department
 2. Promote the units which already implement the project to further the projects
 3. Promote the units which have no project to create one in a unit area from the lower level to company level
 4. Additionally plant in other projects
 8. Budget
 1. Requested 2003 budget form The Royal Development Projects Board's budget
 2. Royal Thai Army is responsible for 2004-2006 budget
 9. Expected Results
 1. Celebrate the eightieth birthday anniversary of His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej on December, 5th, 2007
 2. Provide better soil and water environment in the Army areas
 3. Strengthen grass root economy by using vetiver as material for local crafting
 10. Assessment
 1. Monthly report from the operation units via Directorate of Civil Affair
 2. Country Development Tracking and Assessing Board, Royal Thai Army performs related task to the project and directly report to the Army Commander In Chief

Main Operation Units

The following Army organic units are main operation units;

- First Army Area
- Second Army Area
- Third Army Area
- Fourth Army Area
- Timor Peace Keeping Force
- Post Engineer Department
- Air Defense Command
- Special Forces Command
- Chulachomkhoa Royal Military Academy
- Ordnance Department
- Animal Department

- Science Department
- 2nd Cavalry Division
- 11th Infantry Division
- Army Aviation Center
- Infantry Center
- Artillery Center