

From Awareness to Action: The Friends of Thai Agriculture Platform for Advancing Post-Harvest Residue Solutions

Facilitating partnerships that scale viable alternatives to crop burning

24 July 2025 | UNESCAP CSAM Inception Workshop

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In a nutshell

- The Friends of Thai Agriculture
- Outcomes from FTA Burning Conference 2024
- Building Momentum in 2025
- Contribution to the Regional Mechanization Dialogue



CSAM
Centre for Sustainable
Agricultural Mechanization



AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
EN THAILANDE



GETHAC
German-Thai Agricultural Cooperation



giz

NL
Netherlands



WINROCK
INTERNATIONAL

Group of international agricultural counsellors and attachés, such as Germany, Netherlands, Brazil, France, Denmark, and DLG. The FTA works closely with international organizations, including GIZ Thailand, UNESCAP CSAM, USDA, Winrock International, and the German-Thai Agricultural Cooperation (GETHAC) Project.



Reduction of Air Pollution through Avoidance of Burning in Agriculture

Facilitate partnerships that scale viable alternatives to crop burning

October 2024 Bangkok, Thailand

Cross-cutting themes:

1. Mechanization
2. Soil Fertilization
3. New Value Chains



Reduction of Air Pollution through Avoidance of Burning in Agriculture

1 October 2024

Eastin Grand Hotel Phayathai
Bangkok, Thailand



CSAM
Centre for Sustainable
Agricultural Mechanization



GETHAC
German-Thai Agricultural Cooperation



BREAKOUT ROOM SESSION - AGENDA

13:00 - 15:00

RICE SESSION

PHAYATHAI 4 ROOM

Part 1: Information Sharing

- **Overview of the Challenge**
William Sparks, Project Director, USDA Thailand RAIN project
- **Microbial Solutions: How do they work?**
Dr. Kannika Sajjaphan, Associate Professor, Kasetsart University
- **Supply Side: How to increase farmer access?**
Dr. Chanakan Kupachaka, Technical Director, USDA Thailand RAIN project
Ratchada (Load) Meethonglang, Farmer Agent, Khon Kaen
Dr. Wichien Yongmanitchai, Research and Development Manager, Siam Agri Supply
Bond Thayanurak, CEO and Co-Founder, Agrimomo
- **Demand Side: How to increase farmer awareness?**
Dr. Krailet Tawekul, Coordinator, Chi River Program
Dr. Puangrat Kaewlom, Professor of Environmental Engineering, Chiang Mai University

Part 2: Attendee Idea Discussions and Small Group Chats with Panelists

- Discuss potential ideas with other attendees to develop and pitch ideas.
- Meet in small groups with panelists to learn more about available resources.

MAIZE SESSION

ARI ROOM

Part 1: Information Sharing

- **Reduce burning of agricultural residues through Innovation Partnerships**
Karsten Ziebell, GETHAC Team Leader
- **Challenges and solutions for the reduction of burning of crop residues from Maize production**
Mr. Tanasak Vivattanavanich, Chief of Royal Initiated Projects Group
Acting Chief of Agricultural Engineering Group, Department of Agricultural Extension (DOAE)
- **Evolving Agricultural Practices to Reduce Deforestation and Residue Burning in Northern Upland Maize Farming**
Ms. Pedcharada Yusuk, Deputy Director, Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization), HRDI
- **Measures to support the reduction of burning of residues in the maize value chain**
Mr. Chalermopol Samranpong, Senior Specialist-Crop Analysis, Charoen Pokphand Foods PCL
- **CSAM Regional Initiative on Integrated Management of Straw Residue: Circular Model for Straw Utilization**
Marco Silvestri, Programme Officer of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (ESCAP-CSAM)
- **Challenges and solutions for the reduction of residue burning in northern upland areas**
Mr. Kittisak Maka, Head of Hin-Son Sub-district Maize Cluster Farm Group, Saraburi Province

Part 2: Facilitating Partnerships

- **Exchange of Challenges and Solutions, Partnership Facilitation**
Speakers and Audience
- **Recap of key takeaways and next steps**
Moderator

SUGARCANE SESSION

SENA ROOM

Opening and Introduction

- **Overview of the topic and introduction of the speakers.**
Ana Carolina Lamy, Agricultura Attaché, Embassy of Brazil

Expert Presentations

- **Sustainable Growth: The Role of Mechanization in Brazil's Sugarcane Success**
Marcelo de Almeida Pierossi, Agricultural Consultant, Lidera Consultoria e Projetos (Brazil)
- **Policy Measures to Mitigate Agricultural Burning in the Sugarcane Sector in Thailand**
Nipon Poosongsakorn, Distinguished Fellow, Thailand Development Research Institute
- **The importance of avoiding sugarcane burning in the bioplastic value proposition.**
Roger Marchioni, Managing Director, Braskem (Brazil)
- **Carbonizing the Sugarcane: A win-win situation for all of us**
Victor Jan Van den Heuvel, Sales & Marketing Director, Green Eco Furnace (Netherlands)
- **Thai Sugarcane Production: From Burnt Cane to Green Cane**
Wirat Varichsriratana, Associate Professor, Kasetsart University / Thailand Society of Sugar Cane Technologists (TSSCT)

Discussion and Debate

- Q&A with the audience.
- Discussion of key challenges and possible solutions.

Conclusions and Closing

- Summary of the key points discussed.
- Next steps for the adoption of sustainable practices.

Microbial Solutions



Alternative to burning
Good for soil health
Reduces composting time by 40%
Easy and inexpensive



Increase awareness by stakeholders
Drive adoption by farmers
Expand distribution & outlets
Engage supply chain actors

Reduction of Air Pollution
through Avoidance of
Burning in Agriculture

FTA Friends of
Thai Agriculture



Advancing Solutions to Prevent Agricultural Burning

Putting Out the Fire: Advancing Solutions for Sustainable Post-Harvest Biomass Utilization

23 September 2025 • True Digital Park | Bangkok | Thailand

Key focus areas include:



Mechanization for
residue management



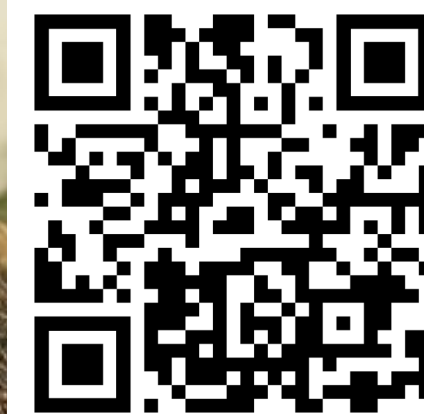
Biodecomposition
and soil health



Residue-to-value
technologies



Farm and forest
management and
digital platforms



Co-Hosted with





About the Marketplace of Solutions

The *Marketplace of Solutions* is a curated exhibition space within the Friends of Thai Agriculture Pavilion. It showcases practical innovations and policy-aligned models addressing post-harvest crop residue and open-field burning—challenges closely tied to Thailand’s clean air, climate, and agri-environment goals.

- ### Purpose and Impact
- To demonstrate how climate-resilient technologies and models are already contributing to change
 - To foster dialogue between innovators, farmers, policy actors, and technical agencies
 - To position supported solution providers for future scaling or partnerships in the region
 - To signal coordinated support from the international community toward a just transition in agriculture



Private sector pioneers and solution providers



Research institutions and startup ventures



Local innovators connected to international partnerships

Contribution to the Regional Sustainable Mechanization Dialogue

1. Bottom-up stakeholder engagement
2. Field-proven solutions tailored to Thai context
3. Prepared the ground for piloting and uptake of mechanization and climate-smart projects
4. Encouraging bilateral and multilateral alignment:
 - joint projects (GETHAC Project)
 - PPPs on residues management
 - Coordination with ASEAN, UNESCAP CSAM, and Thai ministries

Closing Note

- The FTA network is committed to supporting Thailand's transition to sustainable post-harvest practices, through knowledge, diplomacy, and co-investment opportunities
- Join us at the 2nd FTA Anniversary Conference during the AGRIFUTURE Conference & Exhibition 2025, 23-24 September 2025, True Digital Park, Bangkok Thailand

