

# INTEGRATING DEMAND AND SUPPLY SIDES IN CONNECTING PRODUCERS TO CONSUMERS, AND TOGETHER TRIGGERING A CHANGE IN THE RETAIL SECTOR

Addressing food systems through consumers – promoting awareness and behavioral 3rd Global Conference of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme



**PLY PIROM -WWF THAILAND** 

## THE TRUE COST OF FOOD



As the starting point, the SCP project began within the context of an unsustainable food system. It is a fact that "Thailand as a global food production hub is driven by an increase in forest land conversion to agriculture". Food production in Thailand comes with social and environmental costs. Our food system is described as "unsustainable practices, deforestation, ecosystem service trade-offs and externalities, ecosystem degradation." In particular, the local food production system, is predominantly being transformed into monoculture & agrochemical practices, which is leading to the crumbling of the local economy and degradation of ecosystems. This is what we called the "true cost of food".







## **KEY STRATEGIES**

Visualizing the problems to create a sense of urgency & Engaging consumers and suppliers

## **TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM**

	FLR349 Nature-based solution model shifting from monoculture to sustainable agriculture
Sustainable Production	° 730 rais interview of the storation and the storation and the storation and the storation and the storage of the storage o
	Establish Local food Multi-stakeholder platform
Market Transformation	Traceability platform/ Consumer information hub of sustainability
	EAT Eat Better BETTER Consumer campaign for ACTIONS
Sustainable Consumption	

Given that, in the agricultural sector, the production and consumption of food is among the major contributors to global warming and has major impacts on the ecosystem, the environmental problems can therefore potentially be mitigated through the promotion and integration of SCP principles into government policies, business decisions and consumer practices.

To mobilize consumers, we deployed two key strategies. One, "visualizing the problems to create a sense of urgency." Two, "direct engagement with consumers and producers." The strategies are implemented across the food system, from the food production side, to market transformation, and towards the consumption side.



In creating a sense of urgency in Thailand, maize, which is a key ingredient for animal feed, is the perfect case to show how food production, especially meat production, has come at the cost of deforestation and ecosystems degradation.

## DEMONSTRATING A Sustainable food production





On the production side, we established a solution model that will contribute to current and future of food security and the wellbeing of smallholder farmers called FLR349, while increasing forest restoration, preserving farmland biodiversity, and limiting the adverse effects on the environment.

Through a development of a sustainable value chain by growing diversified local varieties and perennial crops, organic products from the landscape will be sold to local food and retail markets, generating income for the community and enhancing livelihoods.

## UNDERSTANDING CONSUMER BEHAVIORS



Before we start off the consumer campaign, consumer survey has been conducted- understanding consumers' perception and behavior.

In 2018 - the survey study recommends that the communication campaign strategies shall focus on: Increase consumer information and accessibility about SCP information for further engagement, and taking motivational factors in a consumer's food choice into consideration. Consumers demand and prefer to pay more for markets that sell organic food and produce with clear origin labelling.

In 2020 - we picked up another interesting research- called Dream Food- access consumers' opinion what is dream food. The results found that the input and process play stronger role in the Dream Food definition than the food itself. Eating Dream Food not only benefits to good health- but also the positive impact on climate too. No key brand 'owns' the Dream Food Icon—and last "Mom-made" best defines Thais' Dream Food.





Based on these insights, there are opportunities to empower consumers to take actions towards achieving a sustainable food system for the planet's health. Our "Eat Better" campaign was launched as an awareness-raising initiative to ramp up social momentum towards a sustainable food system through the promotion of responsible consumption, behaviors, and attitudes, encouraging a change in how we eat, purchase, manage, and understand food. This creates an understanding on why there are needs for consumers to adopt green eating lifestyles.



### **Meatless Menu Challenge**



Channel : Instagram 13 May – 31 Oct 2020 #กินเพื่อโลกที่ดีกว่าเดิม #WWFThailand #Meatless Monday



### **Project Website**



WWF/SCP project is strongly visible to the public/environmental network

## EAT BETTER EVENTS & OFFLINE CAMPAIGNS



#### **SCP COMMUNITY**

Aiming to raise consumer awareness on the need to integrate SCP principles into our food system and build a network platform for SCP communities; sparkling new sustainable initiatives and social innovations.



### **OCT 2018**

SB SB BANGKOK

Workshop on "Redesigning Bangnampueng Market" Promoting farmers' markets as a bustling hub of sustainability



NOV 2018 Supported and collaborated with CU students for EAT IT ALL, no food waste campaign in the university's canteens รงจาการนำมาก <u>ขึ้นตอนการปรุง</u> ประกรมหาสูก คัต ทิ้ง 6,240 กร. ปรง ช่งหมาศักรณร์กร 15,600 จาม

IK KUC



2018





MAY 2019 Co-organized with Biothai for the workshop on agro-chemical testing (pesticide & herbicide) in vegetable and fruits

#### 2019



Sustainable Brands 2020 Chantaboon: The Amazing Bee Trip ... 29 weeks ago. 1.9K Views 29 weeks ago. 1.9K Views 29 weeks ago. 1.9K Views FEB 2020 Learning trip on The amazing bee trip; the importance of pollinator on Feb 23, 2020



2020

Alongside the Eat Better campaign, we use farmers' market as a tool to promote responsible consumption patterns to urban consumers. They make consumers think about what the value of food is and its production. Farmers markets can be a catalyzer for food system sustainability. It helps consumers and producers meet and connect with each other. Consumers receive direct experiences and are able to ask questions, learn, and understand, gaining real information about food production directly from the producers through the farmers' market. An example of this can be seen at, Jai Talad (which translates to "food shopping" in Thai) a farmers' market we first piloted in 2018.

During the past few years, more and more consumers are being drawn to farmers' and local markets due to an increasing demand for natural, organic food and local products. This upward trend depicts a rising consciousness among consumers who are more concerned with not just what they eat and consume, but where and how it has been produced as well.

This "locally produced" market differentiation strategy results in higher value gains for farmers, while meeting the demand for healthier foods, which in turn can drive the adoption of environmentally sound farming practices.



SOCIO-ECONOMIC & health benefits for all



**Contributed towards CONSERVATION OF ECOSYSTEM** 



Restored LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

PROMOTING **"FARMERS' MARKETS"** as a bustling hub of sustainability

**Better** 

AGRICULTURAL

PRACTICE

VALUE A

**INCREASED INCOME** for smallholder's farmers

nnni

THE BY

CONNECT producers and consumers



**Increased CONSUMERS' CHOICES & AWARENESS** for sustainable food



ACCESSIBILITY for urban consumers



Increased **CONSUMER INFORMATION** & TRACEABILITY





### **JAITALAD FARM & FOLK MARKET**

Opportunity for consumers to meet with farmers-understanding more about how food is produced and contribution towards conservation





Over time, this has been triggering a change in retail sector. The Central Group, one of the largest retail conglomerates in the region, has partnered with the project, as a part of market transformation initiatives. Jing Jai farmers' market, from Central Retail, was launched in 2019. This farmers' market is a key part of their CSV- Creating Shared Values- strategy. It provides an opportunity for local farmers to merchandise their agricultural outputs, selling their fruits and vegetables along with other provincial goods in areas through the Central Group's retail outlets. This allows both consumers and farmers to meet and discuss their thoughts, with new ideas utilized to improve product development. Through this, high-quality food and products are supplied to consumers, and a stable income is provided for the farmers.

Job creation is also a part of the development and improvement of Thai farmers' living standards. During this past year (2020), 23 Jing Jai farmers' market outlets were opened, with 3,163 farmers in 517 sub districts taking part, earning total revenues of 250 million baht and generating on average times more income for farmers. The Central Group aims to expand these markets to other provinces throughout the country.

## JINGJAI FARMER'S MARKET

### CENTRAL Group CENTRALRETAIL



Through displays in modern retail stores, the project is able to provide consumers with information as well as traceability for the products.



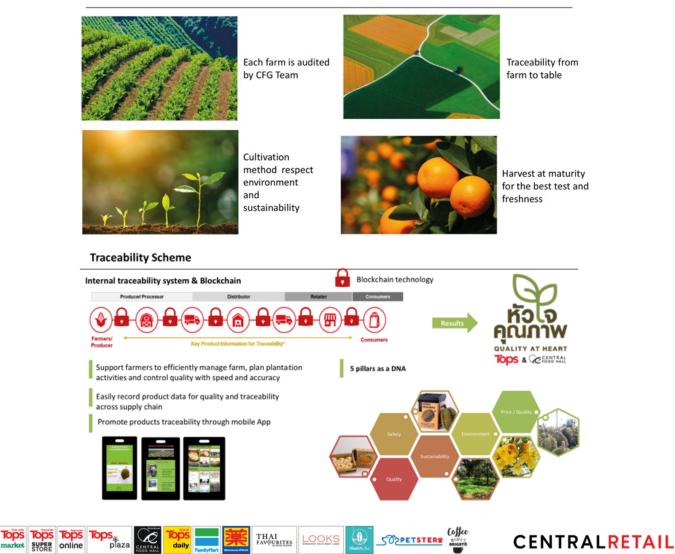


The Central Food Retail Quality at Heart is a singular approach of CFG which contributes to establishing a more responsible trade, thanks to simple values: local agricultural products, methods that respect the environment, a fair price and a long-term partnership with farmers. The rules of Quality at Heart are set out in specifications and are subject to control procedures, implemented by an independent body mandated by Central Food Retail.

### **Concept deep dive: Quality Line and Traceability**

Objectives	<ul> <li>Structure &amp; deliver one trustable traceability within CFG and for our customers</li> <li>Secure &amp; amplify the trust in our range and banners</li> </ul>
WHY	<ul> <li>Reinforced by Covid 19 crisis, customers ask for more sustainability, security and health consciousness</li> <li>Guaranty a stable and better quality on long term</li> </ul>
Footprint	<ul> <li>7 products in 2020</li> <li>15 products in 2021 (including meat and seafood)</li> <li>50 products in 2024 (including Food SKUs)</li> </ul>

**Quality at Heart process** 



## **EXAMPLE OF IN-STORE MEDIA**

### Hanging Mobile



**Bus Stop** 





### Shelf Talker





### CENTRALRETAIL



## **MARKET PLATFORMS**

As informational platforms for consumers – triggering the change in retail sectors







### **LESSONS LEARNED**

There are huge opportunities to produce more food in a way that works with nature, not against it. Consumer preferences and demands have direct influence on business and government decisions, leading to more sustainable products innovations and policies.

Many consumers are still lacking a full understanding on how ecosystem degradation is related to their food choices. But there is an ongoing improvement where technology and consumer's information have been playing key roles.

There is a growing importance on consumer's information, this demand is increasingly made by both consumers, and the retailer sector who are integrating consumer's information into their marketing and sustainability strategies. Farmers' markets are regarded as an efficient way to create awareness towards the social, environmental, and health benefits.

With the advent of digital technologies, there is an emerging of "Omni-channel" retailing, which is an integrated approach where in shoppers are provided with a unified experience across offline and online channels. Retailers are striving to build relatable marketing campaigns, friendly customer service, rewards and personalized shopping suggestions that can help create an amazing omnichannel experience, while at the same time could be a tool for consumers to be informed about the products information to make responsible consumption choices.





### LINK & CONTACTS

#### Links to reports, online resources etc.

*Our FOOD VISION:* http://www.wwf.or.th/en/scp/reforestation\_activity/foodvision/

*FLR349 Information:* http://www.wwf.or.th/en/scp/reforestation\_activity/flr\_349/

*FLR349 Brochure:* https://d2ouvy59podg6k.cloudfront.net/downloads/flr\_\_\_brochure\_\_\_eng\_for\_press.pdf

*What is the FLR349? (Introduction video)* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAIeAjwHKbk&feature=emb\_logo

#### WWF contacts and email addresses

PLY PIROM-ppirom@wwf.or.th

Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



based on a decision of the German Bundestag



### THANK YOU



http://wwf.or.th/en/scp