

# Is Thailand Getting Warmer?

**Somchai Bovornkitti\***

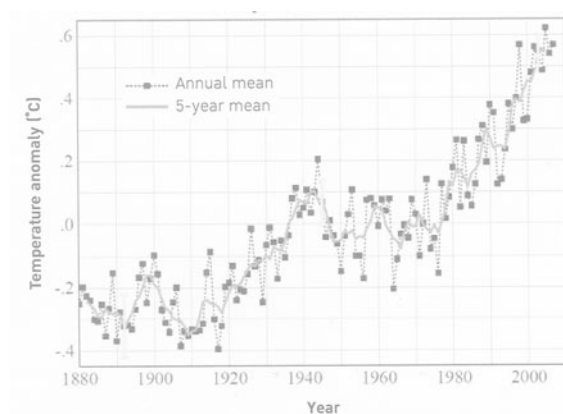
**Benjalak Karnchanasest†**

The term “global warming” was coined to refer to the observed trend in recorded temperatures increasing worldwide; logically, tropical Thailand’s temperatures should likewise be increasing, as has been found to be the case elsewhere. Data and information providing evidence that Thailand is indeed experiencing hotter weather was recently published in the *Bangkok Assessment Report on Climate Change 2009*, co-produced by the Green Leaf Foundation (GLF), the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Re-

gional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

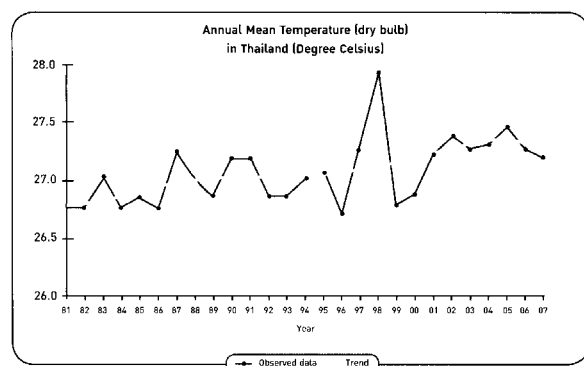
In that report, the graphic presentations in figures 1 to 4 were used to demonstrate the point.

Since the issue is an important one for the economy of Thailand, the present authors are working to obtain evidence that will further substantiate those findings on the rising trend in temperatures and to determine whether this aspect of climate change is having any effect on the sex ratio at birth of children born in Thailand. Their findings will be reported in due course.



Source: Hansen and others, 2006; and <www.columbia.edu>for 2007-2008

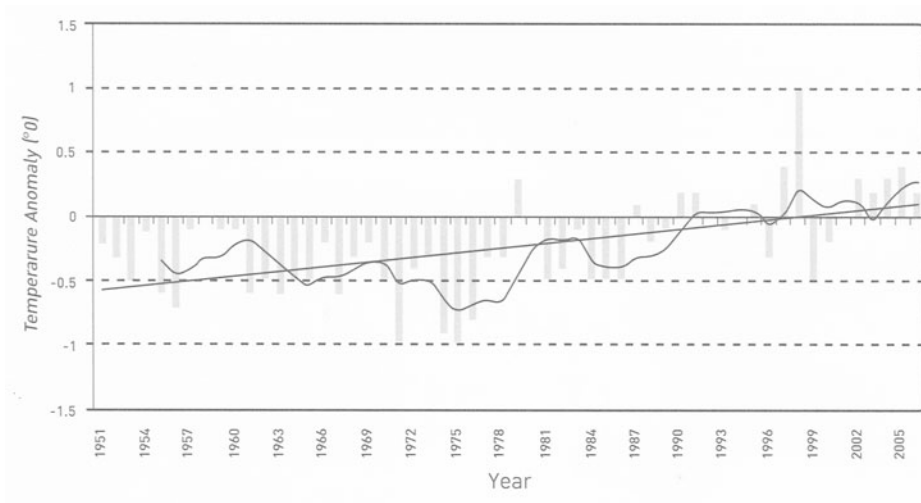
**Fig. 1** Global temperature land-ocean index, 1880-2000



Source: Department of Meteorology, 2008

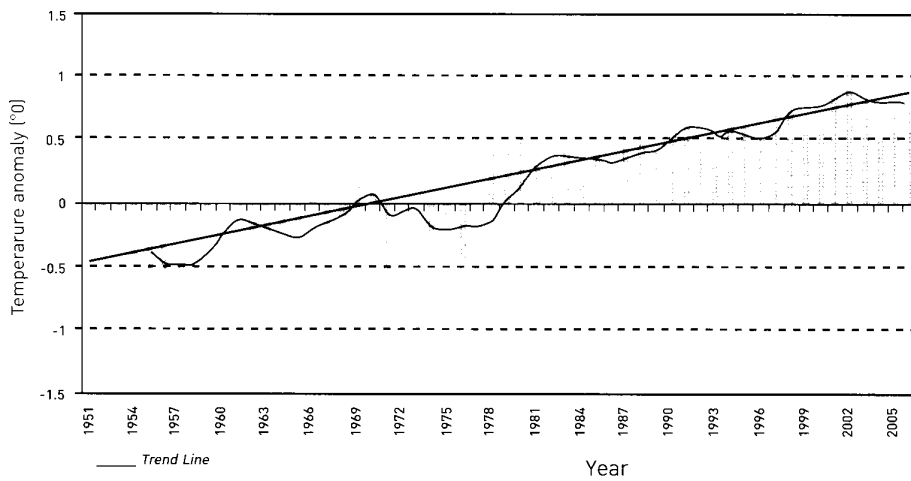
**Fig. 2** Thailand’s Department of Meteorology, 2008

\*The Academy of Science, the Royal Institute, †Institute of Environmental Research (ERIC), Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok



Source: Thailand's Department of Meteorology, 2008

Fig. 3 Annual mean and maximum temperatures in Thailand, 1951-2005



Based on 1971-2000 Normals

Fig. 4 Annual mean and minimum temperatures in Thailand, 1951-2005