Opening ceremony of the 2nd Eco-products International Fair in Bangkok, 2005.

Sketching a greener lifestyle: 10th EPIF

In June 2016, Bangkok will be even greener than its lush tropical norm. Thailand will host the 10th Eco-products International Fair (10th EPIF) from 8 to 11 June at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre, jointly organized by the APO, Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), and Thailand Productivity Institute (FTPI) and with the strong support of the Royal Thai Government under its initiatives to create a sustainable society through green technologies and innovations. Themed "24-Hour Eco-Life," the 10th EPIF will offer unique opportunities for businesses and organizations from the Asia-Pacific region and abroad to exhibit the latest green products, green technologies, and green solutions.

The APO Asia-EnviroEconomics Conference: Concerted Efforts for a Sustainable Future through 24-Hour Eco-life will be held in conjunction with the 10th EPIF. The conference aims to address the role of industries and their effective partnerships with governments to encourage efforts in the daily lives of the general public to drive green growth and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific. Regional and international experts will gather over the course of the two-day conference to share the most up-to-date information on global sustainability issues and potential solutions, while discussing pertinent topics related to productivity improvement in tandem with environmental and economic achievements.

The EPIF is designed to help the local host country as well as the region in raising public awareness of the need for greener supply chains and markets. The activities of the APO thrive on its unique culture of mutual cooperation and sharing of best practices, and the 10th EPIF is no exception. Local color will be provided not only by the FTI and FTPI but also by the setting in bustling Bangkok. The EPIF is a one-of-a-kind event to promote and facilitate regional collaboration to accelerate worldwide efforts to mitigate global warming and address the numerous socioeconomic aspects affected by climate change.

The first EPIF was organized in Malaysia in 2004. Nine fairs have been held in eight APO member economies since then, including Thailand, which first played host in 2005 when the EPIF attracted 20,000 visitors and 59 exhibitors. This year, as many as 70,000 from various sectors of the economy as well as the general public are expected to attend the event.

For Thailand, hosting this year's EPIF is more than just about building on its own past experience. In showcasing significant socioeconomic developments as well as efforts that have been made in the area of Green Productivity in the last 10 years, it plans to display to the region and the world its achievements in greening society.

The theme of this year's EPIF, "24-Hour Eco-Life," encapsulates eco-friendly products, services, technologies, and solutions that impact every stage of daily life.