

REPORT DISEASE AND HEALTH HAZARD NEWS OF INTEREST ALONG THE BORDER

February 9 - 15, 2023

WEEKLY EVENTS

- According to a court ruling, Rayong province was declared a hazardous waste control zone in 2009 up until the present day. However, the Cabinet approved a revised national reform plan that includes lifting the hazardous waste control zone designation in the Map Ta Phut area of Rayong province. This has been opposed by the Eastern Region People's Network as the pollution situation in the area has not improved. They submitted a letter to the Natural Resources and Environment Committee of the Senate requesting urgent action to address the problem of organic air pollution caused by industrial activities in the Map Ta Phut area. Experts have found cancer-causing substances in the Map Ta Phut area that exceed the standard limit, which poses a health hazard. The industrial estate area in Tambon Map Ta Phut has exceeded the average annual standard limit for cancer-causing substances, including the communities of Ban Plong, Rojana Hospital, Mabtapud Temple, and Ta Kwan Health Service Center.
- On February 10, 2566, at Phra That Doi Kham Kamin Temple in Mueang District, Mae Hong Son Province conducted an activity in the community called "Collect, Reduce, and Buy Leaves" for the year 2023. The activity focused on managing fuel by compressing or briquetting leaves to sell to the private sector. This reduces the use of fuel, reduces burning that causes smoke and dust, and also generates income for the community.

LEARN FROM THE PAST - PLAN FOR THE FUTURE: COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR **NON-THAI NATIONALS** **RESIDING IN THAILAND**

On February 9th, 2023, Dr. Sopon Iamsirithaworn, Deputy Director General of the Department of Disease Control, presided over the meeting focused on lessons learned from past and future COVID-19 vaccination efforts among non-Thai nationals. The meeting, held from February 9th to 10th, 2023 at the Best Western Nada Don Mueang Airport Hotel, was attended by participants from both central and regional departments of the Department of Disease Control, as well as public hospitals, private organizations, and over 90 NGOs. The aim of the meeting was to review lessons learned after administering over 5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to foreigners in Thailand, and to provide suggestions and guidelines for vaccination against communicable diseases that may be important in the future. During the meeting, participants discussed and reached a consensus on how to prepare the system to accommodate efforts against emerging diseases. The Department of Disease Control plans to disseminate the results of the meeting and the lessons learned to the private sector and international networks by bringing proposals for vaccination service response plans to prevent outbreaks among foreigners, and implementing them in the future.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFICIALS

Local officers should coordinate with health officials to jointly disseminate information to the public about the operations of the Department of Disease Control, in collaboration with various public and private sector agencies, to address the various challenges and issues related to the COVID-19 vaccination for foreigners residing in Thailand. This is aimed at improving and developing the system to provide greater confidence to both locals and foreigners living across Thailand, and that the government is prepared to deal with any future epidemics that may occur.

INFORMATION COLLECTED AND ANALYZED BY



Multisectoral Capacity Development Program for Public Health Emergency Detection and Response in Border Areas

Office of International Cooperation, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
Supported by the Thailand MOPH - US CDC Collaboration on Public Health

CONTACT
oic.ddc@gmail.com
02-5903832
www.ddc.go.th/oic

Sources

- https://ddc.moph.go.th/brc/news.php?news=32034&deptcode=brc&news_views=128
- <https://www.facebook.com/100062494039810/posts/pfbid0386Gnwsv3ZHYfR7vpNj5PdR3wwW598CD9iH5EfCGsJgMTZ4Ey8ABHfUeLKxPASStwl/?mibextid=Nif5oz>
- <https://mgronline.com/local/detail/9660000008670>
- Image Courtesy of: https://ddc.moph.go.th/brc/news.php?news=32034&deptcode=brc&news_views=128