

UNITED NATIONS
COUNTRY TEAM
Annual Report 2017



UN COUNTRY TEAM
THAILAND

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Introduction

This Annual Report provides an overview of the work of the UN agencies in Thailand for the year 2017. All activities are undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Partnership Framework 2017-2021 (UNPAF), which is the strategic document that reflects the partnership between the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Thailand and the Royal Thai Government (RTG), in collaboration with other stakeholders. The UNPAF is in line with the 12th National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) for 2017-2021, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy pioneered by the late King. It articulates where the UN can contribute most effectively to achieve these priorities.

The Report contains inputs of 21 UN agencies that have development activities in Thailand: FAO, IAEA, ILO, IOM, ITU, UNAIDS-Thailand, UNDP-Thailand, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA -Thailand, UN-Habitat, UNHCR-Thailand, UNICEF-Thailand, UNIDO, UNISDR, UNODC, UNOHCHR, UNOPS, UNV, UN Women and WHO-Thailand. The UNCT Annual Report is comprised of agency specific highlights of 2017. It briefly summarizes the mandates of each UN agency, as well as their main activities and results achieved in 2017. These include the implementation of programmes and projects, collaboration with UN ESCAP, examples of south-south cooperation, highlighted events and engagements with key stakeholders, including the Royal Thai Government and the private sector.

The Report also highlights some of the activities planned for 2018, which are linked to the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF) 2017-2021 and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UN agencies coordinate their activities in Thailand through the UN Country Team, led by the UN Resident Coordinator. The Resident Coordinator's key function in every programme country is to ensure coordination of UN operational activities for development, create a platform of coordinated delivery and promote the development of national capacities. The UNPAF is a key tool to achieve these purposes.

The UNCT has established, as is required by the UNDAF global guidelines, Results Groups as internal coordination mechanism to ensure the results of the UNPAF can be internally tracked and annually reported on. The Results Groups have been established according to the 5 Ps of Sustainable Development Goals, namely 1) People; 2) Planet; 3) Prosperity; 4) Peace and Justice; and 5) Partnerships and Means of Implementation.

Along with these Results Groups, other coordination mechanism important to the implementation arrangements for UNPAF are the Gender Thematic Group, chaired by UN Women; the Operations Management Team, chaired by UNICEF; the Joint Team on HIV/AIDS, chaired by UNAIDS; and the Working Group on Migration, chaired by IOM. In all of its work, the UNCT and its sub-groups work closely with the Regional Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, who is also a member of the UNCT.

Through 2017, the UNCT enhanced collective efforts to support the national priorities by utilizing their expertise and comparative advantages. One such significant case was the organization of a comprehensive 4-day capacity building workshop together with Ministry of Interior on Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Disaster Recovery Framework Workshop to train the Disaster Risk Reduction focal points of Thai line ministries. In addition to the UNCT, World Bank and European Commission also supported the initiative. The UNCT also organized a Development Cooperation Seminar on Population Aging in January 2017 where the UN experts discussed with academics and policy makers from a wide range of perspectives. Relevant UNCT colleagues supported the capacity building of human rights defenders and representatives from civil society organizations. UNCT also supported the government in preparing for and implementing human rights review, namely the CEDAW and the ICCPR.

In all its activities, the UNCT works closely with Government and national stakeholders, including civil society and academia. We would like to express our appreciation to all our partners, including the wide array of Government ministries and agencies with whom we work, for their collaboration and support in our joint work to support Thailand reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

Deirdre Boyd

United Nations Resident Coordinator

Acronyms

| | |
|---------------|--|
| ADB | Asian Development Bank |
| APINY | Asia – Pacific Interagency Network on Youth |
| ASEAN | Association of Southeast Asian Nations |
| AMS | ASEAN Member States |
| AMR | Antimicrobial Resistance |
| CCS | Country Cooperation Strategy |
| CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women |
| CLM | Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar |
| CSA | Climate Smart Agriculture |
| CSE | Comprehensive Sexuality Education |
| CSO | Civil Society Organizations |
| CSR | Corporate Social Responsibility |
| CTED | Counter – Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate |
| DICOM | Digital Imaging and Communication in Medicine |
| ECD | Early Childhood Development |
| EEC | Eastern Economic Corridor |
| FAO | Food and Agricultural Organization |
| FTCI | Fast-Track Cities Initiative |
| GCIP | UNIDO’s Global Cleantech Innovation Programme |
| GBV | Gender-based violence |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GGGI | Global Green Growth Institute |
| GSS | Genetic Sexing Strains |
| HE | Healthcare Enterprise |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| HRBA | Human Rights Based Approach |
| IAEA | International Atomic Energy Agency |
| ICPD | International Conference on Population and Development Programme |
| IDAHOT | International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia |
| ILO | International Labor Organization |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration |
| ITU | International Telecommunication Union |
| KPs | Key populations |
| KMUTT | King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi |
| MLA | Mutual Legal Assistance |
| MoE | Ministry of Education |
| MoPH | Ministry of Public Health |
| MoT | Ministry of Transport |
| MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MRC | Migrant Resource Centers |
| MRS | Mutual Recognition of Skills |
| MSW | Male sex workers |
| NAPHA | National Access to Antiretroviral Drug for People Living with HIV and AIDs |
| NCDs | Noncommunicable diseases |
| NIAHS / GIAHS | Nationally and Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems |
| NSO | National Statistics Office |
| NWCS | National Working Children Survey |

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|------------|---|
| ONEP | Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning |
| OPDC | Office of the Public Sector Development Commission |
| OOSC | Out-of-School Children and Youth |
| OWAFD | Office of Women's Affairs and Family Development |
| QUAADRIL | Quality Improvement Quality Assurance Audit for Diagnostic Radiology Improvement and Learning |
| PES | Payments for Ecosystem Services |
| PrEPs | Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis |
| PSMA | Port State Measures Agreement |
| PWID | Person who inject drugs |
| RAI | Regional Artemisinin-Resistance Initiative |
| ROAP | Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific |
| ROSEAP | Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific |
| RTG | Royal Thai Government |
| SAGA | STEM and Gender Advancement Project |
| SMEs | Small Medium Enterprises |
| SOGIE | Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression |
| SSC | South-South Cooperation |
| SSF | Small – Scale Fisheries |
| TA | Technical Assistance |
| TICA | Thailand International Cooperation Agency |
| TG | Thai Government |
| TVET | Technical and Vocational Education and Training |
| UN – ACT | United Nations Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons |
| UNAIDS | Joint United Nations Programme on HIV / AIDS |
| UNCT | United Nations Country Team |
| UNDG | United Nations Development Group |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNESCAP | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UN Habitat | United Nations Human Settlements Programme |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization |
| UNISDR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| UIS | UNESCO Institute for Statistics |
| UNODC | United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime |
| UNOHCHR | United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| UNOPS | United Nations Office for Project Services |
| UNPAF | United Nations Partnership Assistance Framework |
| UPR | Universal Periodic Review |
| UN Women | United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women |
| UNV | United Nations Volunteers |
| VAWG | Violence Against Women and Girls |
| VIO | Volunteer-Involving Organizations |
| WASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene |
| WHO | World Health Organization |



FAO: School garden project in Mae Hong Son, Photo by FAORAP

FAO - Food and Agricultural Organization

1. Agency Description

During 2012-2017, FAO provided technical assistance to Thailand in support of six government priorities:

1. Poverty alleviation and reduction of social and economic inequalities through sustainable agricultural development;
2. Adaptation and mitigation of the negative impacts of climate change and natural disasters, and the promotion of sustainable natural resources management;
3. Facilitating ASEAN integration, South-South cooperation and other regional cooperation in the agriculture sector;
4. Ensuring food safety and quality, and promoting trade and food availability to consumers;
5. Empowering farmers' organizations, and promoting private-sector involvement and rural youth; and
6. Harmonization of food security and bio-energy policy development.

Some key figures

FAO-Thailand is the Country Office hosted under the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Most of FAO's financial and administrative work is supported by the Regional Office.

The Deputy Regional Representative acts as the focal point for Thailand's programmes. FAO-Thailand has two staff: An Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) and a Programme Associate. The main work of these staff is on programmes and projects formulation.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- Regional Advocacy and Consultation Event on Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (4-6 September 2017)
- World Food Day (16 October 2017) and National World Food Day Seminar (22 November 2017)
- World Soil Day (5 December 2017)
- Asia and the Pacific Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition (10-11 November 2017)

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- Supporting Developing Countries to Integrate Agricultural Sectors into National Adaptation Plans for climate change (NAPs), in partnership with UNDP Thailand.
- FAO contributed to cost-sharing for printing the IOM organised Thailand Migration Report and contributed two assigned chapters for the report.
- FAO has continually consulted with the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) in developing the programme on South-South Cooperation and Partnership Programme between Thailand, recipient countries and FAO. Several activities under the discussion are:
 - FAO-TICA Partnerships for the Asia-Pacific Regional Initiative on Zero Hunger Challenge
 - Assistance to strengthen emergency preparedness for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).
 - Training Workshop on Rice Technology and experience in Asia of developing Capacity for a Sustainable Rice Value Chain through South-South Cooperation.
 - Study Tour for Government officials (Livestock Professionals) from Nepal to Thailand on developing and implementing food security through nutrition-sensitive agricultural programmes for improving nutrition.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

- The FAO-UNDP programme, UNFA/GLO/616/UND: Supporting Developing Countries to Integrate Agricultural Sectors into National Adaptation Plans, provides direct support in the period 2015–2019 to Thailand, along with Kenya, Nepal, the Philippines, Uruguay, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia. The programme is designed to facilitate country-driven priorities to help achieve national milestones for integrating climate change risks and opportunities as they relate to agriculture sector-related livelihood options within existing and emerging National Adaptation Plans and budgeting processes.
- Formulation of National Action Plan for Zero Hunger in Thailand.
- Identifying Suitable Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Practices for scale-up in Thailand.
- Building national capacities in the identification and assessment of Nationally and Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (NIAHS/GIAHS) in Thailand, as well as developing a designation proposal and action plans for sustainability dynamic conservation and investment in GIAHS.
- Fighting illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and promoting inter-ministerial collaboration for better working conditions. National authorities have increased capacity on how to tackle the issue of decent working conditions and related issues in the fisheries sector (including small-scale fisheries) in the context of the implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and the Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) Guidelines.
- Preparation of Regional Strategy on Food Loss and Waste.



IAEA - International Atomic Energy Agency

1. Agency Description

- Widely known as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization, the IAEA is an autonomous organisation within the UN family that works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies for peace and development.
- Established in 1957 to develop and control the use of atomic energy.
- Its headquarters are in Vienna, with offices in Tokyo, Toronto, Geneva and New York, and two scientific labs in Monaco and Seibersdorf (Austria).
- The IAEA serves as a 'watchdog' to limit nuclear proliferation and to ensure the safety of nuclear installations (power plants, research reactors, etc.).
- It is a knowledge-based institution and intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology.
- The IAEA has 169 Member States (as of December 2017), 2,400 staff and global Annual Regular Budget of US\$ 260 million.

Some key figures

The IAEA is a non-resident UN Agency. In Thailand its key counterpart is the Atoms for Peace Office. IAEA has been collaborating with Thailand since 1957 on development areas such as health (nuclear medicine and radiotherapy), agriculture (food safety and animal production), water and the environment. The IAEA's Technical Cooperation Budget for Thailand in 2017 amounted to 377,840 EUR.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- The various capacity-building activities implemented by the IAEA in 2017 included:
 - Training for a Fellow (1 year) in Radiation Processing for Polymer Modification and Nanotechnology **(SDGs 4 and 9)**.
 - Training for a Fellow (8 months) on Sterile-Insect Techniques of Fruit Flies. This training programme focussed on: 1. Maintaining the colonies and mutant lines of *Bactrocera dorsalis* and *Bactrocera correcta*; 2. Evaluating the fitness of mutant lines of both fly species; 3. Using irradiation to develop translocation lines; 4. Establishing and evaluating the novel Genetic Sexing Strains (GSS). **(SDG 2)**
 - Procurement of a GSS pupae-sorting machine. **(SDG 2)**
 - A National Workshop on Breast Imaging, and specifically **(SDG 3)**:
 1. Lectures on digital mammography systems, digital detectors, radiation dose and image quality.
 2. Hands-on practical training in quality control procedures for medical physicists and mammography technologists.
 3. Demonstrating the use of imaging informatics, including the Digital Imaging and Communication in Medicine (DICOM) standard, in quality improvement of digital mammography.
 4. Demonstrating the use of Integrating Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) mammography image integration profile actors (Acquisition Modality, Image Archive/Manager and Image Display) in digital mammography.
 - Quality Improvement Quality Assurance Audit for Diagnostic Radiology Improvement and Learning (QUAADRIL) of the King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital (SDG 3). The Quality Audit had two principal components: a review of the policies, procedures and critical data; and a site visit to confirm that equipment and clinical processes are functioning as they should be.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- An Agreement between IAEA and Thailand regarding the hosting of IAEA activities (Meetings, Workshops, and Training Courses) in Thailand was signed on 31 May 2017. The Agreement is being implemented in 2018. Eighteen IAEA events are planned to be hosted in Thailand.
- The IAEA-Thailand Country Programme Framework for 2017-2022 was signed during the 61st IAEA General Conference in September 2017. The priorities of this Framework are to use nuclear and isotopic techniques for the following purposes:
 1. To promote research and development through research reactor utilization.
 2. To contribute to food safety and food security through enhanced capability in food analysis, and radiation technology.
 3. To promote human health through cancer diagnosis and control of vector-borne diseases.
 4. To improve emergency preparedness and response.

5. To improve capacities irradiation technologies for industrial applications.
 6. To develop human resources in nuclear power plant infrastructure.
- IAEA is exploring potential collaboration with UN ESCAP in the area of Energy Planning. **(SDG 7)**
 - o This was discussed during the visit of the Director, Technical Cooperation Asia and the Pacific Division, IAEA, to Thailand in December 2017

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

- The planned activities of the IAEA-Thailand Technical Cooperation Programme for 2018-2019 are as follows:
 1. Establishing an Accelerator Centre for Research and Education. **(SDGs 4 and 9)**
 2. Developing Human Resources for the National Proton Therapy Centre in Thailand. **(SDG 3)**
 3. Strengthening Capacities for Multipurpose Radiation Technologies in Material Applications. **(SDG 4 and 9)**
 4. Supporting Development of a Multipurpose Research Reactor. **(SDG 4 and 9)**
 5. Strengthening Food Safety Laboratory Capacities. **(SDG 3)**
 6. Enhancing Capacities in Diagnostic Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy. **(SDG 3)**
- 2018-2019 Budget for the Thailand TC Programme = 902,000 EUR.
- IAEA will participate in the Global SDG7 (Energy) Conference on 21-23 February 2018 and also meet with UN ESCAP to discuss collaboration in Energy Planning. **(SDG 7)**

ILO - International Labour Organization

1. Agency Description

Thailand is one of the founding members of the ILO. An ILO liaison office in Thailand was opened in 1961, and in 1966 the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific was transferred from Colombo to Bangkok. The main aims of the ILO are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues. ILO's work in Thailand, a middle-income country, has for many years been oriented more towards rights issues (in particular, freedom of association and collective bargaining, discrimination, labour migration, social protection and protection of workers from unacceptable forms of work such as child labour and forced labour) than to broader employment and development issues.

Some key figures

The ILO country office in Bangkok covers Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR. The Office consists of the Country Director who oversees and manages the ILO's work programmes in these three countries. The ILO Country Director supervises a Programme Officer who covers the ILO's work in Thailand and Lao PDR, two ILO National Coordinators (one in Lao PDR and one in Cambodia), and a senior secretary who provides administrative supports to the Office.

Additionally, the Country Director is also leads the ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific. This Team provides technical support for the work of ILO Country Offices (Bangkok, Beijing, Hanoi, Jakarta, Manila and the Republic of Fiji) in assisting Governments, employers' and workers' organizations in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific in their efforts to promote decent work. This technical support covers a wide range of specific subjects within the four core areas of the ILO's mandate, i.e. rights at work, employment, social protection and social dialogue.

In short, there are three officials from CO Bangkok plus eight officials from technical cooperation projects working directly to support the ILO work in Thailand.

In 2017 the financial contribution from the ILO to Thailand was approximately US\$ 1,079,300, from the ILO regular budget and technical cooperation projects. (This excludes staff costs.)

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

The ILO work programme is primary linked to **SDG 8** on Decent Work and Economic Growth.

- The ILO has concentrated its efforts on providing extensive technical assistance and advisory services and advocacy on international labour standards to its constituents (the Ministry of Labour, workers' organizations and employers' organizations). In 2017, the Government ratified one of the ILO's core conventions, the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (C111).

- Following the validation of ILO's legal gap analyses for the Forced Labour Protocol (P. 29) and the Work in Fishing Convention (C. 188) in the first quarter of 2017, the Ministry of Labour and ILO's project for Combatting Unacceptable Forms of Work in the Thai Fishing and Seafood Industry (also known as the Ship to Shore Rights Project) funded by the EU, convened tripartite workshops, followed in January 2018 by two draft acts: the Forced Labour Prevention Act and the Fisheries Labour Protection Act. Amendments and ratification are expected in mid-2018.
- The ILO has continued to provide technical support to its tripartite constituents to advance labour migration governance in Thailand and promote safe and fair migration. This includes legal support to the drafting of the first comprehensive migration law, *the Royal Ordinance Concerning the Management of Employment of Migrant Workers*. After several rounds of consultations, the final draft of the law (by February 2018) has adopted a number of provisions which are in line with international labour standards. These include: (a) no recruitment fee charged to migrant workers; (b) no imprisonment penalty imposed on irregular migrant workers; (c) written contracts in two languages, one of which is the migrant's own language; (d) more flexible rules on change of employment; (e) prohibition on the confiscation of migrant documents; (f) removal of zoning that restricts migrant's freedom of movement; and (g) the appointment of a tripartite committee overseeing migration policy.
- With the aim of increasing migrant workers' access to justice, the ILO's TRIANGLE in ASEAN Programme conducted an assessment of the operation of the ten Migrant Workers Assistance Centres established by the Government. The assessment provides recommendations on how the centres can increase their capacity for handling complaints and for cooperation with tripartite members and stakeholders on the protection of migrants' labour rights at local (provincial) level.
- In partnerships with workers organizations and civil society organizations, four Migrant Resource Centres (MRC) were established in Bangkok, Mae Sot, Chiang Mai and Samut Prakarn. A total of 3,986 migrant workers (2,609 women, or 66 per cent of the total) were supported by these centres through information, training, organizing and legal assistance.
- The ILO's Ship to Shore Rights Project has organized eight provincial tripartite-plus meetings with the Ministry of Labour and workers' and employers' organizations in the provinces of Chonburi, Phang-nga, Songkhla and Phuket. These are chaired by Ministry of Labour and are producing new coordination and enforcement at provincial level. To advance the case for stronger enforcement, in September 2017 the Project delivered its baseline data on working conditions in fishing and seafood processing – the first report of its kind.
- The ILO Good Labour Practices programme was rebuilt to include accountability principles for industry labour programmes and launched by the Minister of Labour at the annual industry food conference, Thaifex, in May 2017. The Project has similarly invested in worker activities, including three new fishers' centres in key ports, and in organizing efforts among fishers and seafood-processing workers in four coastal provinces.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Collaboration with other UN agencies in 2017

During 2016–2017, a study entitled *Risks and Rewards: Outcomes of labour Migration in South East Asia*, was jointly commissioned by the ILO TRIANGLE in ASEAN Programme and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to help fill knowledge gaps and to advocate for a change in approach to migration and development within the ASEAN region. The ILO and the IOM, together with tripartite stakeholders, will cooperate to fully leverage the results in support of sustainable growth and economic development for all within the ASEAN region.

In 2017, the ILO and UN WOMEN Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific jointly prepared a new project entitled *Fair and Safe: Realising women migrant workers' rights and opportunities in ASEAN region*. The joint project is funded the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls and will run from 2018–2022.

South-South

The ILO realizes that skills recognition and qualification reforms have dominated national and international debates on training and skills development. In the view of the ASEAN Economic Community there is a need to improve the quality and effectiveness of training systems. The increasing mobility of skilled workers has been the main driving force behind the need to develop new approaches to skills recognition and new skills standards for this region. In this manner, and in close collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, the ILO has initiated the implementation of the Mutual Recognition of Skills (MRS) programme to assist ASEAN Member States (AMS) in preparing themselves for a region with a free flow of skilled labour. The MRS was initiated as a key mobility tool for technical/vocational skilled workers (levels 1-4) within the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework) aiming to smooth the way for negotiations between nations and facilitate the free movement and employment of qualified and certified personnel. With the aim of narrowing the development divide between the countries of the AMS, the ILO focussed on Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar (CLM) to facilitate policy reforms, address fair labour mobility and encourage investment in quality education.

As Thailand is a labour-receiving country, mainly from the CLM, it has been the benchmark country in the MRS process for selected priority occupations. Specifically, the ILO/Korea Partnership Programme, through the Thailand International Cooperation Agency and the Department of Skill Development, the Thai Ministry of Labour provided Training of Trainers and Assessors for Cambodian Skill Standards at the Chiang Saen International Institute for Skills Development – a prime example of South-South Cooperation. Several additional training opportunities have subsequently been organized, and others are currently being organised, mostly aimed at equipping and improving the capacity of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) instructors and assessors. The MRS process is governed by Action Plans formulated by the Regional Skills Technical Working Group, which was established as a working-level technical group and comprises national focal points designated by the Governments of ASEAN to liaise with the ILO and to coordinate skills-related programmes at national level.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

The ILO's programme activities for 2018 link to **SDG 8** (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and Indicators 24, 25 and 26 in the UNPAF 2017–2021. The ILO and its tripartite constituents will develop a "Decent Work Country Programme" document which will structure the five-year work programme of the ILO and its constituent in Thailand. The work programme will focus on the expansion of access to social services and social protection and on labour migration and international labour standards.

Major outputs in 2018 include extending and improving the coverage, provisions and governance of social security and extending adequate protection to all workers, including migrant workers and those in the informal economy. The specific outputs are to provide support to the Social Security Office in strengthening its capacities in policy design, with a focus on research and actuarial services. This activity aims to develop an actuarial valuation of the financial situation of the Social Security Office. Additional policy dialogue on the topic of pension reforms will continue to be priority activity in 2018.

Furthermore, in order to promote sustainable enterprises, the ILO will work to expand business support services for enterprises to improve productivity and working condition. It will also promote and enable environment for decent work growth across STEM-related sectors, with particular focus on women.

Additionally, the ILO programme activities for 2018 will focus on strengthening the ILO's tripartite constituents' institutional capacities relating to core labour standards. This includes support for the ratification of the ILO's core conventions on freedom of association and collective bargaining (C.87 and C.98) and the Protocol 29 on Forced Labour, as well as on governance conventions such as C 144 on Tripartite Consultation and technical conventions C188 on Work in Fishing and C 189 on Domestic Workers. These activities will cover extensive technical assistance and advisory services to ensure that the key provisions and overall principles of the Conventions are well understood and adequately reviewed in the context of existing national legislation. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and the National Statistical Office of Thailand, the first National Working Children Survey (NWCS) of Thailand will be conducted. The ILO and its tripartite constituents will continue to work on strengthening the labour inspectorate and to facilitate greater access to complaints mechanisms as essential measures for extending the protections provided in the law to vulnerable workers such as migrant workers.



IOM: An IOM staff assists a Myanmar migrant mother in registering her baby at Mae Sot General Hospital in Mae Sot, Thailand; Photo by IOM / Benjamin Suomela

IOM - International Organization for Migration

1. Agency Description

Established in 1951, IOM, the UN Migration Agency, began its operation in Thailand in 1975, assisting the resettlement of Indo-Chinese refugees to countries offering them permanent residence. Since then, IOM activities in the country have expanded significantly both in terms of their geographic reach and target populations.

With the Kingdom of Thailand joining as a member state in 1986, IOM's cooperation with the Royal Thai Government has expanded to cover all aspects of migration affecting the Kingdom and its neighbours, including labour migration, migration health, counter trafficking, emergency and post-crisis, institution-building, border management, research, security and law enforcement.

Some key figures

IOM has a strong presence in Thailand and is one of the largest missions worldwide, with over 340 staff working in 10 locations across the country. In 2017, IOM Thailand spent USD 22.4 million to benefit over 65,000 migrants across 35 projects funded by 13 donors.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

• **Labour Migration [SDGs 1,4,5,8,17]**

- IOM participated in four strategic regional labour migration fora to promote effective dialogue on regional labour migration issues, including labour mobility.
- IOM provided technical assistance for labour recruiters (both employers and recruitment agencies) in conducting assessments of their labour supply chains.
- IOM provided skills and vocational training for migrant workers and migrant job seekers (training in Elderly Caregiving for 33 migrants).

- **Migrant Assistance [SDGs 8, 15, 16]**

- 200 Government officials trained directly or through IOM-developed curricula on how to conduct, design, investigate and monitor their respective anti-trafficking efforts.
- 22,130 vulnerable migrants reached by joint information, education or communication (IEC) campaigns.
- 365 migrants benefitting from emergency health, psychosocial support, food and nutrition support, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and other non-food items.
- 97% of migrant children in target districts receiving birth certification from public hospitals in border areas.
- 35 Victims of Trafficking have benefitted from specific IOM assistance.
- 1,175 migrants and other members of Thai host communities received services in the areas of health, education, livelihoods, legal assistance, protection and WASH.
- 130 CSO workers were trained in advocacy for improved migrant-related policies, laws and regulations at local and national level.

- **Immigration and Border Management [SDGs 16, 17]**

- 56 officials were trained in inter-agency cooperation and information-sharing in the investigation and prosecution of smuggling and trafficking cases.
- 121 officials were trained in cross-border cooperation and information-sharing.
- 141 vulnerable migrants have benefitted from IOM assistance in returning voluntarily to their home countries.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- Developed a national strategy to identify IOM Thailand's programmatic priorities from 2017 to 2020.
- Conducted a comprehensive assessment of suicides in Thailand's refugee camps to determine appropriate aid responses.
- Collaborated with the ILO to publish a baseline research study entitled *Risks and Rewards: Outcomes of Labour Migration in South-East Asia*.
- Launched two new projects: *Poverty Reduction through Safe Migration, Skills Development and Enhanced Job Placement in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand* (Labour Migration) and *Strengthening Health Coordination Mechanisms in Asia* (Migrant Health).
- Supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to organize three stakeholder workshops to prepare Thailand for negotiations on the Global Compact on Migration.
- Organized the second Global Migration Film Festival in Thailand to celebrate International Migrants Day.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

IOM aims to strengthen the capacities of relevant stakeholders, both Governmental and non-governmental, in identifying and responding to the needs of migrants in Thailand, whilst also increasing the resilience of vulnerable migrants through the provision of, inter alia, tailored capacity-building and direct assistance. As such, IOM will continue working in different thematic areas, including but not limited to labour migration, migrant assistance, and integrated border management.

Labour Migration. IOM Thailand aims to increase the capacity of Governments and the private sector in ensuring safe, ethical and beneficial labour migration. IOM will support and facilitate bilateral agreements incorporating skills development and/or ethical recruitment, and will seek to ensure greater access to skills development for migrant workers, especially women, to improve employability abroad and in countries of origin. This initiative is included in the current UNPAF for 2017–2021.

Migrant Assistance. IOM Thailand will continue to work alongside key stakeholders, both Governmental and non-governmental, to strengthen capacities in identifying and responding to the needs of vulnerable migrants, and to facilitate inter-agency and international cooperation on smuggling and trafficking issues.

Immigration and Border Management. IOM Thailand plans to conduct capacity-building to facilitate more effective coordination, in line with international standards, in the identification, investigation and prosecution of human smuggling cases. The Mission will also advocate for the adoption of more comprehensive approaches to enhance the reintegration component of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration in order to enhance and promote the self-sustainability of the support provided.

ITU - International Telecommunication Union

1. Agency Description

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies, with the mission to connect the world. To achieve this mission, ITU manages the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits at international level, works to improve communication infrastructure in the developing world, and establishes global standards that foster the seamless interconnection of a vast range of communication systems. ITU also organizes global Telecom events, bringing together the most influential representatives of government and the private sector to exchange ideas and knowledge for the benefit of all.

Some key figures

- ITU is represented in the Asia and Pacific region by a Regional Office in Bangkok (8 staff) and an Area Office in Jakarta (3 staff), serving 38 Member States in the region.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- World Telecommunications Development Conference, ICT4SDG.
- M-Cessation Initiative, in collaboration with WHO.
- E-Agriculture Strategy Guidelines in collaboration with FAO.
- ICTs for promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- Collaboration with NBTC, Thailand in addressing Digital TV and Radio Broadcasting transitions.
- Collaboration with MDES in addressing e-Government and Smart City initiatives.
- Collaboration with MDES, FAO and other partners in various actions including Girls in ICT activities.
- Inter-Agency Working Group on ICTs – Creating Synergies for collaboration:
 - ESCAP (IDD), APT, UNESCO, FAO, ILO, UNEP, and UNV
- ITU's work in the region is based on the following five key regional initiatives:
 - *Special consideration for LDCs and SIDS (including Pacific island countries) and LLDCs*
 - *Emergency Telecommunications*
 - *Harnessing the benefits of new technologies*
 - *Development of broadband access and adoption of broadband*
 - *ICT Policy & Regulation*

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

- Collaborating with ESCAP (IDD) during the Sustainable Development Forum, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Inter-Agency Working Group on ICTs – Creating Synergies for collaboration:
- ESCAP (IDD), APT, UNESCO, FAO, ILO, UNEP, and UNV
- Collaboration with MDES on ASEAN Child On-Line protection framework, and Regional Development Forum in Bangkok, Thailand.
- In 2018 the work of the ITU in the region will be based on the following five key areas:
 - *Addressing the special needs of LDCs, SIDS (including Pacific island countries) and LLDCs*
 - *Harnessing telecommunications/ICTs to support the digital economy and an inclusive digital society*
 - *Fostering the development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity*
 - *Enabling policy and regulatory environments*
 - *Contributing to a secure and resilient environment*



UNAIDS: Elimination of mother-to-child transmission (SDG3): Thailand became the first country in Asia and the second in the world to be certified by WHO as having eliminated mother-to-child transmission of both HIV and syphilis; Photo by UNAIDS / Watsamon Tri-yasakda

UNAIDS - Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

(and UN Joint Team on AIDS)

1. Agency Description

UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, has a mandate to implement activities and play the secretariat role for the UN Joint Team on AIDS in Thailand, supporting the Government, civil society, and communities in fast-tracking the response to HIV at national and sub-national levels, reducing stigma and discrimination, promoting rights to health, ensuring the continued engagement of civil society organisations (CSOs) and communities as equal partners in policy dialogue and service delivery, and integrating HIV with the national agenda to achieve the SDGs.

Some key figures

UNAIDS has three staff in total, including the Country Director, one administrative Assistant and one driver. UNAIDS' biennial budget was \$150,000.

During 2017, the Joint Programme on AIDS continued to support the Fast Track HIV response in Thailand. Active co-sponsors include WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNODC, UNHCR, UNESCO and UN Women.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

HIV combination prevention and treatment for key populations (KPs), SDG 3

The new National AIDS Strategy for 2017–30 was launched, committing Thailand to a Fast-Track phase to reach the 90-90-90 targets by 2020. The priorities of the Fast-Track approach at national and sub-national levels were informed by refined data analysis to identify gaps.

Targeted combination prevention and treatment for young Key Populations were developed and implemented in 13 provinces with secured funding support from domestic resources, PEPFAR and the Global Fund. Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) demonstration sites were implemented in response to the continuing high incidence of HIV among gay and other men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender (TG) women. The new guidance and tools have been translated into Thai with the support of WHO. PrEP implementation in Thailand was recognized as a 'best practice' at the 40th UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting.

Since joining the Fast-Track Cities Initiative in 2014, the proportion of people living with HIV in Bangkok who know their HIV+ status has increased from 66% to 85% in 2017 as a result of scaling up Key Population -led HIV services. Good progress has been made among MSM, TG and male sex workers (MSW). Interventions include tailored combination prevention and treatment programming for young Key Population roll-out PrEP services in municipal health and community-led clinics, enhanced early diagnosis through innovative HIV screening, and rapid start-up of treatment in Bangkok. The Bangkok Fast-Track Cities dashboard was showcased at the 2017 IAS conference in Paris. The Bangkok model was showcased for replication in other high burden provinces.

The UN Joint Team through UNAIDS, WHO and UNODC contributed to improving evidence of neglected Key Populations. The enhanced Respondent-Driven Sampling method was implemented to improve the quality of the Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance survey for persons who inject drugs (PWID) in order to better understand the emerging epidemic among young and female PWID. A survey was also conducted of prison health and the availability of HIV and TB services.

Ten urban refugees and asylum-seekers living with HIV were treated according to Thai National guidelines. UNHCR continued to work with UNAIDS and participated in the Task Force for Migrant Health, initiated by the government to advocate for the inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in the 'health insurance for migrants' scheme and the NAPHA extension programme. As of the end of 2017, there were six refugees and asylum-seekers with HIV/AIDS.

Elimination of mother-to-child transmission, SDG 3

Thailand became the first country in Asia and the second in the world to be certified by WHO as having eliminated mother-to-child transmission of both HIV and syphilis. This accomplishment was announced at the 2016 High Level Meeting on Ending AIDS. The UN Joint Team continued providing support to monitor and sustain this status, in particular addressing the issues of delayed HIV testing, treatment and late initiation of Antenatal Care (ANC).

Thailand's experience and expertise were shared at various regional and global platforms to build capacity and to encourage countries in the region to move forward in a similar manner.

HIV prevention among young people, SDG 3

Promoting safe sexual behaviours among adolescents and young people, including teenage mothers, remained a priority for the Joint Team's support. Approximately two million adolescents benefited from an innovative approach to information dissemination through an online cartoon series (LINE Webtoon) to provide age-appropriate information and guidance. The online health information platform (LoveCare Station) was accessed by 150,000 adolescents in 2017.

UNESCO/UNDP organized a National Consultation on Safe and Inclusive Education Environments that hosted over 100 participants, including representatives from Government, CSOs, schools and educational institutions and international organizations. The national situation and response was reviewed and entry points were identified for further cooperation to advance evidence, and prevention and response mechanisms.

The UN Joint Team contributed to a review of the implementation of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE). The team participated at a global and regional consultation to revise the International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education, CSE/GE integration in non-formal and formal curricula. In addition, the Team established a partnership with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development for 2018-19 to build and sustain national commitments to support CSE.

Gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV), SDG 3 and SDG 5

UNDP supported the implementation and monitoring of the new Gender Equality Act (2015). UNDP also supported civil society engagement and ensured implementation of the Act through national and local consultations, including the development of mechanisms to monitor implementation and access redress.

UNESCO organized an online campaign for the 2016 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT), entitled “The Road to Inclusion”, featuring guidance on how to make schools more inclusive spaces for LGBTIQ people. A total of 216 messages were provided from educators, activists, young people and allies in three languages (Chinese, English, and Thai) from 17 countries in the region. A social media campaign on Facebook reached nearly 65,000 persons, with 2,000 shares and almost 12,000 likes. Findings from research on LGBT bullying in Thailand were presented, including examples of how schools and CSOs mobilized in the #PurpleMySchool campaign to create safer spaces for LGBTI learners at the IDAHOT 2017 event.

UNESCO held an expert consultation with teachers and representatives of the Ministry of Education (MoE) to provide orientation with tools to assess Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) inclusion and address SOGIE-based violence in schools. Representatives from the MoE, CSOs and teacher-training institutes participated in a regional consultation organized by UNESCO on education sector responses to school violence on the basis of SOGIE. The ‘Connect with Respect’ curriculum tool to address school-related GBV, which was initially created by the United Nations Girls Education Initiative partners, was translated into Thai and training was provided for 40 pre-service teacher training institutes, teachers and community organizers on school-related GBV.

A study on legal gender recognition was conducted and the key findings informed discussions concerning the on-going development of a draft law in line with international best practices and human rights standards. UNDP supported dialogue between government and the community in developing the legal gender recognition law, and the initial outcomes have been positive. Policies on TG issues in closed settings (e.g., detention centres and prisons) have been developed. A report with policy recommendations was produced that will be used by the Department of Corrections to improve their management of TG inmates.

Human rights, stigma and discrimination in the health care setting, **SDG 3 and SDG 5**

Evaluation was undertaken in six demonstration sites and cost analysis was completed. Findings revealed that the stigma and discrimination reduction package works and is manageable. As a result, the MOPH has scaled activities up to 50 hospitals in 13 provinces. The success of the effort was showcased at the regional meeting and the 41st UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) meeting. An online training course on combatting Stigma and Discrimination for health professionals was developed to promote positive attitudes when working with young key populations on HIV and sexual health to achieve the global goal for the elimination of HIV.

Investment and efficiency, **SDG 3**

Development partners (PEPFAR, French Embassy, the UN, and the Global Fund) formed an alliance to jointly advocate for and provide political, technical and financial support for the development of a strong plan for Thailand’s transition to financial self-reliance. This included design, development, and strengthening of systems and institutional mechanisms necessary to ensure the engagement of CSOs and communities as equal partners in policy-making, programme management and service delivery.

UNICEF has provided support to test and pilot the micro-credit-based health insurance scheme for migrants in Tak Province (on the Thai-Myanmar border). The results so far have been very encouraging. The initiative will be taken to scale by the Global Fund in 2018.

With support from UNAIDS, key CSOs and community networks continued to actively engage in planning the country’s eventual transition to financial self-reliance. Thailand’s private sector has teamed up with Civil Society to launch the ‘AIDS Almost Zero’ campaign, which aims to raise funds for HIV prevention initiatives run by community groups. More than \$65,000 was secured for this initiative in 2017.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- UNAIDS, WHO and UNICEF provided technical support on writing the Global Fund Funding Request. As a result, \$37.6 million is secured for accelerating Fast Track HIV and TB response for key populations and vulnerable populations including migrant populations during 2018-2020.
- With support from UNAIDS, the Bangkok Fast-Track Cities Initiative (FTCI) was showcased at the 2017 International AIDS Society Conference in Paris on July 2017.
- With UNICEF and UNAIDS support, an e-learning module on stigma and discrimination reduction in healthcare settings was developed.
- With UNAIDS support, a cost analysis on stigma and discrimination reduction package completed.
- Thai stigma and discrimination effort has been showcased at the regional meeting and the 41st UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting, Geneva.
- WHO, UNAIDS and UNODC provided technical support on improving evidence for neglected key populations (people injects drugs and prisoners).
- UNHRC continued advocate for inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in health insurance.
- UNESCO organized the #PurpleMYschool campaign to create safe spaces for LGBTI learners at the IDAHOT 2017.

- UNDP has supported a study on legal gender recognition and the dialogue between government and the community in developing the legal gender recognition law. Policies on Transgender issues in closed setting have been reviewed and policy recommendations was developed.
- UNAIDS supported an assessment of existing laws was completed and presented at a meeting of the National Subcommittee on Human Rights Protection. The inputs from this assessment have been used in national law reform.
- Thailand's private sector has teamed up with Civil Society to launch the 'AIDS Almost Zero' campaign at the Government House with support by UNAIDS.
- UNICEF, WHO and UNAIDS provided technical support to the south to south learning and exchange for 21 Chinese and Myanmar participants on validation eliminate mother to child transmission.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

In support of fast-tracking the national AIDS response, UNAIDS and the Joint Team will implement the following key priority actions in 2018 in Thailand:

1. Convene a national consultation and dissemination of survey results on prison-based HIV and TB services.
2. Develop guidance on an inclusive combination prevention package (including PrEP) focusing on adolescents and young and vulnerable Key Populations.
3. Create online platforms and other innovative tools on CSE and youth-friendly health services with HIV prevention developed and put into use for young Key Populations.
4. Generate and institutionalize a cascade analysis to better reflect and address identified gaps in access to key services for Key Populations and other equity measures at national and subnational levels.
5. Strengthen capacity and develop implementation guidance on reducing S&D in healthcare settings, including a community-monitoring system to end S&D in the health sector toward People Living with HIV and Key Populations.
6. Examine the unit cost of HIV prevention and testing package for Key Populations, including community-based/ led services, for agreement and adoption in line with budget recommendations, and effectively channel financial support to CSOs.

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

1. Agency Description

UNDP works in some 170 countries to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNDP has been present in Thailand for more than 50 years as a partner of the Royal Thai Government and people of Thailand. Working as part of the UN Country Team, UNDP aims to advance inclusive sustainable and human-centred development for all people in Thailand. In all its activities, UNDP encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women, minorities and the poorest and most vulnerable.

In Thailand, UNDP works with a broad range of partners to provide policy advice, technical expertise and implementation support in areas such as environmental and biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, anti-corruption, community livelihoods, and government and social innovation.

Some key figures

- UNDP in Thailand spent approximately \$5.65 million on project activities in 2017.
- UNDP employs 30 national staff, including programme and advisory staff.
- UNDP's funding sources include the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Governments of Japan, of the United Kingdom, and of Sweden, the Royal Thai Government, the Thai private sector and UNDP's core resources.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- Support to the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board to develop SDG road maps for Goals 10 and 16.
- Development and launch of the #iSupportSDGs awareness campaign, involving 30 Thai celebrities and reaching some 25 million people through celebrities' social media posts, with direct interaction with over 300,000 of them. The campaign included an SDG TV ad that was aired over 1000 times on 26 True Vision channels.

- UNDP has principally contributed to the achievement of eight of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2017. Through various biodiversity-related projects (the Tiger project, the Flora and Fauna project, and the Biodiversity Finance project), UNDP supported the achievement of **SDGs 14 and 15** related to life below water and on land. Other projects directly addressed **SDG 5** (Being LGBTI in Asia), **SDG 7** (Promoting renewable energy in Mae Hong Son), **SDG 9** (Social Innovation and enterprise development), **SDG 11** (Low Carbon Cities), **SDG 13** (Climate Finance and Low Emissions Capacity Building) and **SDG 16** (the Southern Thailand Empowerment Project and the Public Procurement Reform and Anti-Corruption Project).
- **UN-ACT**
In 2017, UNDP's UN-ACT (United Nations Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons) project continued to support civil society and governments to more effectively contribute to anti-human trafficking efforts and assist vulnerable populations. In particular, UN-ACT supported CSOs and governments to work together on improving the identification of victims of trafficking (VOTs) and referral mechanisms for VOTs. UN-ACT efforts support the Greater Mekong Sub-Region¹ Governments (including the Government of Thailand) which has reported that over 9,900 VOTs were referred and supported through national and transnational referral mechanisms between 2014 (when UN-ACT started) and December 2017 (with over 1,800 VOTs supported in 2017).

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Working with the **Comptroller Generals Department, the National Anti-Corruption Commission and the Electronic Government Agency**, UNDP contributed to more effective and equitable systems and processes by supporting **anti-corruption** mechanisms, specifically through assisting in the implementation of the new Public Procurement Law by drafting the necessary secondary laws, defining procurement roles and functions in the public sector and introducing processes for the public monitoring of procurement processes, such as the use of open data in the public construction sector. (**SDG target 16.5**)

In partnership with the **Southern Border Provinces Administration Centre** and the **Prince of Songkhla University**, UNDP's Community Empowerment Programme further strengthened the peace-building network in the **southern border provinces** affected by violent conflict. The programme achieved its aim primarily through the organisation of 25 peace dialogues with 264 women and by providing support to 13 community livelihoods initiatives, building social cohesion through community enterprise engagement, including an innovative project led by people with disabilities. (**SDG target 16.3**)

UNDP has focused on **innovation**, aiming to help the country break out of the middle-income trap. The new Government Innovation Lab, which UNDP established with the **Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC)**, has promoted human-centred development by providing capacity-building for government officials in innovation and service design. The Lab facilitated service design processes in 7 public service areas in 2017, with a focus on citizen-centred design. UNDP developed guidelines for innovation in government service delivery, tested through seven pilot schemes, e.g. for reducing waiting times at a public hospital from 256 to 77 minutes. The new UNDP Thailand Social Innovation Platform has established itself as a leading coordinator, convener and facilitator of the social innovation and enterprise ecosystem in Thailand and engaged over 600 young people in Thailand and across the region. UNDP partnered with the **National Innovation Agency** and several private sector companies on the Youth Co:Lab initiative, linking social innovation and enterprise to SDG achievement, as well as with **UNESCAP** on the Asia-Pacific Youth Exchange and the **UNESCAP**-organized SDG Week, bringing social innovation and social enterprise to the forefront (**SDG targets 4.4, 8.3, 9.3, 16.7, and 16.7**)

Several initiatives have been successfully scaled up. UNDP's achievements with the **Ministry of Energy** and the **Provincial Administration** in promoting **renewable energy use** in remote areas in **Mae Hong Son**, the poorest province in Thailand, has mobilized additional financial resources of US\$ 2.75 million from the Government to replicate the models the project initiated. These models include use of solar lanterns to increase opportunities for education and income generation for women and men, solar rooftops to reduce the electricity costs of public health stations, and a model to distribute improved cooking stoves in exchange for agreements with communities to improve forest conservation. (**SDG targets 7.1 and 7.2**)

In the area of **energy efficiency**, UNDP worked in partnership with the **Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency** on the development of 12 demonstration buildings to model energy-efficiency (office buildings, retail stores, hotels and hospitals). Based on the technology and results demonstrated through these 12 model buildings, 22 replications have been generated (20 new buildings designed and 2 old commercial buildings retrofitted). (**SDG target 7.3**)

Working with the **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment**, UNDP's establishment of community committees on **payments for ecosystem services** (PES) in two pilot water catchment areas has led to the Government adopting these as models for replication in its Regional Natural Resources and Environmental Management Strategies for 2017-2021, thus promoting community empowerment and income generation through community-private sector agreements for PES. (**SDG targets 15.1 and 15.2**)

To reduce poaching in one of the last remaining habitats of the Indochinese tiger, UNDP worked with the **Department of National Parks** and 29 communities to identify new income opportunities for local people, which will be implemented in 2018. To increase the rate of tiger survival, UNDP also provided rangers with equipment and training to improve the effectiveness of tiger patrolling, data collection and the prevention of poaching. **(SDG target 15.5 & 15.7)**

UNDP worked with the **Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP)** and the **Zoological Parks Organisation** on engaging communities and introducing new organic methods of rice farming to provide the habitat conditions necessary for reintroducing the endangered Eastern Sarus Crane into the wild and for this species to flourish. **(SDG target 15.5)**

With the UN **Food and Agriculture Organisation and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives**, UNDP facilitated the new National Adaptation Plan on Climate Change and Agriculture (2017-2021), with improved data, risk and impact analysis. **(SDG target 13.1)**

UNDP, the **Tourism Authority of Thailand** and **Thai Air Asia** increased the capacity of 8 model communities for **sustainable tourism** and community development in line with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy. This initiative will be scaled up in 2018. **(SDG targets 8.9 and 12.b)**

Working with **ONEP** and building on previous work in Climate Finance, UNDP developed a training curriculum on Climate Change Benefit Analysis, facilitating budget analysis and allocation for climate action, which is now an official Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment training course for stakeholders. UNDP also supported **ONEP** in reporting on the process of developing a **Nationally Determined Contribution** Roadmap to guide the implementation of commitments made by Thailand as part of the Paris Agreement **(SDG targets 13.2 and 13.3)**

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

In 2018, UNDP will continue its support to the Royal Thai Government in implementing GEF-funded projects in areas of environmental and biodiversity conservation. Two new projects will be launched: one on Illegal Wildlife Trade and one on Sustainable Land Management. UNDP will also launch new initiatives to support Thailand in delivering the Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. The Government will be supported in the preparation of a National Human Development Report (the 6th such report). UNDP will also work with the Government to establish a Government Innovation Centre. Partnerships with the private sector will continue, particularly in the area of SDG advocacy and in sustainable community tourism. The RTG will be supported in developing the national action plan on business and human rights. Work on improving social cohesion and livelihoods in the southern border provinces will continue, with an enhanced focus on youth. Work on anti-corruption will be focused around developing an integrity training curriculum. UNDP will also actively work with the RTG on areas to promote South-South collaboration and sharing of Thailand's experiences and best practices.



UNDP works to protect globally important flora and fauna in Thailand, such as the Asian tiger; Photo by UNDP Thailand

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

1. Agency Description

UN Environment is the leading global environmental authority and the environmental voice of the United Nations. Our work is focused on seven thematic areas: Climate Change, Disasters and Conflicts, Ecosystem Management, Environmental Governance, Chemicals, Waste and Air Pollution, Resource Efficiency, and Environment Under Review. We are working with partners to ensure that the environment, along with the social and economic dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals, deliver benefits to the people by ensuring access to financing and technology, addressing the needs of vulnerable communities, respecting human rights, enabling education and awareness, and leaving no one behind. Through its regional office in Bangkok, UN Environment works in Thailand with government agencies, civil society groups and the private sector on plastic pollution, cities and climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem management, and air quality. The regional office for Asia and the Pacific covers 41 countries².

Some key figures

- Total delivery in 2017: US \$17 million for the region of Asia and the Pacific?
- Staff members: 66
- Consultants: 35

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- Over 65 Phuket Hotels joined UN Environment's #CleanSeas campaign, pledging to reduce the tide of plastic waste flowing into our oceans. **(SDG 14)**
- World Environment Day 2017 activities: 3 million people were reached in Thailand. **(SDGs 14 and 15)**
- Two state enterprises, the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand of the Ministry of Energy, and the National Housing Authority under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to boost green buildings and energy efficiency in the low and middle income residential housing sector in Thailand, saving the country approximately US\$16 million and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 67,000 tons annually. **(SDG 7 and 13)**
- A USD 2.245 million GEF grant proposal was approved on 25 January 2017 to enhance protection, restoration and sustainable management of forested landscapes as well as seascapes in Thailand. **(SDGs 14 and 15)**

Major Meetings

- The 23rd Intergovernmental Meeting of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia, hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Bangkok, February 2017. **(SDG 14)**
- Sub-Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Technology in Climate Action Plans, Bangkok, March 2017. **(SDG 13)**
- International Conference on Sustainable Management of Refrigeration Technologies in Marine and Off-Shore Fisheries Sector, hosted by the Ministry of Industry, Bangkok, April 2017, UN Environment and other UN agencies. **(SDGs 7, 12 and 13)**
- The Network Meeting of Southeast Asia and the Pacific National Ozone Officers_May 2017, Phuket. **(SDGs 12 and 13)**
- The Second Global Authors Meeting for the Sixth Global Environment Outlook_Bangkok, May 2017. **(the environmental dimension of all SDGs)**
- The 39th Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol_July 2017. **(SDGs 7, 12 and 13)**
- Africa-Asia Symposium on Legal Frameworks for Combating Wildlife Crime, Bangkok, July 2017, organized collaboratively by the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Illicit Trade in Wildlife and Forest Products, of which UN Environment is part. **(SDG 15 and 16)**
- The First Asia-Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment, hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Bangkok, September 2017, jointly convened by UN Environment and UN ESCAP. **(All environment-related SDGs)**
- Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development 2017 (Outcome document: Asia Pacific CSO Statement to the third session of the UN Environment Assembly), Bangkok, September 2017. **(SDG 17)**
- The First Global Sustainable Rice Conference and Exhibition, Bangkok, October 2017, organized by the Sustainable Rice Platform, jointly convened by UN Environment and the International Rice Research Institute (Outcome document: Sustainable Rice Platform Bangkok Declaration on Sustainable Rice). **(SDGs 2 & 12)**

- ASEAN conference on reducing marine debris in the ASEAN region, hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Phuket, November 2017. **(SDGs 12, 14 & 17)**

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- The First Asia-Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment (in collaboration with UNESCAP)

The First Asia-Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment took place in Bangkok from 5 to 8 September 2017, jointly organized by UNESCAP and UN Environment. The Ministerial Summit brought together for the first time two UN ministerial-level meetings on the environment: the seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific and the second session of UN Environment's Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific.

Ministers emphasized the need for concerted action on environmental issues, including waste management, transboundary pollution and marine litter. At the close of the Summit, they adopted a Ministerial Declaration and agreed to forward further recommendations to the third meeting of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-3).

- Over 65 Phuket hotels joined UN Environment's #CleanSeas campaign

The #CleanSeas campaign aims to "turn the tide on plastic" by inspiring governments, businesses and individuals to take action on ocean pollution.

The Phuket Hotels Association is a non-profit organization with over 65 small boutique hotels and large luxury international chains, including JW Marriot, Hyatt, Hilton, Novotel, Swissotel and more. One of the key strategies of the Association is to minimize and eventually eliminate disposable plastic water bottles and other forms of plastic at the hotels.

The Association will also provide environmental impact training for employees to educate them in ways of reducing the harmful effects of tourism on the island and ocean. Each hotel has been asked to make individual commitments toward minimizing single-use plastic at work, at home and in the community.

- World Environment Day 2017 (collaboration with local authorities and UNESCAP)

World Environment Day is the biggest annual event for positive environmental action and takes place every year on June 5th. The theme for World Environment Day 2017 was "Connecting people to nature".

World Environment Day activities in Thailand were carried out over 4-5 days in two major malls in Bangkok, reaching a million people. A "WithNature" phone app developed by the Thai Government had 110,000 people sharing their photos, including the Prime Minister of Thailand.

In Bangkok city, posters featuring World Environment Day messages from the Bangkok Governor, regional celebrity Cindy Bishop, and Thai celebrities, the veterinarian Dr. Lotter-Potarapol Maneeorn, and actors Saharat Kong Sangkapreech and Nuengthida Noona Sophon. The posters were displayed for a month at Bangkok's major transit stations. The World Environment Day video also ran on major street junctions in Bangkok, while messages ran for a week on all Bangkok street gantries and 7-11 stores throughout the city. Bangkok city hall was also illuminated in green.

UN Environment and ESCAP collaborated with Sodexo to reduce plastic and food waste by phasing out plastic packaging, reducing waste and incorporating a sustainable menu.

- Africa and Asia Pacific 'justice league' moves for stronger action on wildlife crime [South-South activities]

Over 90 participants attended the Africa-Asia Pacific Symposium held in Bangkok on July 5 on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime. The symposium was convened by the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Illicit Trade in Wildlife and Forest Products, in partnership with the World Bank-led, GEF-financed Global Wildlife Programme and USAID. Participants at the symposium included senior ministry officials, prosecutors, attorneys general and parliamentarians.

The event featured exchanges in developing, enacting and enforcing effective national laws to combat wildlife crime, including illegal trade in timber and other forest products. It also discussed and advanced practical mechanisms for strengthening inter-regional coordination between Africa and the Asia Pacific region.

Participants identified and recommended key elements that should be included in national legal frameworks relevant to combating wildlife crime. These include, amongst others, provisions on the penalization of illegal trade, the confiscation of illegally traded specimens, and mechanisms for inter-regional cooperation.

- ASEAN conference on reducing marine debris in the ASEAN region

Convened jointly by the Government of Thailand and UN Environment, this conference brought together government representatives of ASEAN countries, civil society and the private sector to identify areas of action and collaboration to reduce plastic marine debris. The Conference also provided an opportunity for stakeholder consultation on a project proposal focusing on the management of the plastic value chain in South East Asia.

- Meeting of the Thematic working group on Health Impact Assessment

In the context of the regional Forum on Environment and Health, jointly convened by UN Environment and the World Health Organization, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam are part of the Thematic Working Group on Health Impact Assessment. The last Working Group meeting, chaired by the Thai Department of Health, was held on 1 December 2017 in Bangkok. The meeting aimed to provide an update on regional Health Impact Assessment practices, laws and legal frameworks, as well as an opportunity to discuss the operationalization of the draft work plan of the Working Group for 2017-2019.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

Although the planning of UN Environment's activities for 2018 is still in progress, the following key activities have already been identified:

Pollution

- **Air pollution (SDGs 3, 7, 11, 12, 13 & 17)**
 - o The Clean Air Week (March 2018) will bring together government leaders, experts, and private sector and civil society organizations in a series of events focused on solutions for better air quality in the Asia Pacific region. In this context, the meeting of the thematic working group on Air Quality of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Environment and Health will also take place.
 - o An assessment of the impacts of air quality on human health is being prepared and recommendations will be released in 2018.
 - o Thailand will also produce its updated national monitoring plan on air deposition, in the context of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia for which UN Environment is serving as Secretariat.
- **Plastic pollution (SDG 14)**
 - o An assessment of plastic debris quantities and quality for South East Asia will be finalized by May 2018.
- **Mercury (SDGs 3 and 9)**
 - o Countries like Thailand which have ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury will phase down the use of dental amalgam (a mercury-added product containing 50% mercury). A global workshop on dental amalgam will be organized in Thailand in May 2018.
 - o A report will be issued on "Reducing Mercury Emission from Coal Combustion in the Energy Sector in Thailand", supported by Un Environment and prepared by the Faculty of Public Health of Thammasat University. A set of recommendations are included in the report to monitor and reduce mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants.
- **World Environment Day (SDGs 12 & 14)**

World Environment Day is the biggest annual event for positive environmental action and takes place every year on the 5th of June. Plastic pollution is the theme for World Environment Day 2018. The main event will take place in India, but celebrations and activities will take place in Bangkok as well.



UNESCO: Mobile Literacy for Out-Of-School Children (OOSC) project; Photo by UNESCO / Taweepon Kingkaew

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

1. Agency Description

UNESCO's main mission is to spread a culture of peace, alleviate poverty, propagate sustainable development, and foster worldwide dialogue through education, science, culture, communication and information. All actions are framed by the Human Rights-Based approach (HRBA), ensuring inclusiveness and respect for everyone.

In fulfilling its mission, UNESCO focuses on two global priorities, Africa and Gender Equality, and on two overarching objectives: establishing a culture of peace and non-violence and promoting sustainable development.

UNESCO Bangkok Office

Since 1961, UNESCO Bangkok has had a dual role, as both the Regional Bureau for Education and as a Cluster Office in the Asia-Pacific region.

As a **Regional Bureau for Education**, UNESCO Bangkok provides technical expertise and assistance, as well as providing knowledge production and sharing, monitoring and evaluation functions to assist Asia-Pacific Member States and other UNESCO field offices and antenna offices in the area of education.

As a **Cluster Office**, UNESCO Bangkok helps implement all UNESCO programmes (including programmes on education, sciences, culture and communication and information) in the "Mekong" countries – in Thailand, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Singapore, as well as in Viet Nam and Cambodia in cooperation with the country offices and antenna office.

UNESCO Bangkok has an **Antenna Office established in Yangon**, Myanmar.

Some key figures

The number of staff in UNESCO Bangkok is approximately 90 persons.

Approximate funds spent for activities in Thailand are as follows:

Education: USD 1,580,700

Culture: USD 80,000

Communication and Information: USD 50,000

In total, USD 1,710,700

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

Education

- In Thailand, UNESCO has worked with the support of the Thai Ministry of Education and the 'Educate a Child' project in implementing the Strengthening Education System for OOSC project to increase the enrolment rate of children of primary-school age and reduce the number of OOSC and dropouts. To date, 10,688 OOSC have benefitted/been enrolled in the education system through the project, including migrant children.
- In its work on achieving SDG4.6, UNESCO collaborated with Microsoft, True Corporation and the Thai Ministry of Education in jointly implementing the Mobile Literacy for OOSC initiative to enhance the literacy and numeracy skills of over 5,500 migrant and marginalized children along the Thai-Myanmar border through mobile learning and ICT devices.
- In support of quality tertiary education (SDG 4.3), UNESCO released the Shenzhen Statement (2017) on quality assurance. This statement, with inputs from approximately 30 country experts, including from Thailand, advanced the need to build local and regional capacity for a living quality culture in higher education in Asia and the Pacific. In this way, investments in the 'quality assurance of lifelong learning systems' was highlighted as a priority for achieving SDG4.
- Draft national policy guidelines and policy brief on multigrade teaching in Thailand.
- Tools tailored to the Thai context that are intended to assess SOGIE inclusion in the curriculum and address SOGIE-based violence in schools.
- Successfully trained statisticians from the Ministry of Education on the standards, methodologies and calculations of the SDG 4 indicators.

Culture

- A needs assessment mission has been carried out in Thailand to identify needs, strengths and challenges of related agencies and sectors in combating the illicit trafficking of cultural objects; and further suggested possible approaches for collaboration among agencies at national and international levels.
- Major support has been provided to Thailand to revive Thai traditional building craftsmanship for World Heritage conservation, with the pilot site in Ayutthaya. A pilot training course has been conducted, targeting both technical and brick masons from the Fine Arts Department and private construction companies.

Communication and Information

- In response to SDG 5 and SDG 16, UNESCO Bangkok launched a project in March 2017 entitled 'Women Make the News – Thailand', which is an online database for journalists of female experts from Thailand. Almost 300 female experts have joined the database to date, sharing their profiles publicly as female expert sources in three areas identified as lacking in gender balance.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Education

Inclusive Basic Education

The national policy guidelines and an evidence-based policy brief on multigrade teaching in Thailand were developed. The overall objectives of these policy documents are to inform policy development and support the implementation of multigrade teaching with a view to improving the quality of education in Thailand.

Education for Health and Well-being

In collaboration with the Raks Thai Foundation, and with technical support from Curtin University, UNESCO Bangkok organized a 2-day "Teacher Training and Curriculum Development Expert Consultation" in Bangkok.

Education for Sustainable Development

Two workshops aimed at enhancing the capacities of teacher education institutions to integrate Education for Sustainable Development were held in Thailand: the first workshop, held in Chiang Rai in June 2017, involved not only participants from Thailand but also from five other countries in Southeast Asia

Non-Formal Education and Literacy

- UNESCO and UNICEF provided technical support to the Quality Learning Foundation and the independent committee for education reform of Thailand to draft the Equitable Education Fund Act and establish the funding mechanism to support disadvantaged OOSC in Thailand, including non-Thai children. The Act was endorsed by the Cabinet on 21 November 2017.
- UNESCO took the lead in initiating a quarterly coordination meeting on migrant education among UN agencies and NGOs, including UNICEF, UNHCR, ILO, IOM and Save the Children, to streamline strategies and sharing activities for promoting education for migrant children in Thailand.

Higher Education

UNESCO Bangkok hosted four international events in higher education, with strong participation from Thailand. In total, 28 officials and researchers from Thailand were engaged in the training and regional consultations.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

The 1st expert meeting on Skills Needs and Anticipation in Selected Sectors and Industries in Asia-Pacific (December 4-5, 2017, Bangkok, Thailand) contributed to narrowing knowledge gaps on the issue of skills needs and anticipation in Asia-Pacific, identifying challenges that had not been sufficiently addressed.

The Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)

Organized a training workshop on monitoring SDG 4 with statisticians from the Ministry of Education.

Science

- Regional Commemoration of World Water Day 2017

On 31 March 2017, ESCAP and UNESCO organized the regional Commemoration of World Water Day 2017 and the regional launch of the WWDR 2017 on the sideline of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

- Assessing gender imbalance in STEM in Thailand

UNESCO is currently implementing the STEM and Gender Advancement project (SAGA). On 23-24 May 2017, a SAGA training workshop for Thailand was organized by UNESCO and the Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology (IPST), during which the project's innovative methodology and tools were explained. Currently, the SAGA team in Thailand.

Communication and Information

The **"Women Make the News – Thailand"** project was launched in March 2017, followed by a series of media and communication training sessions targeting women experts. An internal evaluation of the project was conducted in December 2017.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

Education

Inclusive Basic Education

A one-day event launching the national policy guidelines and policy brief on multigrade teaching in Thailand will be organized in collaboration between UNESCO Bangkok, UNICEF Thailand's Country Office, and the Office of the Basic Education Commission, the Ministry of Education.

Education for Health and Well-being

As a follow up to the "Teacher Training and Curriculum Development Expert Consultation", there are plans to pilot the school climate assessment tool in a small sample (n = 2 to 3) of purposively selected schools. UNESCO intends to engage with MoE and/or other stakeholders in the selection of the schools to facilitate buy-in and ownership of the process and the results.

Non-Formal Education and Literacy

- UNESCO will continue to promote access to basic education for out of school children in Thailand, including migrant children, through non-formal education/flexible learning programmes with other UN agencies and private partners.
- UNESCO will support the government to develop Policy Frameworks on Lifelong learning, NFE and Adult literacy that specifically focus on the disadvantaged population and continue to support initiatives to enhance literacy skills and lifelong learning through ICT devices and apps.

Culture

In 2018, UNESCO will continue to support Thailand in safeguarding its natural and cultural heritage, including both tangible, intangible and cultural objects, as a contribution to the achievement of SDG11. This will include capacity-building activities in fighting illicit trafficking and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, as well as the development of a curriculum for heritage conservation to raise the quality standards of conservation work in heritage sites in Thailand and to improve conditions for the employment of traditional masons engaged in conservation projects.

Communication and Information

UNESCO will provide opportunities for joint-training and networking amongst journalists and women experts in Thailand with a view to enhancing the visibility of women in the public sphere and in the media in particular.

UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund

1. Agency Description

UNFPA is the UN's reproductive health and rights agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA Thailand supports the country in its aim of achieving reduction in adolescent pregnancies, with three expected outputs: 1) strengthened national institutions and systems for promoting young people's participation and for advancing adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality; 2) increased use of evidence-based analyses of population issues for the development of equitable, rights-based national policies and strategies targeting young people, women and vulnerable populations; and 3) increased national capacity (supported by UNFPA) to implement South-South Cooperation and triangular initiatives to promote the International Conference on Population and Development agenda.

Some key figures

UNFPA Thailand has a total of 10 staff, with the Country Director who oversees the office from UNFPA Malaysia and the UN Resident Coordinator acting as UNFPA Representative. The annual budget in 2017 was \$1,150,500.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- **SDG 3** - Developed a unified web-based reproductive health database, together with the Department of Health in its capacity as Secretariat of the National Adolescent Pregnancy Strategy, to increase access and facilitate effective use of data to track the situation of sexual and reproductive health and adolescent birth rates over time.
- **SDG 3** - Identified, networked, and developed youth leaders, including vulnerable youth and members of the national and provincial youth council, to equip them with the capacity and leadership they need in order to monitor implementation of the Adolescent Pregnancy Act. This demand-based approach in raising youth voices for their sexual and reproductive rights protection has been promoted along with the joint efforts among line ministries convened by UNFPA in supporting the Department of Health in adopting lessons learned from the United Kingdom in successfully reducing teenage pregnancy.
- **SDG 3** - Eleven Thai institutions accepted and integrated ICM-WHO international requirements in their international midwifery training courses, including a midwifery institutional development adopted by the Laos Ministry of Public Health.
- **SDG 10** - Shared lessons learned and international experiences and rights-based approach with the Office of the National Economic Social Development Board to support the development of the 20-year National Population Development Policy.
- **SDG 10** - Developed an e-learning course on policy response to demographic change, working together with the Office of the Civil Service Commission based on lessons learned from the United States, Japan, Singapore and Sweden in dealing with low fertility and ageing population.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- With UNICEF, UNFPA developed a joint initiative on the assessment of Thailand's youth-friendly health services provided in the hospital setting.
- With UNICEF and WHO (Geneva), UNFPA convened and co-authored a paper for publication on Adolescent Birth Initiative in Thailand. The paper describes the adolescent birth situation in Thailand and how the UN Agencies contributed in supporting the country in adopting lessons learned from the United Kingdom in reducing teen pregnancy. Other authors are from the Department of Health, a WHO Geneva expert on adolescent health, and two professors from the UK.
- With the Thailand International Development Agency (TICA), UNFPA developed a South-South Trilateral Cooperation in supporting midwifery training for participants from Lao PDR, which has led to the Ministry of Health in Laos adopting the midwifery curriculum according to ICM-WHO.
- With Statistics Korea, UNFPA supported the National Statistics Office (NSO) in receiving knowledge and lessons learned from how South Korea managed to introduce the register-based population census in 2015. This provided know-how to the NSO on population data management from multiple data sources.
- With UNDP and UNRC, UNFPA organized the Development Corporate Seminar on 'ageing population'.
- With UN Women and UNCT, UNFPA contributed to the development of UNCT CEDAW report for submission to the CEDAW Committee to address reproductive health and rights of women and girls. UNFPA also participated in the mock session with the Thai government delegation.
- With OHCHR and UNCT, UNFPA contributed to the review of Thailand's reporting under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights through participation in the mock session with the Thai government delegation.

- With Thai Health Promotion Foundation and Department of Health and RaksThai Foundation, UNFPA developed I D-Sign: Advocacy Training Manual on Sexuality, Gender, and Human Rights for Young People to be used as a guidance tool for a pilot of the initiative in Chiang Mai in 2018. The expected result is to support development of tools and mechanisms for youth engagement for their rights protection according to Article 5 of the Act for Prevention and Solution of the Adolescent Pregnancy Problem B.E. 2559.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

UNFPA will support youth empowerment and leadership, including youth from vulnerable groups, by raising their awareness of their sexual and reproductive rights according to Article 5 of the 2016 Adolescent Pregnancy Act so that they are able to monitor the implementation of the Act. This initiative will be supported by strategic media to support an enabling environment for youth engagement, as well as partnering with the private sector for their contribution in the efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy.

In terms of evidence and analyses, UNFPA plans to support collaboration among key data-producing agencies and key data-users to map and analyse data and evidence based on multiple data sources. This collaboration will enable the results to be used for tracking rates and trends in sub-national adolescent birth over time so that those who are furthest left behind can be identified. A study on the economic cost of teen pregnancy will be carried out to suggest potential foregone incomes and economic impact at individual, household and national level. There is a possibility to collaborate with the ESCAP Statistics Division and/or with Statistics Korea on strengthening the birth registration data system to track small-area adolescent birth statistics. This is to be implemented in addition to the on-going assessment of youth-friendly health services by UNFPA and UNICEF.

For South-South Collaboration, UNFPA will continue its collaboration with TICA in supporting TICA's priority countries on ICPD issues, with the possibility of promoting Thailand to become a global hub on SSC.

UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Programme

1. Agency Description

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially just and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. UN-Habitat Bangkok Office was established as a branch office to the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific based in Fukuoka (ROAP-Fukuoka), Japan, with a view to strengthen coordination functions with its regional partners and its advocacy function at the regional level.

Today, the UN-Habitat Bangkok Office is thriving as a recognized focal point for housing and sustainable urban development with the aim of enhancing coordination and liaison functions amongst UN agencies based in Bangkok, as well as, strengthening partnerships with regional partners. Consistent with the UN Secretary-General's reform agenda, the Office supports the unifying of efforts between the UN Asia-Pacific Development Group and Regional Coordination Mechanism, functioning as the Co-Chair and Secretariat of a Regional Task Team on Sustainable Urbanization reporting to both these mechanisms. Meanwhile, the Office also participates in the UN Country Team for Thailand in its' capacity as a non-resident agency.

Presently, the agency does not have any active programs operating in Thailand.

Some key figures

Acting Representative to Thailand:

Mr. Srinivasa Popuri, Senior Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

2017 Number of staff: 1 professional staff; 3 consultants; and 2 interns

2018 Number of staff: 1 professional staff (under recruitment); 2 consultants

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- 2 Regional Partners Forums on implementing the New Urban Agenda focused on urban SDGs especially SDG 11 and gathering over 150 people from 23 countries.
- 2 Regional Expert Meetings on mainstreaming climate change adaptation into national urban policy focused on SDG 13 and gathering 43 people from 12 countries.

- Support to UN Regional Coordination Mechanism and UN Development Group (Asia-Pacific) including as Co-chair of Regional Task Team on Sustainable Urbanization convening 24 UN agencies, and other regional coordination for ASEAN; UN-Water; Inter-Agency Standing Committee; Human Rights; Land Tenure; DRR; Statistics; and Youth.
- Continued collaboration with partner agencies from UNESCO, UNDP and IOM working on a regional project examining internal migration in the South-East Asia region.
- Mobilization support in coordinating activities among regional UN agencies for the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2018.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

From 23-24 January 2017, a regional partners meeting was held gathering over 70 participants from 12 countries being the first opportunity conduct a stock take on progress in the region and the outcomes of Habitat III. The meeting was organized by UN-Habitat and hosted by the Royal Thai Government, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. A follow-up Regional Partners Forum was organized with UN ESCAP from 28-29 November 2017 in Bangkok, gathering over 80 participants from 18 countries held in conjunction with SDG Week 2017.

In collaboration with UN ESCAP, UN-Habitat Bangkok Office with guidance from the Regional Office have led resource mobilization efforts in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and steered joint regional initiatives on mainstreaming climate change adaptation into national urban policy through training, expert meetings and workshops.

On a regular basis, UN-Habitat reports to UN Development Group Asia-Pacific through participation in the Regional Directors Team Meeting, Peer Support Group (PSG), Human Rights Network to help inform country-level planning by connecting with relevant Country Offices and with the support of the Regional Office. This also includes reporting on the Regional Task Team on Sustainable Urbanization which also reports to the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism.

Supporting the Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee Network, the Office has supported within the mandate of "Meeting Humanitarian Crises in Urban Areas", capacity building workshops on Post-Disaster Needs Assessments in May 2017 and ISDR Asia Partnership in December 2017. As an active member of the Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, UN-Habitat Bangkok Office serves to strengthen the role and visibility of UN-Habitat in matters related to DRR and improve inter-agency coordination such as on the ASEAN-UN Plan of Action, during UNESCAP Committee Sessions and as part of a Regional Learning Platform for DRR.

As an ongoing commitment, UN-Habitat are a contributing member of the Asia-Pacific Interagency Network on Youth (APINY), supporting activities such as a regional youth, peace and security workshop; Asia Urban Youth Assembly; university leaders symposium; launch of evidence-based youth policy toolkit; and related consultations with youth as part of the APINY Working Group on Urbanization and Localization including preparation for a Children and Youth Assembly at the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2018.

In June 2017, UN-Habitat held an informal consultation to reinvigorate the Regional Land Tenure Initiative in Asia-Pacific region which was previously launched in 2013 with key partners including the World Bank, UN ESCAP and UN FAO. A membership registry was launched in September 2017 and regional knowledge sharing and learning exchange of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) urban CSO cluster was convened in Manila, Philippines in November 2017.

Between August and September 2017, UN-Habitat Bangkok Office facilitated a process of handover in operational responsibilities and developed a transition strategy due to the departure of the Chief and Representative to Thailand. Currently, the position of Chief of Bangkok Office is being recruited while the Office is overseen by the Regional Office in Fukuoka, Japan.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

At the regional level, UN-Habitat Bangkok Office will continue to support as Co-chair the Regional Task Team on Sustainable Urbanization and other regional mechanisms, especially in coordinating jointly towards the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum; Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development; and High Level Political Forum where SDG 11 will be reviewed.

In the context of Thailand specifically, the Office is in discussion with the Royal Thai Government, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, as well as, Ministry of Interior, Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning, in order to enhance collaboration between line ministries and UN agencies especially in relation to the achievement of SDG 11.



© UNHCR

UNHCR: Celebrating World Refugee Day on 20 June 2017 at a refugee camp on the Thai-Myanmar border; Photo by UNHCR

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. Agency Description

UNHCR in Thailand works closely with the Royal Thai Government (RTG), together with international agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as government and private donors, to provide protection, assistance and durable solutions for some 90,000 refugees from Myanmar in the nine RTG-run Temporary Shelters on the Thai/Myanmar border, in addition to 6,000 urban refugees and asylum-seekers from over 35 countries, and 486,440 persons registered by the RTG as stateless.

Some key figures

No. of staff: 191

Offices: Bangkok, Kanchanburi, Mae Hong Son, Mae Sariang, and Mae Sot

Funds spent: USD 6.6 Million

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- Progress was made towards the establishment of a national screening mechanism to distinguish between refugees and migrants, in line with UNHCR's recommendations in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), and towards **SDG 10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries), **SDG 8** (Decent work and economic growth), and **SDG 4** (Quality education).
- Significant efforts were made to find practical ways to fulfil Thailand's commitment to end the detention of minors in line with UNHCR's recommendations in the UPR, and towards **SDG 10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries), and **SDG 4** (Quality education).
- Progress was made towards ending statelessness through UNHCR's increased reach to persons of concern, enhanced data management and capacity-building activities with Government, towards **SDG 10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries), **SDG 8** (Decent work and economic growth), and **SDG 4** (Quality education).

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- The RTG has made positive steps towards the establishment of a screening mechanism to distinguish between refugees and migrants, in line with UNHCR's recommendations in the UPR. Following approval by the Cabinet of Ministers in January 2017, UNHCR notes progress with consultations within the RTG, with UNHCR, and with civil society. Further, study tours have been conducted to four countries, including Canada. Once finalized and implemented, the framework is expected to improve conditions and protection environment for urban refugees in Thailand, in particular their legal status, which could lead to social and economic rights.
- The RTG has made notable efforts to find practical ways to fulfil its commitment to end the detention of minors, in line with UNHCR's recommendations in the UPR.
- An additional three "service points" have been established (13 in total) in Chiang Rai province through our partner the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Over 15,000 stateless persons were reached through information and awareness activities and training.
- Case management software has been developed to improve data management of stateless persons in Chiang Rai province (under UNHCR's project with ADRA).
- UNHCR has conducted three workshops with government officials at Provincial and District levels on nationality, birth registration and legal status procedures in Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Kanchanaburi provinces.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

As per UNCHR's input to the UNPAF operation plan, UNHCR will continue advocacy and remain available to support the RTG in implementing the accepted UPR recommendations related to refugees: (Issue 1) the establishment of a national legal and institution framework for refugee protection; (Issue 2) Non-refoulement; (Issue 3) Statelessness; and (Issue 4) Detention. Additionally, UNHCR will continue to assist in addressing the issue of statelessness through capacity support to reach the RTG's target of zero statelessness by 2024. All these efforts will contribute to **SDG 10** (Reduce inequality with and among countries), **SDG 8** (Decent work and economic growth), and **SDG 4** (Quality education).



UNICEF: Children help carry books from a mobile library supported by UNICEF. Each mobile library carries around 1,200 children's books. These books have been selected in consultation with children and approved by local education authorities. Until now, these children have had very limited access to any books other than textbooks. Reading books can open new worlds for children, ignite their imaginations, and give them the skills and opportunities or continuous learning and development outside the classroom; Photo © UNICEF / UN040465 / Prommarak

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund

1. Agency Description

In 2017, UNICEF Thailand launched its new five-year country programme for 2017-2020 with a planned budget of USD 55 million. The emphasis of the country programme is on leveraging positive change for children and giving all children a fair chance to thrive and reach their full potential. With an annual expenditure of over US\$ 11 million, UNICEF has already rolled out strategic partnerships with 18 government departments and 15 civil society groups. These partnerships generated evidence, scaled up effective and innovative working models, informed policy decisions and successfully advocated for legislative reform.

Some key figures

- The country programme for **Thailand (2017-2021)** has a **planned** budget of **USD 55 million**.
- The total **expenditure** in **2017** was **USD 11.4 million**.

Staff

| Total | International Professional | National Officer | General Service |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 68 | 13 | 20 | 35 |

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

SDG 4 – Early Childhood Development (ECD) – (4.2)

Thailand has emerged as a true leader in ECD with UNICEF as its government's primary partner:

- The **Child Support Grant** that provides financial assistance to children under 3 years of age living in poor families was successfully scaled up, almost tripling the total number of beneficiaries: from 150,000 in December 2016 to more than 400,000 by December 2017.
- The law on enforcement of the **International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes** became effective, following a long-term evidence-based advocacy movement and detailed technical inputs provided by UNICEF.

- **The Prime Minister** led the signature of a **multi-ministry Memorandum of Understanding** on ECD that will integrate inter-ministerial efforts towards the holistic development of young children
- UNICEF began **scale up of the capacity-strengthening** component to **1,540 caregivers from 300 centres across 13 provinces**. These ECD centres are currently enrolling approximately 20,000 children.
- The **government's parenting programme for ECD** also received a thrust forward with the completion in March of a UNICEF-supported media kit on positive parenting practices and appropriate protection for parents and caregivers of children aged 0-5.

SDG 3 - Sexual and reproductive healthcare services (3.7)

Adolescents' sexual and reproductive health is a priority area for the new country programme for the **second decade of life**.

- In partnership with **LINE Webtoon**, approximately **2 million adolescents and youths** benefited from information on reproductive health, safe sex and youth-friendly health services, through the broadcasting of three episodes of **Teen Mom**, a popular online cartoon series specifically edited with UNICEF-provided age-appropriate information and guidance.
- Additionally, **150,000 adolescents** accessed the UNICEF Thailand-supported **online health information** platform, **Love care Station**, in 2017.

SDG 16 - End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children (16.2.)

A significant policy milestone was the **Cabinet's approval of Thailand's first five-year National Child Protection Strategy**, which UNICEF has supported and advocated for.

- The National Strategy guided **inter-ministerial efforts to ensure a safe and protective environment** for all children
- To **improve assessment and case responses at local level**, a UNICEF-supported capacity-strengthening model was **extended** to government staff in **98 new sub-districts across several provinces**.

SDG 17 - Data, monitoring and accountability (17.18)

UNICEF reconfirmed its **leadership in equity data generation for children**:

- The **fifth Multiple-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)** was completed, providing disaggregated **data for over 100 indicators about children** and women at **national level and for the 14 most disadvantaged provinces**, as well as Bangkok Small Communities (urban poor).
- UNICEF organized the first-ever provincial-level **decentralized discussions** of the MICS data, generating local **policy decisions and actions**.
- **Data-informed** discussions were held among **Cabinet and other high-level policy-makers** to promote the use of data in national **planning and budgeting**. These discussions also informed the **Voluntary National Reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals**.
- **The Basic Education Commission** began **reforming the poor-school subsidy**, which now targets over 1.5 million children, to enhance the equity and effectiveness of the free education programme. These reforms were informed by recommendations from the UNICEF-supported **Education Public Expenditure Tracking Survey**.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

In 2017, UNICEF Thailand **launched its new five-year country programme**, with an emphasis on leveraging positive change for children and giving all children a fair chance to thrive and reach their full potential. With an annual program budget of US\$ 8 million, UNICEF rolled out strategic partnerships with 18 government departments and 15 civil society groups. These partnerships generated evidence, scaled up effective and innovative working models, informed policy decisions and successfully advocated for legislative reform.

A priority area with significant progress was **Early Childhood Development**. **Thailand has emerged as a true leader in ECD both in ASEAN and beyond**, with UNICEF as the government's primary partner. In March, the Prime Minister led the signature of a multi-ministry Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) focused on ECD. This first ever inter-ministerial agreement will coordinate and integrate the government's efforts towards the holistic development of young children and includes the ministries responsible for health, education and the interior - including at provincial level- and social development. Importantly, the MoU sets out 6 priority targets for improvement: the proportion of children underweight; stunting; age-appropriate development; family environment; ECD centres meeting national standards; and primary school readiness. UNICEF's strategic partnership with the government across all four ministries has advocated for ECD as a national priority, contributed to research and knowledge on ECD, provided technical support to policy and strategy development, and provided strategic financial investments.

A major milestone in support of children under three years of age living in poor and near-poor families was the successful scale-up of the **Child Support Grant, which almost tripled the total number of children receiving financial support**: from some 150,000 in December 2016 to more than 400,000 by December 2017. UNICEF Thailand enabled this expansion by providing support for monitoring implementation, regular reporting, e-payment of benefits, understanding of the rules and regulations for registration, and analysis of overlaps between the grant and other schemes under the social security fund.

In a legislative leap forward, Thailand's new constitution of 2017 promises free-of-cost access to kindergarten for all children in Thailand. Another key milestone for ECD was the passing of a law on the enforcement of the **International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes**. Long-term advocacy and detailed technical inputs provided by UNICEF contributed evidence-based analysis and momentum in the passing of the law.

The parenting programme for ECD also received a thrust forward with the completion of a media kit on positive parenting practices and appropriate protection for parents and caregivers of children aged 0-5. The kit was developed by the National Health Foundation and the Ministry of Public Health with UNICEF support and was launched in March. Finally, on ECD, UNICEF began the **scale-up** of the **capacity-strengthening component** to 1,540 caregivers from 300 centres across 13 provinces. These ECD centres are currently **enrolling approximately 20,000 children**. An ECD caregivers' manual was developed to guide the capacity-building exercises towards the holistic development of children.

UNICEF reconfirmed its **leadership in equity data generation on children** with the release of the fifth Multiple-Indicator Cluster Survey report, which provides data for more than 100 indicators about children at national level and for the country's 14 most disadvantaged provinces. UNICEF organized the country's first-ever provincial-level launches and discussions informing decentralized understanding of the data and generating local policy decisions and actions. The data informed discussions among the Cabinet and other high-level policy-makers to promote the use of data in national planning and budgeting. These discussions also informed the Voluntary National Reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals.

A **20-year National Education Plan**, benefiting from UNICEF technical support, was **launched** in April. The Office of the Basic Education Commission began reforming the **poor-school subsidy**, which now targets **over 1.5 million children**, to enhance the equity and effectiveness of the free education programme. These reforms were informed by the recommendations from the UNICEF-supported Education **Public Expenditure Tracking Survey**.

A significant policy milestone was the Cabinet's approval of **Thailand's first five-year National Child Protection Strategy**, which UNICEF has supported and advocated for. The strategy guided inter-ministerial efforts to ensure a safe and protective environment for all children. To improve assessment and case responses at **local level**, a UNICEF-supported **capacity-strengthening** model was expanded to government staff in 98 new sub-districts across several provinces.

Another priority area for the new country programme is the **second decade of life**. In partnership with **LINE Webtoon**, information on reproductive health, safe sex and youth-friendly health services was provided for approximately **2 million adolescents and youths** through three episodes of *Teen Mom*, a popular online cartoon series specifically edited with UNICEF-provided age-appropriate information and guidance. Additionally, **150,000 adolescents** accessed the UNICEF Thailand-supported online health information platform **Lovecare Station** in 2017.

On **World Children's Day**, some 200 youth representatives were invited to **Thailand's Parliament for the first time ever for a mock formal session** focused on violence against children. The special session, supported by UNICEF, was powerful in embodying the depth of the youth exchanges on the matter and in the subsequent quality of the final policy recommendations made to the Deputy Prime Minister, highlighting the potential of this demographic when offered space and trust.

UNICEF's **online communication** alone **reached an average of more than 3.7 million people each month** in 2017. One notable success was a public advocacy campaign on children affected by migration, which reached more than 11.5 million people and gained 1.8 million video views in just four weeks. The campaign launched UNICEF's long-term advocacy efforts on equity and migration, aligned with the global Children Uprooted campaign.

UNICEF Thailand provided **unconditional cash transfers** to especially **vulnerable, flood-affected families** and education **supplies** to **pre-schools** damaged by the floods. Through an inter-agency partnership, UNICEF provided capacity development to ministries for conducting **post-disaster needs assessment**.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

- Improve the quality of early childhood development services in ECD centres through scaling up the capacity-building programme (**People: SDG 4, 4.2**).
- Increase coverage and age-of-child-sensitive social protection schemes to reach children, including poor children, children with disabilities and children living in the far south (**People: SDG 4, 4.2**).
- Support the government to increase the number of qualified staff (workforce) who can address child protection cases that require individual intervention at subnational level (**Peace & Justice: SDG 16, 16.2**).
- Increase adolescent access to life skills and youth-friendly health services, using innovative ways to reach them, particularly online digital platforms (**People: SDG 3, 3.7**).
- Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of UNICEF in Thailand through a national-wide advocacy and communication campaign.

UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization

1. Agency Description

By translating the global vision of Inclusive and Sustainable Development (**SDG 9**) into the Thai context, UNIDO's work in Thailand aims at mainstreaming inclusiveness and sustainability into the country's industrial development agenda. UNIDO's work contributes to Thailand's National Industrial Development Master Plan, and the newly launched initiative, Thailand's Industry 4.0, as well as the achievement of the SDGs (mainly **Goals 7, 8, 9, 12 & 13**).

In collaboration with its Thai partners, UNIDO is currently working on various projects worth over USD 15 million in total. These projects aim at i) strengthening the competitiveness of local firms, ii) supporting government partners in building their capabilities to enable business for better regional and international integration in the areas of production and supply chains, iii) enhancing the capacity of Thai SMEs to adhere to environmental standards and practices, and iv) increasing their capacity to use resources and energy more efficiently.

Some key figures

- Regular budget staff: 6 (Director, 1 National Officer-NO-C, 1 Junior Professional Officer, 3 General Service)
- Project-funded personnel: 10
- Funds spent during Jan-Dec 2017: 1.4 m USD

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

Publication:

- UNIDO's authorship of the Chapter on **SDG 9** in the SDG's flagship publication by ESCAP/ADB/UNDP (see more details elaborated in the next section).

Highlighted events:

- September: A visit of UNIDO's Director General to celebrate a new partnership with Thailand's Office of Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC). Both parties signed a Joint Declaration to foster the collaboration between two parties. More details are elaborated in the next section.
- November: a new strategic cooperation framework for 2018-2021 signed by UNIDO's Director General, and the Minister of Ministry of Industry, H.E. Uttama Savanayana in UNIDO HQ, Vienna, Austria. More details are elaborated in the next section.

Key project's success:

- May 2017: UNIDO successfully received approval from the GEF and commenced the formulation of a project on Industrial Symbiosis aiming at contributing to **SDGs 7, 8 and 12**. The full project implementation cost is almost 9.0 m USD, the largest of UNIDO's projects in Thailand so far. The project is being formulated and is to be implemented in accordance with the Ministry of Industry's National Master Plan on Eco-Industrial Towns.
- A session was organised on regional knowledge and lessons learnt from UNIDO's Industrial Energy Efficiency Projects in 5 ASEAN countries. The two-day session, held in Hua Hin, brought together a family of UNIDO's Industrial Energy Efficiency projects. The session was attended by UNIDO colleagues from 6 ASEAN countries and Headquarters to exchange and share lessons drawn from the 5-year implementation of the projects. The six ASEAN countries comprised Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. The session concluded with an agreement to up-scale the experience for bigger investment projects to bid for investment funds from Green Climate Funds.
- At the final round of the 8-months long competition, on 20 September, UNIDO's Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) in Thailand announced and awarded the winning prize to Tom Cassava for its innovative product based on activated carbon produced from cassava stumps. The GCIP helps Thailand achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and supports clean-tech innovations in SMEs. The project contributes to **SDGs 7, 8 and 9**.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

1. UNIDO's leadership in SDG 9 in Thailand and the Asia-Pacific region

UNIDO took the lead in authoring the chapter on **SDG 9** in the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goals Outlook for 2017, the flagship publication by ESCAP/UNDP/ADB launched during the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development held on 29-31 March 2017. During the Forum, UNIDO organized an SDG 9 Round-table session in collaboration with ESCAP. The results from the round-table session will be fed into the High-Level Political Forum in New York as inputs from the Asia and the Pacific region on SDG 9. In Thailand, UNIDO worked with Kasetsart University to formulate a project proposal (in Thai) to establish a database on the carbon intensity of the industrial sector (**SDG 9.4**). The proposal received full grants from the National Science and Technology Development Agency in December 2017. The implementation of the project will commence in early 2018, with Kasetsart University as the lead research team. UNIDO will collaborate with the project as a technical advisor to the research team.

2. The Director General of UNIDO's visit to Thailand

During his two-day visit in September, Director General Li met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Industry to discuss the way forward for UNIDO in supporting Thailand's implementation of its new economic model, 'Industry 4.0'. A Joint Declaration was signed by the UNIDO Director General and the Secretary General of the Office of EEC. The Joint Declaration aims at fostering collaboration between the two parties in assisting Thailand's implementation of the Industry 4.0 vision. The EEC, as an area-based Industry 4.0, is the largest special economic zone in South-East Asia. The Joint Declaration includes the following initial areas for collaboration: i) Industry 4.0; ii) Promotion of investments and technology; iii) Eco-industrial towns; iv) the Circular Economy; and v) Innovation.

3. Signatory of a new strategic cooperation framework with Thailand, 2018-2021

During the 17th Session of the UNIDO General Conference, H.E. Mr. Uttama Savanayana, Thailand's Minister of Industry, led Thai delegates to attend the General Conference and organized a side event to promote Thailand's EEC as an area-based Industry 4.0 to other member states. During the week-long Session, H.E. Savanayana reaffirmed Thailand's commitment to an Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development pathway by signing the new Strategic Cooperation Framework for 2018-2021 with UNIDO's Director-General. The newly signed Framework aims at continuing the collaborations that UNIDO and Thailand have materialized over the past 10 years, highlighting Industrial Energy Efficiency, South-South Technology Transfer, Clean Tech Innovation for SMEs, Eco-industrial towns and Sound Chemical Management. In addition, the new framework aims to extend UNIDO's work in assisting Thailand to achieve Industry 4.0* by working on the development of new core technology and industries, the Factory 4.0*, SME capacity-building, a big data platform and the establishment of an Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) in Thailand. Most importantly, the framework sets UNIDO the role of supporting Thailand in reaching out to neighbouring countries in the Mekong region and as far as the Pacific. UNIDO and Thailand envision that the ITPO will function as an intra-regional platform for trade, investment and technology promotion between regions.

The Strategic Cooperation Framework for 2018-2021 leads UNIDO in Thailand into a new era of partnership with Thailand, being the first framework of its kind established with Thailand over the past two decades.

Note: *Industry 4.0 refers to the current trend of automation and data exchange in manufacturing technologies. It includes cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things, cloud computing and cognitive computing. Industry 4.0 creates what has been called a "smart factory". Within the modular structured smart factories, cyber-physical systems monitor physical processes, create a virtual copy of the physical world and make decentralized decisions.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

1. With its increasing portfolio on economic and SME development, UNIDO looks forward to engaging actively in the UNCT's Prosperity Results Group as well as in other groups in which UNIDO participates.
2. Collaborations with the EEC, including visits to ITPO offices, and activities to promote the EEC in international arena such as the UN in New York, and the European Union in Brussels (**SDGs 8 & 9**).
3. Collaboration with ESCAP and UNEP SDG Round Table session on SDG 12 during the Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development 2018.
4. Launch and working on **SDG 9.4** Database with Kasetsart University.
5. Expert Group Meeting for ASEAN countries on low-carbon and low-emission industrial development (**SDGs 7.3, 8.4, 12.2, 12.4 & 13**).
6. Policy advice and capacity-building for Thai policy-makers on SMEs in the Global Value Chain (**SDGs 8 & 9**).

UNISDR - United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

1. Agency Description

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) supports the implementation, follow-up and review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which was adopted by the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan.

UNISDR's work is anchored on the four priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework: 1) understanding disaster risk; 2) strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; 3) Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and 4) enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and for 'Building Back Better' in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The UNISDR Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) covers 41 countries and 11 territories. It has sub-regional offices in Suva (Fiji) for the Pacific and a liaison office in Kobe (Japan). The Regional Office supports on-going efforts in disaster risk reduction of people, governments, UN Country Teams, regional and international organizations, and the many stakeholders exposed to various hazards and risks.

Activities in Thailand focus on:

- Supporting Thailand in its national reporting of the Sendai Framework.
- Facilitating participation in global and regional fora to share their experiences with other member states and provide input into the development of global and regional DRR strategies.
- Providing technical assistance to Thailand in the development of national DRR strategies and plans.
- Training in national capacity-building (e.g. Sendai Framework reporting), and training for the private sector to increase SME resilience to natural hazards and disasters.

Some key figures

ROAP Staffing:

The Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (ROAP) based in Bangkok has undergone significant staffing changes as a result of a global restructuring of the organization. As of February 2018, the Office currently has 9 fixed-term staff with 1 full-time consultant, with an additional 6 staff expected to be recruited before mid-2018. Other sub-offices under ROAP in the region include the Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific in Suva, Fiji (2 staff), the Japan liaison office in Kobe, Japan (2 staff) and the Global Education and Training Institute in Incheon, Republic of Korea (0.5 staff).

Funding:

Expenditure for activities (Thailand) in 2017:

US\$24,400

Current expected expenditure for activities in Thailand over the UNPAF lifespan (2017-21):

US\$0.14 million

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- **SDG 13** – Strengthened private sector resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and disasters.
- **SDG 13** - The 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction³ was held in Cancun, Mexico in March 2017 and has allowed for an increase in the integration of DRR and climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning to strengthen national resilience to natural hazards.
- Advocacy on disaster risk reduction was accelerated through the celebration of the 2017 International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) in collaboration with the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation. The IDDR 2017 focused on Sendai Framework Target B: Reducing the number of affected people by disasters by 2030. A national public event was organized to mark the event.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Private Sector

Education and awareness raising of Business Continuity Planning with Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) based in Thailand was undertaken with CSR (Asia) and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) in September 2017. This will further strengthen private sector resilience to climate-related hazards and disasters.

The Sendai Framework

Following the adoption of 38 indicators of the Sendai Framework by the UN General Assembly, UNISDR supported the Royal Thai Government in completing a Data Readiness Review to assess the country's state of readiness to monitor and report, and specifically the availability of national disaster-related data, disaster-related data gaps and the types of resources required to fill the identified data gaps. The Review also assessed countries' current abilities to set up baselines for measuring the global targets of the Sendai Framework.

Following the Review, training for Thailand's Sendai Framework Monitoring Focal Point was conducted in December 2017 in Bonn, Germany, to increase their capacity and understanding of the Sendai Framework Monitor Indicators and proposed online Sendai Framework Monitor.

UNISDR provided support for Thailand in participating and speaking at regional DRR meetings, including the UNISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) and the biennial Global Platform for DRR (GP17) in Cancun, Mexico, in March 2017. These important fora allowed Thailand to share their valuable experiences and lessons in resilience-building with regional and global communities and report progress on the implementation of both the Sendai Framework and the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework.

DRR

UNISDR is Co-Chair of the ongoing *Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience*, which is shared with UNDP and ESCAP and aims to strengthen the coordination of UN partners in the area of DRR in Thailand and the region.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

Private Sector (Thailand UNPAF: Planet section)

A joint workshop with ILO is planned for Thailand in 2018 to train 20 SMEs in Business Continuity Planning in order to increase SME resilience to natural hazards and disasters.

Sendai Framework Reporting (Thailand UNPAF: Planet section)

Training for Sendai Framework Monitor Focal Points in Thailand will be conducted in March 2018 to increase their capacity to utilize the new online Sendai Framework Monitor and provide the first country report on the implementation of Sendai by October 2018. Ongoing technical assistance will be provided to Thailand to ensure reporting on the implementation of Sendai.

Financial assistance will be given to support Thailand's participation in regional DRR fora, including the UNISDR Asia Partnership and the regional Asia Ministerial Conference for DRR in Mongolia. This participation will enable them to share their experiences and lessons in resilience-building at the meetings and to report progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework.

UNODC – United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime

1. Agency Description

Crime and drug challenges in Southeast Asia are multifaceted, and many are transnational in nature. A combination of threats posed by transnational organised crime in the illicit manufacture, trafficking and illicit use of drugs and their precursors, trafficking of persons, smuggling of migrants, and environmental crimes such as trade in illegal timber, have been facilitated by the ease of money laundering and a relatively weak border control framework. Under the Regional Programme (2014-2019), the UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (ROSEAP) supports the governments of Thailand and other countries in Southeast Asia by providing strategic advice and technical support on crime and drug policies, as well as functioning as a facilitator between different stakeholders and playing a key role in increasing coordination between governments, civil society organisations, academics and other stakeholders, and enhancing collaboration among government agencies in Thailand.

In February 2017 Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol became UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Rule of Law in Southeast Asia. Her Royal Highness has brought a wealth of experience and engagement on crime prevention and criminal justice to her role as UNODC Goodwill Ambassador in helping to promote equitable justice and rule of law in this region.

Some key figures

Under the supervision of the Regional Representative, UNODC ROSEAP consists of 46 staff, with a total activity budget of USD 11,142,000 regionally and a total disbursement of USD 7,773,750 regionally in 2017.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- In fulfilling its obligations as a non-state Signatory to the Mekong MOU on Drug Control, to which Thailand and five other countries in the Mekong region are members, UNODC continued to provide secretarial and administrative services to support the implementation of Mekong Sub-Regional Action Plan, as well as facilitating the annual Mekong MOU Focal Point Meeting, Senior Official Committee Meetings, and Ministerial Meeting in 2017.
- UNODC continued to promote and strengthen the Border Liaison Office (BLO) concept as an effective mechanism to enhance cross-border cooperation in the region. With 76 BLO locations in Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam, around 4,000 cross-border joint operation instances have been reported by BLO countries in 2017.
- UNODC completed a joint report with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), entitled 'Trafficking in persons from Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar into Thailand', which highlighted challenges and opportunities for preventing and combating trafficking among the countries. The publication was launched in August 2017 at the UNCC in Bangkok, Thailand.
- UNODC supported 11 countries and 20 civil society organizations in the region, including Thailand, in the review mechanism of the United Nations Conventions against Corruption (UNCAC) and enhanced regional mechanisms to counter corruption. The technical support provided enhanced the capacity of Thailand and other countries to be actively involved in the review mechanism.
- In addition, UNODC provided comments to the revision of the Anti-Corruption Law of Thailand to the General Assembly of Thailand and the Drafting Committee. Some of the comments provided were included in the draft, including comments on the powers and independence of the National Anti-Corruption Commission and special investigative techniques.
- In 2017, training was provided for a total of 68 law enforcement officers (29 females/39 males) from Thailand, using UNODC/Terrorism Prevention Branch learning materials. The key event was conducted in May, when UNODC conducted a stakeholder consultation with key beneficiary countries (Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand). The meeting discussed the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Programme for Southeast Asia and collected inputs from the participants on technical assistance recommendations relevant to their respective countries as well as the region. The meeting also discussed upcoming activities and collaboration with the participating countries.
- UNODC supported the Southeast Asia Seminar to combat Transnational Crime. The Seminar was organised by Thailand's Office of the Attorney General in collaboration with Thailand's Institute of Justice. Representatives from 10 ASEAN countries shared their experience and information on legal frameworks and practices regarding international mutual legal assistance and extradition to explore better cooperation mechanisms in the region.
- In the area of drugs and health developments, UNODC provided Technical Assistance (TA) to the Royal Thai Government, which led, inter alia, to a review of narcotic law penalties for drug-related crimes. Another section of the legislation, placing greater emphasis on the health-driven response to drugs, is still being debated and supported by UNODC.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Key events and activities undertaken by UNODC in 2017, with the participation of Thailand, included the following:

- In collaboration with and among the MOU Member States, UNODC drafted and supported the endorsement of the 'Phnom Penh Joint Declaration on Effectively Addressing the Drug Problem in the Region' during the Mekong MOU Ministerial Meeting in 2017. The Declaration reaffirms the determination to address drug challenges within the framework of the three international drug conventions, while connecting the Action Plan with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Post 2030 Development Agenda.
- With UNODC support and with collaboration among the Mekong MOU Member States, the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention have been promoted within ASEAN ad hoc forums, as well as among the countries of the Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-region – Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam (Mekong MOU). The Sub-Regional Action Plan under the MOU includes a drug prevention pillar that outlines the framework policies for drug prevention among the MOU member countries.
- In collaboration with the Department of Fisheries of Thailand, UNODC co-hosted a workshop on identifying risks of economic crimes and corruption in the fisheries sector in Southeast Asia. Forty participants, including international experts and representatives of the private sector as well as practitioners from anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement and fishery departments from 7 ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam), participated in a field visit to a fishing port to learn about the existing traceability system in the fishing industry – a system developed by Thai institutions. Approaches to mitigate, identify and investigate risks of corruption and economic crimes were discussed, leading to an agreement to develop a framework to counter economic crime and corruption in the fisheries sector in the region.

- In collaboration with other UN entities (the UN Office of Counter Terrorism, UNDP, UN Women, and UN Volunteers), UNODC conducted a regional workshop on the prevention of violent extremism. This workshop was jointly conducted under a “whole-of-UN” approach. In addition to UN entities a number of partner organisations, including the European Union, Hedayah and the Global Centre for Cooperative Security, also took part and provided technical expertise during the workshop. Government officials and representatives from academic, religious and civil society groups from 6 South and Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand, attended the workshop, which resulted in identifying the key challenges involved in conceptualizing and formulating a Plan of Action, areas for partnership with the non-governmental sector, effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Plan, and technical assistance that can be provided by respective UN agencies.
- UNODC collaborated with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) to organize a meeting of the central authorities of Southeast Asia and South Asia to discuss more effective ways for interregional MLA process. The meeting was attended by representatives from 12 countries, including Lao PDR, Viet Nam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. The existing legal frameworks were discussed, including the ASEAN Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance on Criminal Matters among Like-Minded ASEAN Member Countries, as well as various challenges, through group discussion and case studies. The meeting served as an opportunity to achieve a common understanding between Southeast Asia and South Asia of MLA challenges, and to explore possible solutions for more expeditious and efficient international cooperation.
- In collaboration with UN Women and UNDP, UNODC organised an event to launch a study entitled “The Trial of Rape: Understanding the criminal justice system response to sexual violence in Thailand and Viet Nam”. With 100 participants from both governmental and non-governmental organizations, this event brought together UN partners, government officials and researchers, criminal and justice experts, journalists and academics from Thailand and Viet Nam to present and discuss the findings of the study as well as to provide recommended mechanisms to ensure the protection of victims and survivors of sexual violence.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

- In 2018, as part of the UNPAF 2017-2021 framework for promoting social fairness and reducing inequality, UNODC ROSEAP will focus on its strategic priorities through the implementation of its five Regional sub-programmes by supporting Thailand and countries in the region to develop effective, inclusive and sustainable policy-making and implementation architecture in order to promote the rule of law, counter organized crime and protect vulnerable group and communities.
- UNODC’s Regional Programme also contributes towards achieving several Sustainable Development Goals, in particular **SDG 16** (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and indirectly supports the outcomes of other SDGs by establishing rule of law and enforcing criminal justice systems for sustainable economic development.

The mapping of SDGs and the planned activities of UNODC’s regional sub-programmes for 2018 are as follows:

Sub-Programme 1: UNODC will continue to enhance the core capacities of law enforcement agencies and criminal justice authorities to identify and act on Transnational Organised Crime and Illicit Trafficking (e.g. drug trafficking, human trafficking and wildlife crime) and to strengthen border control cooperation between Thailand and countries in the region. **(SDGs 5, 8, 10 & 16)**

Sub-Programme 2: UNODC will work with Thailand and countries in this region to enhance the capacities of national anti-corruption bodies through the provision of technical assistance and the organisation of a capacity-building programme. **(SDGs 8, 10, 16 & 17)**

Sub-Programme 3: UNODC will support governments in this region, including the Thai government, on terrorism prevention. **(SDG 16)**

Sub-Programme 4: UNODC will help Thailand and countries in this region to strengthen the criminal justice system in order to deliver justice in a fair, effective and equitable manner. **(SDGs 10 & 16)**

Sub-Programme 5: UNODC will enhance regional capacities in drug use and HIV prevention and treatment, as well as continuing its partnership with the Royal Project Foundation of Thailand to promote alternative development policies in poppy-growing areas, especially in Lao PDR and Myanmar. **(SGDs 3, 16 & 17)**

UNOPS - United Nations Office for Project Services

1. Agency Description

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) is an operational arm of the United Nations that supports the successful implementation of its partners' peacebuilding, humanitarian and development projects around the world. UNOPS provides project management, procurement and infrastructure services to governments, donors and UN organizations. UNOPS currently supports more than USD 1.6 billion worth of development projects every year.

In Thailand, UNOPS delivers HR Transactional services on behalf of global clients. From its Bangkok office, UNOPS provides transactional HR services to a wide range of partners, including UNHCR, The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Interpeace, IOM, UN Habitat, UN Environment, the French Government and the Swiss Government, in Tanzania, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, New Caledonia, Afghanistan, Iran, Fiji, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, Viet Nam, Sudan, Haiti, Greece and Canada. Through this service provision, UNOPS assists agencies and programmes in poverty eradication, environmental sustainability, the reduction of inequalities, disaster risk reduction, strengthening sustainability in public service delivery, capacity-building and improved local governance.

UNOPS is also the principal recipient of the Global Fund and currently supports the implementation of the Regional Artemisinin-Resistance Initiative (RAI), a regional grant worth USD 243 million to accelerate the elimination of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria in the greater Mekong sub-region, including in Thailand, over a three-year period 2018-2020. The initiative supports increased coverage of malaria services for remote populations in border areas and other at-risk populations, as well as case management.



UNV: South-South Knowledge Exchange; Photo by UN Volunteers

UNV – United Nations Volunteers

1. Agency Description

The United Nations Volunteer programme (UNV) contributes to peace and development by advocating for the recognition of volunteers, working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing an increasing number and more diverse range of volunteers, including experienced UN Volunteers, throughout the world.

UNV's contribution to UNPAF is linked to outcome 4. UNV assists national partners, the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), universities and local volunteer-involving organizations (VIOs) in strengthening volunteer engagement in South-South Cooperation to position Thailand as a key regional actor. UNV also cooperates with these partners to engage youth as relevant partners for localizing the SDGs through volunteer action.

Some key figures

The Senior Portfolio Manager at the UNV Regional Office oversees one programme assistant and programme management. In 2017, 42 UN Volunteers served in ten UN agencies.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- UNV worked with the Thai International Cooperation Agency (TICA) on jointly implementing the first South-South Knowledge Exchange on Youth Volunteering under the theme "Sharing the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and other approaches from ASEAN countries". The event was carried out through cost-sharing with the TICA and brought more than 100 participants from the ASEAN countries and beyond. The topic of Volunteering and the Conference were also mentioned in the SDGs Thailand Voluntary National Review presented to High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2017.
- UNV signed the first agreement to deploy Thai UN University Volunteers in the ASEAN region through partnership with the King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT). Through this partnership, 20-25 graduate students will be mobilized in the period 2018-2022 as UN University Volunteers to serve in ASEAN countries as part of South-South exchange.

- UNV mobilized 42 UN Volunteers (five national and 37 international) to contribute to the work of the UN System in Thailand. Five UN Volunteers served in Thailand Countries Offices. Two volunteers supported efforts to enhance the capacity of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience in South and East Asia and the Pacific. One volunteer provided clinical, occupational health and medico-administrative support to staff in the UN medical service. One supported communications and outreach to raise the profile of UNDP Thailand in media and among government agencies. UNV also mobilized international UN Volunteers for UNHCR to support durable solutions, refugee status determination, and protection activities.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

South-South Knowledge Exchange on Youth Volunteering for the SDGs: Sharing Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and Other Approaches from ASEAN Countries.

From 20-23 June in Bangkok, Thailand, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) co-hosted a conference entitled 'South-South Knowledge Exchange on Youth Volunteering for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Sharing Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and Other Approaches from ASEAN Countries'. The event was an important milestone in creating a platform for peer learning, innovation sharing and partnership-building around volunteerism in ASEAN countries and beyond. The conference focused on the theme of youth to highlight the experiences of ASEAN member states in channelling youth volunteering for sustainable development. On this theme, more than 100 participants from national and subnational governments, UN agencies, youth organizations, volunteer-involving organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector shared their strategies and projects linking volunteering to development challenges in the region.

In Thailand, the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) approach, developed by His Late Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, promotes sustainable development. The approach recognizes the contributions of youth volunteering to projects as an important channel for Thai youth to develop their qualifications, while channelling their energy, skills, and innovative thinking for sustainable development.

Through discussions and a field visit to nearby SEP project sites, conference participants learned the importance of building strong multi-stakeholder partnerships that are focused on local needs coupled to effective volunteer infrastructures that are responsive to local communities. Through the many examples presented, it was demonstrated that development challenges, such as localizing the SDGs, enhancing life and work skills within communities, promoting regional identity, and creating innovation and partnerships, all benefit from volunteerism.

IMPACT ASEAN Youth Volunteer Innovation Challenge

Competing at the conference, 29 young volunteer innovators from ten teams across ASEAN participated in the Youth Volunteering Innovation Challenge. The theme, Impact ASEAN, gave them an opportunity to pitch their ideas and scale up their programmes for leveraging volunteerism to achieve the SDGs. Eight teams from Thailand applied to participate in the challenge and two of them were selected to participate in the competition at the conference.

UNV-KMUTT Volunteer Programme

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda recognizes the role that youth can play both as critical agents of change and as vital implementers of change. The world must support youth's energy and efforts, but also help foster within young women and men the important values of solidarity and meaningful civic participation.

Under the five-year regional pilot programme created by UNV and the King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), 20–25 graduate students will develop capacities and contribute to specific development programmes supported by the United Nations in ASEAN countries, specifically in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar and Viet Nam. The students will leverage their knowledge and skills in science and technology and dedicate their creativity and energy to peace and development in their six-month assignments. The first volunteers will be deployed in 2018.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

Activities in 2018 will build on the foundation and partnerships built in 2018. UNV will continue to promote and deploy UN Volunteers in support of UN Agencies' development work in Thailand. UNV will also mobilize the first KMUTT University Volunteers in Thailand, Cambodia, Viet Nam and Indonesia. UNV will also support VIOs on promoting youth engagement for the SDGs. UNV will participate in the 3rd National Conference on Volunteering in Thailand.

All these activities are linked to UNV's contributions to Outcome 4 of the UNPAF on facilitating South-South Cooperation through volunteering.

UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

1. Agency Description

The UN Women Thailand Programme worked in three areas in 2017: (1) Women lead in politics and decision-making; (2) women and girls live a free life from all forms of violence, and (3) women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience. UN Women provides policy and technical support for normative standard-setting and implementation of the Government's commitments, including the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women, the Measure and Guideline on Women, Peace and Security, gender-responsive budgeting, SDGs and CEDAW reporting. Other areas of focus include knowledge management, packaging and capacity-building in areas affecting women facing multiple forms of discrimination, such as access to justice and women's participation in peacebuilding.

Some key figures

UN Women's Thailand Programme consists of a Country Programme Coordinator for Thailand and Lao PDR, a Programme Assistant and a Monitoring and Reporting Officer, with a total activity budget of USD 164,820, of which 97.5 percent was spent in 2017.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- The project entitled "promoting resilient, cohesive and peaceful communities through women's empowerment in Southern Border Provinces of Thailand" was implemented from 1 July to 31 December 2017. The Programme equipped local women with the capacity and skills to promote social cohesion in selected communities through gender-responsive community empowerment initiatives. This was achieved through: 1) promoting community dialogues of women and community leaders and livelihoods schemes to promote social cohesion and deradicalization in communities; and 2) facilitating consultations between women's networks/local stakeholders and local authorities. At least 200 women and 30 women's groups in the southern border province of Thailand have benefitted from the project.
- A workshop entitled "New Dimensions in Family Welfare Protection" was organized in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General and UN Women Thailand from 27 February to 1 March 2017 in Bangkok. Thirty key prosecutors selected by the Office of the Attorney General gathered for three days to discuss legal challenges for victims of domestic violence, especially in the case of Battered Women Syndrome, and the recommendations of the Protective Measures of Victim Safeguards Bill. The draft bill was proposed by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. This is to ensure that women are well protected in the case of domestic violence and to safeguard women in the case of Battered Women Syndrome. The recommendations from the workshop have been incorporated in the policy brief to be submitted to the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.
- The Regional Meeting on Multi-Sectoral Services to Respond to Gender-Based Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific was held in Thailand on 28-30 June 2017. This was part of a partnership by UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP and UNODC which aims to provide greater access to a coordinated set of essential and quality multi-sectoral services for all women and girls who have experienced gender based violence.
- In collaboration with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) and the Office of the Attorney General, a Multi-sectoral workshop on criminal justice processes for the protection of women was conducted in November 2017 to address challenges and improve criminal justice processes to ensure women's protection and access to justice. The recommendations from the workshop have been incorporated in the policy brief.
- UN Women, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and the Network of Civic Women for Peace, organized a National Consultation Workshop on Measures and Guidelines on Women, Peace and Security in the Southern Border Provinces of Thailand in November 2017 (with 100 participants) as part of efforts to support the government in localizing the Measures and Guidelines on women, Peace and Security at local level and to raise awareness among women's groups in the Southern Border Provinces about women, peace and security. The recommendations from the workshop have been incorporated in the 2018 Operational Plan on Women Peace and Security in which UN Women is committed to support four out of the five measures.
- A multi-UN agency study (UN Women, UNDP and UNODC) entitled "The Trial of Rape: Understanding the criminal justice system response to sexual violence in Thailand and Vietnam" was completed and launched on 29 November 2017.

- Research on Women Legal and Economic Empowerment for Sustainable Development was completed. The research highlighted linkages between **SDG 5** and **SDG 16** and analysed how the legal and economic empowerment of women paves the way towards sustainable development. The research findings which will be used for policy advocacy on women's empowerment, peace and security.

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

- UN Women led the development and submission of the UNCT CEDAW Report to the CEDAW Committee, and the reporting to the CEDAW Committee in Geneva through a video conference in July 2017, in accordance with the Sixth and Seventh periodic CEDAW reports prepared by the Thai Government since March 2017. The UNCT CEDAW Report provides an opportunity for the UNCT to contribute to the report's concluding observations so that they reflect the realities and needs of women and girls in the country, and thus also support the UN country programming priorities on gender equality. The Gender Theme Group under the leadership of UN Women served as the mechanism to finalize the UNCT CEDAW Report before its submission in June 2017. For the next two years, UN Women will be committed to supporting the Thai government to respond to the CEDAW Report's concluding observations.
- To enable a legislative and policy environment in accordance with international standards on ERAW and other forms of discrimination, 120 National and local authorities in Thailand were equipped with Essential Services Packages for Women and Girls Subject to Violence to improve the quality and accessibility of essential services. The Joint UN Programme of UNFPA, UN Women, UNODC and WHO on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence was organized in June to strengthen the multi-sectoral response to gender-based violence against women and girls in the context of the global plan of action on health systems response to VAWG and the Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence. In November, 90 duty-bearers were also briefed and introduced to the Essential Services by the Regional ERAW Programme.
- UN Women has been coordinating with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security in finalizing the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women through consultation workshops with the participation of all sectors. UN Women has supported the government in providing input and comments and will work with relevant stakeholders in rolling out and localizing the NAP. In addition, a joint collaboration was undertaken between the Thai Government (OWAFD, NSO, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and the UN Gender Theme Group led by UN Women on the Gender-Based Violence/Violence against Women National Survey. The aim of the collaboration is to identify evidence, resources and capacity-building needs and recommendations for the improvement of legislation, policy and programmes relating to the prevention of and responses to VAW. The sustainable development goals, especially **SDG 5**, will be used as indicators in the National Survey to address the specific needs and priorities of women, to anticipate emerging issues and trends, and to design and target interventions for gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 SDGs agenda, applying the principle of "leaving no one behind". The survey will strengthen data for sustainable development (**SDG 17**) and has been included in the UNPAF for 2017-2021.
- UN Women Thailand applied the work undertaken on Regional Women, Peace and Security in Bangladesh and Indonesia and adapted it to the Thailand context. UN Women has built trust and social cohesion among various stakeholders and different segments of the population at community level through capacity-building and promoting peace dialogue among women, community leaders and young leaders in conflict-affected communities in the southern border provinces. UN Women assists women and young people to identify common and accessible spaces for dialogue and community-led initiatives and empowers mediation, income generation, media and community business and development initiatives. Good practices and lessons learned from this project were submitted to the Regional Women, Peace and Security Programme for knowledge sharing as part of South-South collaboration.
- The multi-UN agency study (UN Women, UNDP and UNODC) entitled "The Trial of Rape: Understanding the criminal justice system response to sexual violence in Thailand and Vietnam" was launched in Bangkok on 29 November 2017 with the attendance of more than 100 representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, academic institutions and media. The study assessed the situation, factors and barriers of the criminal justice system's response to sexual violence and mapping of the sexual violence legislation and legal processes in each country. The study found social discriminatory norms are factors hindering case reporting and accessibility to services and criminal justice. Recommendations included establishing quality essential justice services for victims, comprehensive legal and policy frameworks and effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and prioritizing human and financial resources to ensure protection for victims and survivors.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

In 2018, UN Women in Thailand will focus its strategic priorities in all of the following five areas: (1) A comprehensive and dynamic set of global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will be strengthened and implemented; (2) Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; (3) Women have income security, decent work, and economic autonomy; (4) All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; (5) Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and from humanitarian action. (**SDGs 5, 8, 10 & 16**)

To further contribute to SDGs, and particularly in mainstreaming **SDG 5**, UN Women Thailand will continue to provide knowledge and expertise to support gender analysis and gender responsive advocacy and the development and implementation of policy and legislation through planned activities, including roll out and localization of the Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, awareness-raising, the development of training curriculums/tools and IEC materials on access to justice, and the National Survey on Gender-Based Violence/ Violence against Women as part of UNPAF 2017-2021.

WHO - World Health Organization

1. Agency Description

WHO supports and adds value to the Royal Thai Government (RTG) and other stakeholders in improving the health of all people living in Thailand and in promoting Thai expertise around the world. Our collaboration with the RTG is described in the fifth Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) for 2017–2021, which represents a unique approach to partnership, with more than 60 stakeholders in health, including academia, civil society, other sectors and government autonomous health agencies all coming together on a limited number of clear priorities. The CCS focuses on six strategic priorities: (1) Antimicrobial Resistance; (2) Global Health Diplomacy; (3) International Trade and Health; (4) Migrant Health; (5) Noncommunicable Diseases; and (6) Road Safety.

Some key figures

The WHO Country Office has a team of 27 highly motivated professional and administrative staff collaborating with the Ministry of Public Health and relevant partners. Over 4 million USD were spent in 2017 on activities and personnel.

2. Key results achieved in 2017 in relation to the SDGs

- Thailand officially eliminated Lymphatic Filariasis as a public health problem
- WHO advocacy harnessed high-level political commitment and action on TB
- Health Ministers of the SEAR region joined the Thai Public Health Minister to sign the Phuket commitment to protect vulnerable road users
- Successful completion of the Joint External Evaluation of IHR core capacities
- First comprehensive law passed for protecting breastfeeding
- Human Papilloma Virus vaccine, targeting school girls, was introduced nationwide
- Increased taxation on tobacco, alcoholic beverages and sugary drinks

3. Description of key events and activities in 2017

Thailand starts innovative CCS 2017-2021

Thailand is unique in having a CCS in which priorities are jointly defined and activities are jointly funded by WHO, the Ministry of Health and a number of quasi-governmental agencies. WHO contributes only 30% of the planned costs of CCS, in order to encourage country ownership (USD 3.9 million over 5 years).

Harnessing political commitment and action on TB

In 2017, the Vice Minister of Health signed the Delhi Declaration to accelerate efforts to end TB in Thailand. The Minister of Health also addressed the plenary at the November 2017 WHO Global Ministerial Conference in Moscow on “Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response”, focussing on the role of universal health coverage in ending TB. Two programme reviews, combined with high-level briefings by the WHO Representative to the Director General of the Department of Disease Control have emphasized for senior managers at MoPH the need for more effective and fast-tracked strategies for ending TB.

Passing of the first comprehensive law protecting breastfeeding

On 4 April 2017, the National Legislative Assembly passed “The Control of Marketing of Food for Infant and Young Children Act”. This is the first comprehensive law in Thailand to regulate inappropriate marketing of food for infants and young children (0-3 years). The Act, which came into force in September 2017, places a total ban on the advertising and promotion of breastmilk substitutes for infants. WHO supported the development of the law through technical assistance on legal issues, advocacy (including through media advocacy) and communication from the WHO DG to the Prime Minister.

Ambitious target set to reduce sodium consumption by 30% by 2025

Thais consume twice the recommended levels of sodium. In response, Thailand has set a target to reduce sodium consumption by 30% by 2025. Most dietary sodium is found in packaged food. WHO worked with the FDA, MoPH and civil society groups to engage with the food industry to reformulate selected packaged foods to contain less sodium.

Progress on road safety legislation and speed management

Significant progress was made on legislative changes in the area of road safety, in part due to the setting up of a Working Group within DDPM as a result of strong and widely recognized WHO advocacy efforts. WHO's collaboration with the World Bank, initiated in early 2017, led to a request by MOT in mid-2017 to the WB for a lead agency capacity review to augment institutional assessment and come up with recommendations for strengthening the lead agency.

Partnerships

With bilateral organizations: WHO continued its collaboration with and technical assistance to the Embassy Friends of Road Safety, who support and advocate for improvements in road safety in Thailand, by bringing in experts from their respective countries to present and consult on a variety of road safety-related topics.

With international partners: WHO's collaboration with international partners in 2017 included a joint national consultative meeting with Centre for Disease Control on hypertension, joint advocacy with UNICEF for breastfeeding, and a joint publication with UNDP on tobacco control. Over half a million USD was mobilized from US CDC and the 'Resolve to Save Lives' campaign (a five-year campaign funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation).

With the private sector: WHO worked as a catalyst and convener to achieve the signing of an MOU to promote access service among migrant children in urban areas. The MOU was signed by 3 parties in mid-2016: the MoPH, UNICEF and Sansiri PLC. Following this framework, efforts have been undertaken extensively in 2017 with the National Immunization Programme, the Institute for Urban Disease Control and Prevention, San Siri PLC and UNICEF. As a result, a model for Public and Private Partnership on immunization services for under-served populations (migrants) has been drafted. The model and network will be expanded to include other public firms in 2018.

4. Brief outline of planned activities for 2018

WHO will continue to contribute its intellectual and social capital by collaborating with Thai governmental and non-governmental partners, focusing on CCS priority areas (Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) migrant health, Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs), road safety, international trade and health and global health diplomacy), as well as on a number of unfinished agendas. Some of the major activities in the coming years include:

- A continuing focus on tobacco control, hypertension management, sodium reduction, trans fat elimination, policy development to prevent childhood obesity, including enforcement of the new breast-feeding law, and strengthening surveillance and capacity-building.
- On the road safety front, the WHO country office will pursue the pending amendments and will attempt to revive the Working Group to Review Road Safety Legislative Amendments. WHO will provide support to the Motorcycle Safety Working Group to develop a realistic action plan.
- Important Zika research studies will commence and help provide a better picture of the impact of the Zika virus infection in Thailand. The most important of these studies will look at the incidence of Zika virus infections in pregnant women, as well as the associated risk of neonatal microcephaly.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Office of the Resident Coordinator
12th Floor, United Nations Building
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Phranakorn, Bangkok 10200
Thailand

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