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Editor's Note

The environmental issue, unlike other issues, may not seem to be the most urgent for us. This may be the reason why it is often ignored by most people and agencies, compared to other more pressing, day-to-day problems such as economic problem and social problem. And in trying to solve these immediate problems, we often aggravate the environmental situation even further, oblivious of the impending disaster. According to Phra Brahmakhunaporn, a venerable Thai monk, we are not unlike a flock of chickens that are struggling, competing and fighting one another within a cage which is bound for the slaughterhouse. The effects of environmental degradation may be slow to show up. But when they do show up, they are hard to stop or reverse.

The following special issue touches on some of the above-mentioned topics, albeit fractionally and locally. Most contributions are from local (Thai) researchers. They show nevertheless that many consequences of our mischievous acts are already falling upon us now.

Duang Buddhasukh

Editor-in-Chief