VETIVER FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION:
IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS MAJESTY
KING BUMIBOL ADULYADEJ THE GREAT
ICV-7 Secretariat Office
Office of the Royal Development Projects Board, Thailand
Email Addresses: vetiver@rdpb.go.th and rdpb_vetiver@yahoo.com
INVITATION

The Organizing Committee of the Seventh International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-7), under theme “Vetiver for Soil and Water Conservation: In Commemoration of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great” has the pleasure to invite you to participate in this important Conference that will be held at Shangri-La Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand, during 26 – 29 October 2020.

The aims of the Conference are to provide an international forum for experts and the interested people persons practitioners to exchange views, knowledge and new techniques on the utilization of vetiver, especially on its attributes in environmental conservation and protection, to disseminate the knowledge on vetiver usage and applications, and to be a venue for different vetiver networks and dissemination units all over the world to share their work experiences and achievements.

Scholars, expert, researchers, scientists and practitioners as well as interested people of every disciplines are welcomed to join the conference as the application of vetiver grass is encompassing several fields from soil water conservation, disaster prevention and mitigation to lessen the negative effects of global warming, which is the urgent issue of our and future generations.

The Organizing Committee is pleased to inform you that ICV-7 will be honored by the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn who will graciously preside over the Opening Ceremony of the conference and bestow on the King of Thailand Vetiver Awards to winners.

Your participation and contributions for the conference will be very welcomed and appreciated. No registration fee has to be paid for attending the conference, the International Handicraft Training Course and post-conference field trip.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Chiang Mai, Thailand in October 2020.

ICV-7 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
The person behind the success of vetiver technology in Thailand is His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great (King Rama IX), the first person in the country to recognize the value of vetiver and to start experimenting with it since early days, after having carefully studied the approach of the World Bank in using vetiver grass. His Majesty the Late King gave the first royal initiative on 22 June 1991 to encourage the utilization of vetiver in Thailand for soil and water conservation.

For 28 years, vetiver has proven to be an effective and low-cost technique which readily be practiced by farmers for slowing water-runoff, reducing erosion, and increasing the soil moisture for crop and plant growth. The diverse uses of vetiver grass will ultimately lead to soil and water conservation. Apart from that, vetiver has also presented other potential economic values such as for fodder, mulch, essential oils, animal bedding and handicrafts.
On 4 – 8 February 1996, Thailand received the honor from the Vetiver Network International (TVNI) to host the First International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-1) in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The following ICVs took place with ever-growing interest at Petchaburi (ICV-2: Thailand, 2000); Guangzhou (ICV-3: China, 2003); Caracas (ICV-4: Venezuela, 2006); Lucknow (ICV-5: India, 2011) and Danang (ICV-6: Vietnam, 2015).

During 26 – 29 October 2020, the Office of the Royal Development Projects Board (ORDPB), a Secretariat of Thailand Vetiver Network and Pacific Rim Vetiver Network, and the Chaipattana Foundation will organize the Seventh International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-7) in Chiang Mai, Thailand, under the theme “Vetiver for Soil and Water Conservation: In Commemoration of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great” in honor of His Majesty the Late King who was the initiator as well as strong supporter of scientific method of vetiver utilization for soil and water conservation.
The conference is open to all scholars, experts, researchers, scientists and practitioners from all parts of the world with knowledge and experiences on the utilization of vetiver grass in all disciplines.

Nowadays, climate change is the major challenge. Vetiver System (VS) could potentially mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, such as flood and landslide disasters, soil degradation, lowering water quality and quantity, agriculture and pollution control through:

- Improving and maintaining soil moisture, soil fertility and groundwater
- Rehabilitating and protecting degraded lands, including flood control
- Protecting and mitigating siltation problems relating to inshore coastal waters and marine life and protection of shore line
- Rehabilitating and mitigating slopes and river banks impacted by landslides and floods
- Carbon sequestration
- Biofuel

It is believed that this conference will highly be beneficial to the participants by offering a forum for the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences on various techniques and developments of vetiver grass utilization and its contribution to soil and water conservation as well as to other disciplines.

Above all, the Organizing Committee is pleased to inform you that ICV-7 will be honored by the presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn who will graciously preside over the Opening Ceremony of the conference.

The conference has three main sessions: plenary, concurrent and poster. All sessions will be based on seven major categories:

1) Soil and Water Conservation Attributes
2) Basic Research and General Studies
3) Pollution Control and Treatment / Restoration and Rehabilitation of Polluted Water and Contaminated Lands
4) Disaster Prevention
5) Training and Technology Dissemination
6) Alternative Uses and Socio-economic Values of Vetiver
7) Other Topics
CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

- DR. SUMET TANTIVEJKUL
  Secretary-General of the Chaipattana Foundation
- MR. DNUJA SINDHVANANDA
  Secretary-General of the Royal Development Projects Board
- Deputy Secretary-General, RDPB
- Deputy Secretary-General, RDPB
- Deputy Secretary-General, RDPB
- Advisor on Project Coordination, ORDPB
- Executive Director, Planning and Foreign Affairs Division, ORDPB
- Director, Foreign Affairs Group, ORDPB

CHAIRPERSON

VICE CHAIRPERSON

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER AND SECRETARY

MEMBER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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- DR. PITAYAKORN LIMTHONG
- DR. NUALCHAVEE ROONGTANAKIAT
- MR. CHALONGCHAI BABPRASERT
- MR. PRADERMCHAI SAENGKOOVONG

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- MR. DICK GRIMSHAW OBE
- MR. JAMES SMYLE
- DR. PAUL TRUONG
- DR. DALE RACHMELER
HIGHLIGHTS

OPENING CEREMONY Presided over by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirinorn

TRIBUTE to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great by the Vetiver Network International (TVNI)

ANNOUNCEMENT of Award Winners & Awarding Ceremony
• The King of Thailand Vetiver Awards
• The Vetiver Network International Awards

KEYNOTE SPEECH by Dr. Erick Fernandes - the World Bank’s Global Leader for Technology, Innovation, and Climate-Smart Agriculture

PRESENTATIONS by the Winners of the King of Thailand Vetiver and TVNI Awards

ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATION

EXHIBITIONS on His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great’s Contribution to the Utilization of Vetiver Grass

INTERNATIONAL HANDICRAFT TRAINING

POST-CONFERENCE FIELD TRIP
There are altogether four site visits namely:
1) Demonstration Center for the Development and Promotion of Vetiver Grass Utilization in the Forests Section 1, Pong Yaeng Subdistrict, Mae Rim District
2) Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden, Mae Sa Subdistrict, Mae Rim District
3) Kong Hae Village Agricultural Learning Center (Extension Area), Pong Yaeng Subdistrict, Mae Rim District
4) A model farmer’s agricultural plot (Mrs. Pongpan Sa-Lee), Pah Pai Subdistrict, Sansai District
Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the Chairperson of His Majesty the King of Thailand’s Chaipattana Foundation, has graciously granted US$10,000 for the King of Thailand Vetiver Awards from the Chaipattana Foundation for four of the most outstanding works on vetiver (prize money of US$ 2,500 each) in the following categories:

1. Outstanding Vetiver Research
   1.1 Agricultural Application
   1.2 Non-agricultural Application

2. Outstanding Dissemination and Application of the Vetiver System
   2.1 Dissemination and Technology Transfer
   2.2 Application of the Vetiver System

3. Outstanding People Participation
   3.1 On-farm Applications and Socio-economic Impacts
   3.2 Disaster Mitigation or Environmental Protection

The six winners will receive the awards from Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the Patron of the Vetiver Network, on His Majesty the King of Thailand’s behalf, during the Opening Ceremony of the Seventh International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-7) on 26 October 2020 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. With the support from the Chaipattana Foundation, the recipients of the awards will have the honor to present their papers during the Conference and be covered for the cost of participation at ICV-7 as well as the international travel between their home country and the conference venue, including accommodations during the conference period.

The specifications for abstracts and full paper can be found at www.icv-7.com.

| DEADLINE OF PAPER SUBMISSION | 31 MARCH 2020 |
| ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNING PAPERS | 31 MAY 2020 |
Three sets of Awards will be given:

- **The Vetiver Champion Award**: given in recognition of an individual’s impact at the country or regional level in promoting Vetiver Grass Technology to communities and/or for public good. (prize money of $1,500).

- **Vetiver Grass Technology – Lessons, Experiences and the Path Forward**: Three awards will be given for the best papers that address and bring together/focus on applying and building upon past research, bring lessons and experience from the field, analyze constraints, and propose priorities and practical strategies for future development and expansion of the use of the Vetiver System in the following areas: (a) agriculture and soil and water conservation (b) infrastructure protection and disaster mitigation and (c) contaminated land and water. (prize money of $1,500 each).

- **Exceptional Individual Contributions**: In honor of four individuals who during their lifetimes made exceptional contributions to the promotion, development, and expansion of Vetiver System knowledge, TVNI will award:
  
  - **The Monty Yudelman Award** for exceptional contributions in sustainable agriculture and food security.
  - **The Mark Dafforn Award** for exceptional contributions in science and research.
  - **The Nick Dolphin Award** for exceptional contributions and success in community engagement and effective participation.
  - **The John Greenfield Award** for exceptional contributions in the promotion and application of Vetiver Grass Technology, especially for poor and rainfed farmers, in on-farm soil and moisture conservation.

Eligibility, specification, deadlines, procedures, documentation, information required and information for submission of papers can be found at www.icv-7.com and www.vetiver.org.
Engineers, researchers, teachers, practitioners, government officials and other professionals are invited to submit papers for presenting in the concurrent sessions and posters related to the conference theme as well as other applications of vetiver system. Submitting well-documented case studies and experiences in applying Vetiver System in the practice of sustainable soil and water development is highly encouraged.

The specifications for abstract, full paper and poster as well as the information on submission of abstracts, full papers and posters can be found at www.icv-7.com.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS & POSTERS**

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<th>Deadline for submitting abstract of full paper or poster</th>
<th>31 April 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for submitting full paper or poster</td>
<td>31 June 2020</td>
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ICV-7 is organized to commemorate His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great’s life-long dedication to uplift the people’s well-being through several royal initiatives. One among them is the introduction of the utilization of vetiver grass for soil and water conservation which has brought about positives changes in Thailand in terms of agricultural promotion, disaster prevention, bio-engineering, pollution control and so on. In remembrance of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great, the Office of the Royal Development Projects Board and the Chaipattana Foundation will be responsible for all expenses in organizing ICV-7.

Therefore, no registration fee has to be paid for attending the conference and the post-conference technical tours. All participants will receive, as a compliment from the Organizing Committee, the admission to all sessions, conference materials as well as all coffee breaks, meals during the conference period. However, the participants are required to pay for their own domestic/international travel and accommodation during the conference period.