

Background Paper: UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THE 2030 AGENDA

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) articulates the UN development system's support to Thailand's strong commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and its ambition to become a high-income, inclusive, sustainable, resilient, and advanced nation.

Guided by the UN principles of Leave No One Behind, human rights, gender equality, sustainability, and resilience, the UNSDCF is closely aligned to Thailand's twenty-year National Strategy and to the draft 13th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NESDP). Thailand has made solid progress and, from this foundation, is well positioned to accelerate progress towards the objectives of the transformative 2030 Agenda by addressing some of the more complex and interconnected development challenges. This becomes even more pertinent as the country begins the process of recovery from the deep impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, necessitating the UNSDCF to promote digitalization and efforts to preserve environmental gains.

The UNSDCF will also contribute to Thailand's efforts in advancing the "Bio-Circular-Green Economy" model, as the post-COVID-19 transformative pathway towards building back better and stronger. In line with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, the Bio-Circular-Green Economy model prioritizes a development path that is more balanced, resilient, and sustainable, while being environmentally and climate responsive.

Based on an analysis of the country context and following consultation with the Government, development partners and various community groups, including those at risk of and/or left furthest behind, the UN has identified three strategic outcomes aligned with the four national priorities of the draft 13th NESDP. These three outcomes in turn contribute to twelve of the Government's thirteen milestones contained in the draft 13th NESDP.¹ These three strategic outcomes are underpinned by six focus areas in which UN agencies will collaborate with the Government and development partners to support the country achieve specific results which contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

Outcomes and alignment with NESDP priorities

The three risk-informed outcomes for consideration are critical for advancing the SDGs around which the UN is best placed to leverage its comparative advantages.

- **Outcome One:** Thailand's transformation into an inclusive economy based on a green, resilient, low-carbon, sustainable development is accelerated.
- **Outcome Two:** Human capital needed for social and inclusive development is improved through strengthening of institutions, partnerships, and the empowerment of people.
- **Outcome Three:** People living in Thailand, especially those at risk of being left furthest behind, are able to participate in and benefit from development, free from all forms of discrimination.

The first outcome will contribute to two of NESDP strategic priorities dealing with high value-added green economy and eco-friendly living. The second outcome will contribute to the NESDP strategic priority dealing with key enablers for Thailand's transformation. The third outcome will contribute to the NESDP strategic priority dealing with a high opportunity society.

Realization of Thailand's vision of national development and attainment of the SDGs

¹ Milestone 1 - high value agriculture; Milestone 2 - value tourism; Milestone 3: electric vehicles; Milestone 4 – comprehensive medical and health services; Milestone 5: regional logistics hub; Milestone 6 – smart electronic and digital services; Milestone 7 - sustainably growing social/local enterprise; Milestone 8 - modern and liveable cities; Milestone 9 - lower intergenerational poverty and adequate social protection; Milestone 10 - circular economy and low-carbon society; Milestone 11 - natural disaster and climate change impact mitigation; Milestone 12 - high-skill workers to serve market demands; Milestone 13 - hi-efficiency public sector.

Realization of Thailand's vision of national development and attainment of the SDGs entails transformational rather than incremental change, as acknowledged in the draft 13th NESDP. It recognizes the closely inter-connected nature of the 2030 Agenda across its various social, economic, and environmental dimensions with good governance and human rights providing the foundation for transformative, inclusive, and resilient development to be achieved.

For Thailand to advance into higher value-adding sectors based on low carbon, environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth requires a bold policy shift, accompanied by a step change in policy implementation. A significant uptick in public and private investment is needed in industry 4.0 enablers, including digitization, innovation, and associated technologies (automation, AI, the internet of things, fintech, blockchain, etc.) to increase productivity and transformation across the NESDP prioritized sectors. This must be accompanied by increased investment in quality human capital via equitable education, skills and labour market development, universal healthcare services, and adequate social welfare provision.

Maintaining predictable conditions for vibrant private enterprise and a flourishing civil society can only be fully secured by accountable, transparent, and good governance arrangements offering institutional integrity based on the rule of law and human rights in accordance with universal standards and norms that Thailand is party to². Public services must match the levels of innovation, digital and technology drivers of Industry 4.0 to significantly improve the quality of service delivery.

The ultimate measure of performance will be gauged by the impact in reducing Thailand's multi-dimensional poverty rate and underlying inequalities, for example, through social protection schemes to enable all people to participate in, and benefit from, development, and ensure that no one in Thailand is left behind. Specific policies and development solutions are required to tap the unrealized potential that exists in the informal sector; through facilitating access and transition to opportunities for young people and women; and in reinforcing migrant workers' rights in a modern, inclusive, and progressive society, economy, and democracy.

These key processes of change require an unprecedented commitment to working in partnership with the private sector, civil society, and academia, including the leverage and pursuit of new and innovative financing strategies. This should extend to a whole of society approach in which all institutions, communities and individuals exercise their combined agency in enabling Thailand's ambition to achieve the SDGs.

Comparative Advantages of the UN

The UN will support Thailand in the fulfilment of its vision for transformative high value economic, human, and sustainable development by drawing on its global reach and capabilities. The UN is at the forefront of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN is uniquely placed to support the Government to leverage the opportunities arising from the range of development inspired by human rights-based treaties and conventions to which the country is party to promote inclusive social and economic development. In seeking to implement this normative framework of global best practice, the UN will draw on global good practices and facilitate south-south and triangular cooperation for advancing the SDGs through transfer of technical knowledge and adaptation of scalable development solutions. The UN can be depended upon as a provider of cutting-edge policy support and technical assistance to build forward sustainably with a focus on enhancing productivity and balancing environmental impacts. Harnessing real-time big-data analytics,

² 1. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) – ratified 2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - ratified; 3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) - ratified; 4. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) – ratified, and its Optional Protocol; 5. Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) - ratified; 6. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) acceded and its three Protocols- Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict Optional Protocol to the CRC on a Communication Procedure 7. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) – ratified, and its Optional Protocol; 8. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICMW); 9. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPEd) - signed.

and science, to tackle some of Thailand’s most pressing development challenges, such as climate change, inequalities, demographic dynamics, the digital divide, for example, by utilizing chemical finger printing and satellite imagery for understanding air pollution and secondment of technical advisory skills such as in the area of social protection. The UN and its agencies work very closely with populations at risk of being left behind and is well placed to both support and partner with these groups as well as civil society. Not least, the UN is well-placed to co-create platforms and partnerships that support innovation, digitization, and foresight with the private sector, civil society, and young people. Such endeavours help to reinforce Thailand’s position as a pioneer of sustainable development solutions across the ASEAN region and within global platforms convened by the UN.

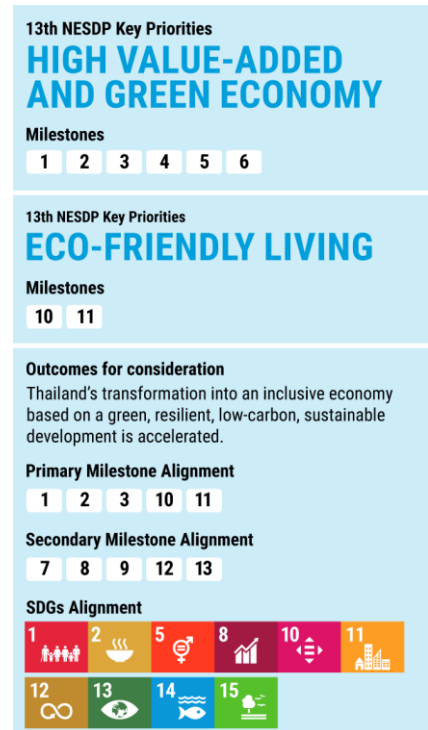
Outcome One: Thailand’s transformation into an inclusive economy based on a green, resilient, low-carbon, sustainable development is accelerated.

The first strategic outcome that is being considered contributes to the NESDP priorities aiming at high value added and green economy premised on principles of eco-friendly living to support climate action, biodiversity conservation, and disaster management. In order to focus the UN’s support towards the attainment of this outcome, the UN will collaborate with the Government and development partners to deliver on the following two focus areas, which contributes to ten of the milestones prioritised in the draft 13th plan.³

UN focus area: Support inclusive and sustainable economic growth premised on Thailand’s bio-circular-green model.⁴

In its convener role, the UN will facilitate dialogues, co-create platforms, and leverage partnerships, with the Government, the private sector, and SMEs. For example, with the Global Compact Network Thailand (GCNT)⁵ it will accelerate and scale up the global collective impact of business via upholding the ten principles of the Global Compact.⁶ This contributes to delivering the SDGs through companies committed to responsible business practices and promote ecosystems that enable positive change. The UN will also promote a conducive business environment for SMEs. Working with business associations such as the Federation of Thai Industries, the UN will support green solutions including eco-design, resource switching and waste exchange. The UN and private sector engagement will seek to make markets work for the SDGs, with an emphasis on gender equality and inclusion of poor and marginalized communities (SDGs 1, 5, 7, 8 9, 10, 11, 16 & 17).

Working within the broad scope of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)⁷, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the UN will support the Government with policy and technical advice on green financing. This will include, partnering to scale up responsible banking, investment, and insurance principles to support the



³ Milestones of the draft 13th NESDP supported under UNSDCF Outcome One: Milestone 1 - high value agriculture; Milestone 2 - value tourism; Milestone 3 - electric vehicles; Milestone 7 - sustainably growing social/local enterprise; Milestone 8 - modern and liveable cities; Milestone 9 - lower intergenerational poverty and adequate social protection; Milestone 10 - circular economy and low-carbon society; Milestone 11 - natural disaster and climate change impact mitigation; Milestone 12 - high-skill workers to serve market demands; Milestone 13 - hi-efficiency public sector.

⁴ Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

⁵ <https://thailand.un.org/index.php/en/90764-global-compact-network-thailand-unites-public-private-partnership-declaration-commitment-lead>

⁶ Derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization’s Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, the Global Compact’s Ten Principles are a universal and timeless framework for corporate sustainability and responsible business practice.

⁷ <https://unfccc.int/>

advancement of the net zero emission targets and safeguarding natural resources. The UN will make available tools, methodologies and solutions that aim to bridge the bio-circular-green economy investment gap, including strengthening data collection systems for better design of green economy and GHG reductions (SDGs 9, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17).

The UN will work to connect with relevant initiatives on the bio-circular-green economy and integrate them to realize the government's B-C-G model as well as the SDGs. The UN will leverage its knowledge networks and technical expertise and support Thailand in its efforts to accelerate a reduction in GHG towards net zero emissions to narrow the global emissions gap⁸ with a focus on low-carbon mobility, material recycling and application of circular economy practices to encourage the regenerative economy by design. It will also promote green skills and jobs in cleaner energy. In addition, the UN will continue to support Thailand to deliver on its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as well as in the implementation of its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Climate Change Master Plan (SDGs 5, 7, 8, 9, 13 & 16).

The UN will support Thailand across the integrated range of prosperity, sustainability and inclusion challenges, to advance a sound ecological and biodiversity-based sustainable and cultural tourism through partnership with government, private sector, and local communities.⁹ Thailand has long occupied a prominent place in global tourism, and has arrived at a pivotal opportunity to redefine its competitive edge by using tourism as a global showcase on how to effect a transformation of its economic model based on green and inclusion principles, signalling leadership in the environmental domain.¹⁰ The UN will provide integrated support for Thailand's post-COVID green recovery drawing on good practices to build forward sustainably with a focus on enhancing productivity and balancing environmental impacts. In addition, support will be extended to support preservation of Thailand's Biosphere Reserves, world natural and cultural heritage and further advance environmental protection and biodiversity conservation both on land and under water (SDGs 8, 9, 12, 14, 15 & 16).

The UN will take a holistic view of the agricultural and food systems. This entails the provision of support grounded in green agricultural extension technologies, food loss and waste reduction, low emissions strategies, organic farming and exports, gender-sensitive circular economy practices and natural resource management (including water, marine, forests, mangroves etc), and climate resilient agriculture for sustainable and nutritious food production and livelihoods (SDGs 2, 5, 8, 15, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15).

UN focus area: Enable and strengthen capacities for low carbon society, resilience, and disaster recovery with capability to adapt to and reduce the risks of disasters.¹¹

The UN will partner with Government to champion the decarbonization of Thailand's economy through policy implementation, technical assistance, and advisory services, including for strengthened data and information collection systems in response to the UN Secretary-General's call on "all leaders worldwide to declare a state of climate emergency in their countries"¹² (SDG 13).

In step with the Government's aspirations to shift towards eco-friendly living and ensure the sustainability of natural resources, ecosystems and the climate, the UN will prioritize the scale up of conservation for biodiversity through public, private and community-based partnerships aligned to the Convention on

⁸ <https://www.unep.org/emissions-gap-report-2020>

⁹ SDG 8.9: By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism which creates jobs, promotes local culture and products.

¹⁰ SDG 12.b: Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

¹¹ Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13.

¹² <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-12-12/secretary-generals-remarks-the-climate-ambition-summit-bilingual-delivered-scroll-down-for-all-english-version>

Biological Diversity.¹³ Biodiversity will be a key area of focus and the UN will remain an active partner in supporting the implementation of the National Master Plan for Integrated Biodiversity Management, the National Biodiversity Finance Plan, and the nature-based solutions initiative. The UN will offer its expertise to policymakers in the public and private sectors to test and consider the inclusion of health and productivity of ecosystems in their economic decision-making (SDGs 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17).

The UN will step up its collaboration through technical assistance to support a reduction in all forms of pollution (air, water, and land) and promote an improvement in waste management policies and practices through circular economy practices. A diversity of partnerships, including through international co-operation where required, to support innovation and co-creation to reduce, reuse and to find sustainable and nature-based solutions to biomass burning, ocean debris, and chemical and toxic wastes (SDGs 5, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16 & 17).

The UN will continue to strengthen national, sub-national and community institutions and systems for disaster risk reduction. This includes resilience through adaptation, mitigation and preparedness through policies and practices that are inclusive and gender-sensitive, including through multi-hazard risk assessments, disaster risk reduction planning, and real-time disaster monitoring through big data sources and analytics. The UN will also support sustainable and smart liveable cities by showcasing regional and global best practices. Particular attention will be paid to increasing resilience to climate change impact in the marine and coastal areas along the Gulf of Thailand (SDGs 5, 9, 11, 13, 16 & 17).

The UN will support research and knowledge-sharing on the mobility dimensions of climate change, such as climate change induced displacement, and migration as an adaptation measure, noting that these mobility dimensions are likely to be regional in nature. Particular attention will be paid to the gender implications of research findings, including gender-sensitive national adaptation strategies and how to help those who are forced, or choose to migrate, as result of climate change (SDG 1, 5, 10 & 13).

Outcome Two: Human capital needed for social and inclusive development is improved through strengthening of institutions, partnerships, and the empowerment of people.

The second strategic outcome for consideration contributes to the NESDP priorities aiming at enhancing Thailand’s human capital. The underlying premise is that people represent the true wealth of the nation. A healthy, well-educated, and skilled population, evidenced through the high human development index, based on the foundation of being able to access and exercise their human rights, will act as the catalyst that drives the transformation of Thailand’s economy. The enabling environment for such a transformation is also dependent on ability of public institutions, systems, and services to successfully frame and implement a coherent policy framework, based on principles of equity, accountability, transparency, and efficiency. To effect such a change and achieve the impact required, public services will need to concentrate on measures that drive standards and outcomes upwards through a sharpened focus on quality improvement. In order to focus the UN’s support towards the attainment of this outcome, the UN will collaborate with the

13th NESDP Key Priorities
KEY ENABLERS FOR THAILAND

Milestones
 12 13

Outcomes for consideration
 Human capital needed for social and inclusive development is improved through strengthening of institutions, partnership, and the empowerment of people.

Primary Milestone Alignment
 12 13

Secondary Milestone Alignment
 1 4 6 7 8 9 10

SDGs Alignment
 3 4 8 9 10
 13 17

¹³ The international legal instrument for "the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources" that has been ratified by 196 nations. The Convention on Biological Diversity covers biodiversity at all levels: ecosystems, species, and genetic resources. It also covers biotechnology, including through the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. In fact, it covers all possible domains that are directly or indirectly related to biodiversity and its role in development, ranging from science, politics and education to agriculture, business, culture and much more.

Government and development partners to prioritise two focus areas, which contribute to eight of the milestones prioritised in the draft 13th plan.¹⁴

UN focus area: Improving accessibility, responsiveness, and quality of public services as enablers for Thailand's transformation.¹⁵

The SDG 4 education agenda will be actively promoted as a human right and as a driver of human capital transformation and sustainable development. The UN will partner with the government to invest in strengthening early childhood development; accelerate the ongoing education reforms to better align the education systems for improved and equitable learning and attainment of 21st century skills for all children and; facilitate effective school to work or higher education transitions. It will pursue education technology and digital learning as a key strategy and support the Government in its efforts to close the digital gap by supporting digital education for schools through innovative demonstration interventions and also enabling sufficient, dependable, high quality access to e-learning platforms, including connectivity and digital devices, and appropriate teacher training (SDGs 1, 4, 5 & 8).

The UN will work comprehensively to support the Government, private sector, and civil society to strengthen linkages and the transition between education and training and labour market institutions, systems, and policies for lifelong learning. The agenda of decent work for women and men, regardless of their nationality and status in Thailand will be pursued, based on full and productive employment, including equal pay for work of equal value, and ensuring improved transitions to decent work over the life course. The UN will continue to support initiatives to improve employability for migrant workers through public-private cooperation, and regional collaboration on skills development and portability (SDGs 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16 & 17).

The UN will pay particular attention to policies and programme that secure inclusiveness, gender equality, empowerment, and employability, including for young people, especially those not in education, employment and training, persons with disabilities, migrants and other LNOB groups. The UN will continue to champion initiatives targeted to leave no one behind by piloting the use of blockchain technology for initiatives targeting migrants and disadvantaged children (SDGs 1, 4, 9 & 10).

Prioritizing nationwide investment in health, education, and skills development will bridge the gap between the population's skills and the demands of an advanced 21st century society. High quality and relevant skills, entailing social, emotional, creative, and intellectual capabilities are essential for accomplishing the Government's high capital and green revolution ambitions within the key sectors identified in the draft 13th NESDP.¹⁶ The UN will support the acceleration of efforts to magnify the importance of green education and green enterprise for students and adults that promote decent and sustainable jobs (SDGs 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9).

The UN will continue to cooperate closely with the Government in the facilitation of partnerships to address Thailand's most prominent health challenges. This includes but is not limited to NCDs across the life cycle, age-related illnesses, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, and nutrition. The UN will leverage its global network to support the government with innovation for technology-based solutions to deliver quality and inclusive health services. The UN will also continue to bring together public health, border, and mobility management to ensure border security and mitigated risk to public health. The UN will collaborate with Thailand on the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The UN will continue its work on

¹⁴ Milestones of the draft 13th NESDP supported under UNSDCF Outcome Two: Milestone 1 - high value agriculture; Milestone 4- comprehensive medical and health services; Milestone 6 smart electronic and digital services; Milestone 7 - sustainably growing social/local enterprise; Milestone 8 - modern and liveable cities ; Milestone 9 - lower intergenerational poverty and adequate social protection; Milestone 10 - circular economy and low-carbon society; Milestone 12 - high-skill workers to serve market demands; Milestone 13 - hi-efficiency public sector.

¹⁵ Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 & 13.

¹⁶ This includes agricultural and food products, tourism, electric vehicle manufacturing, health services, electrical manufacturing, and digital services, alongside Thailand consolidating its position as a world class regional and global logistics hub.

reducing inequalities of access to essential health services to accelerate a comprehensive package of HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care for people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV. This includes expanding community and key population-led systems for health and promoting community health workers. The UN will continue supporting the integration of HIV related services as part of universal health coverage, including promoting enabling factors that tackle stigma and discrimination. (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10 & 17)

The UN will continue to support the government to strengthen its integrated child protective services for the prevention, detection, and response to all forms of violence in various settings for all children in Thailand and to address barriers to protection and service posed by legal identity challenges. The UN will also seek to address the social norms that permit tolerance of violence against children in communities (SDGs 1, 3, 5, 10 & 16)

UN focus area: Enable digital transformation, digital inclusion, and innovation for human capital optimization¹⁷

The UN will support the Government to address a range of new and interconnected opportunities available through e-governance, digital transformation and digital solutions needed to succeed in the 21st century. Leveraging and connecting to insights generated from other country experiences, including the ethical and human rights-based aspects of data protection and usage, the UN will draw on a rapidly accumulating bank of expertise to support Thailand's digitally enabled economic, social, and environmental transformation, including through smart cities approaches. Adopting innovative technologies and digital solutions will be a key driver to build back better, transition to a green economy and accelerate the SDGs (SDGs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 16).

Similarly, COVID-19 exposed the digital divide across all aspects of society. This digital gap, could, if not consciously addressed, contribute to exacerbating pre-existing socio-economic inequalities. The UN will consider the implications and opportunities provided by digital solutions for greater inclusion and sustainability across all interventions. To this end the UN will support the acceleration of digital inclusion and technological solutions to help drive the reform in reaching and responding to the needs of under-served locations and LNOB populations. This includes access to digitalized platforms by LNOB at risk groups in respect to languages, culture sensitivity, and accessibility for persons with disabilities. (SDGs 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 & 16).

The UN will partner with young people and leverage inter-generational initiatives that promote and scale up people-centred and innovative solutions for the SDGs as a strategy for strengthening participation and resilience, social cohesion, and youth employment, in line with the Youth 2030 Strategy, the global strategy for youth employment and the Global Jobs Pact¹⁸ (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 16 & 17).

The UN will partner with the Government and the ecosystem of actors including SME's, farmers, smallholders, cooperatives, and rural communities to promote policy, technical and digital solutions for rural transformation, which will be scaled up through south-south and triangular cooperation. Interventions will also empower the rural poor and Thailand's ethnic minorities as agents of change (SDGs 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 & 17).

Outcome Three: People living in Thailand, especially those at risk of being left furthest behind, are able to participate in and benefit from development, free from all forms of discrimination.

¹⁷ Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13.

¹⁸ Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

The aspiration to leave no one behind is the touchstone of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Women in particular lag behind their male counterparts across much of Thailand’s social, economic, and political life. The energy and dynamism of young people will play a key role in catalysing Thailand’s enterprising culture in the post-COVID 19 landscape. Equally, older people should experience healthy and active aging, as Thailand is an aging society. Ethnic populations and people living in rural and remote areas should have equal opportunity to those residing in urban areas. As already noted, the digital divide, nationality as well as status can hold populations back from benefitting and contributing towards Thailand’s collective development journey. In short, where barriers to inclusion and development exist, they need to be systematically dismantled and replaced with enabling opportunities and services.

To focus UN’s responsibility to support and uphold rights and ensure equality of opportunity the UN will collaborate with the Government and development partners to focus on two areas, which contribute to four of the milestones prioritised in the draft 13th plan.¹⁹

UN focus area: Provide an enabling, rights-based, inclusive environment to address inequalities, support equal opportunities and reduce poverty.²⁰

The UN will support Thailand’s active efforts at the national and sub-national levels to make its social protection systems and schemes universal, inclusive, and coordinated, and better targeted to reach the farthest first. This includes expanding coverage to all workers, and especially those at greatest risk of being left further behind (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 & 16).

The UN will also work more intensively with the government, the private sector, and industry associations on initiatives targeted towards the gradual formalization of the informal economy. The UN will draw on contextually appropriate best practice from across the region to affect a shift toward decent work and conditions, including the provision of social security benefits, linked more integrally to Thailand’s progressive social protection system (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 & 16).

The UN will entail extending priority consideration for women’s full and equal participation. In this respect, the UN will prioritize support for women and girls across all sectors, and specifically as valued and skilled workers in STEM as a vital enabler to Thailand’s aspiration for a high-value, inclusive and sustainable economy. The UN will facilitate partnerships with the private sector and media to adopt women’s empowerment principles, incentives, and practices. Not least, the UN will work with all partners and at all levels to address the degrading scourge of gender-based violence (SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10 & 16).

In accordance with Thailand’s strong commitment to growing a flourishing culture of local social enterprise and to lowering inter-generation poverty²¹ the UN will support all efforts to cultivate an enabling environment for community-based social innovation and entrepreneurship. This will be accompanied by innovative financing and marketing for scale up with a particular focus on LNOB at risk groups and communities (SDGs 1, 5, 8, 9, 10 & 11).

Given the significance of cross-border migration in the region and its importance to Thailand’s economy, the UN will support the government in better ensuring access for migrants to education, skills development,

13th NESDP Key Priorities

HIGH OPPORTUNITY SOCIETY

Milestones
7 8 9

Outcomes for consideration
People living in Thailand, especially those at risk of being left furthest behind, are able to participate in and benefit from development, free from all forms of discrimination.

Primary Milestone Alignment
7 8 9

Secondary Milestone Alignment
12 13

SDGs Alignment
1 3 4 5 8 10 16

¹⁹ Milestones of the draft 13th NESDP supported under UNSDCF Outcome Three: Milestone 7 - sustainably growing social/local enterprise; 8 - modern and liveable cities; Milestone 9 - lower intergenerational poverty and adequate social protection; Milestone 12 - high-skill workers to serve market demands; Milestone 13 - hi-efficiency public sector.

²⁰ Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 7, 9, 12 & 13.

²¹ Key strands of the 13th NESDP strategy to promote a high opportunity society.

ethical recruitment and decent work, child protection, and social protection by sharing good practices. In addition, the UN will work collaboratively with the government to implement alternatives to detention to ensure rights of vulnerable migrants and stateless persons are protected based on international human rights norms and standards (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 & 16).

The UN will continue to engage with the Government and provide mechanisms for international cooperation across a range of development and humanitarian issues, including those related to stateless persons, displaced persons, and refugees. For example, the National Screening Mechanism will serve to identify those in need of international protection, and the UN will continue to support the Government, through technical advice, capacity building, participation and contribution to the work of the Screening Committee and relevant sub-Committees. This will contribute to the inclusion of displaced persons and refugees and those with international protection needs, ensuring access to education, livelihood opportunities, and social protection of those vulnerable populations including stateless persons. The UN will also support the Government in its efforts to strengthen the law, policy and practice related to birth registration, civil registration, and nationality procedures to prevent and reduce statelessness in the country (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 & 16).

UN focus area: Good governance, rule of law and social contract enhanced for SDG acceleration.²²

The UN is resolute that, in this Decade of Action, all efforts must be made to mobilize a ‘whole of society’ approach across Government, civil society, businesses and communities, and by calling on all people to ‘make the SDGs their own’. To realize this ambition, the UN will support the development of an integrated national financing framework to scale up financing for the SDGs from all sources and support the Government and communities with their SDG implementation and localization efforts. This especially includes strengthening the capacities of local actors and deepening local partnerships right across the country (SDGs 16 & 17).

As the Government implements reforms towards the creation of a hi-efficiency public sector in line with the draft 13th NESDP objective, the UN will support the Government towards the creation of more open, participatory, and consultative processes of legislation and policy making, good governance and the rule of law, including the roll out of anti-corruption, information integrity measures and initiatives to foster social cohesion (SDGs 1, 5 & 16).

The UN will support the improvement of Thailand’s labour market governance and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers – including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious employment. Based on international treaties and conventions to which Thailand is a signatory²³ to UN will foster strengthening tripartite social dialogues between the Government, worker’s and employer’s organizations, industry associations, civil society, and the private sector which will reinforce social cohesion. UN will also support government to address trafficking in humans, drugs, and wildlife and to reinforce the juvenile justice system to address crimes against children and protection and support for children in contact with the law (SDGs 1, 5, 8, 16 & 17).

The UN will partner to strengthen Thailand’s data eco-system for the SDGs in support of evidence-based policy making. The UN will provide technical assistance to address the SDG data gap and extend the use of big data analytics, alternative and innovative data initiatives and sources. As a matter of course, public access to information, data and SDG reporting via digital platforms will be significantly improved (SDG 16).

²² Supporting draft 13th NESDP milestones 9, 12 & 13.

²³ http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:11200:0::NO::P11200_COUNTRY_ID:102843

13th NESDP Key Priorities
HIGH VALUE-ADDED AND GREEN ECONOMY

Milestones
 1 2 3 4 5 6

13th NESDP Key Priorities
ECO-FRIENDLY LIVING

Milestones
 10 11

Outcomes for consideration
 Thailand's transformation into an inclusive economy based on a green, resilient, low-carbon, sustainable development is accelerated.

Primary Milestone Alignment
 1 2 3 10 11

Secondary Milestone Alignment
 7 8 9 12 13

SDGs Alignment



- UN Focus Areas:** Support inclusive and sustainable economic growth premised on the Government's bio-circular model.
- Forging and driving forward partnerships with GCNT/private sector/SMEs to facilitate technology transfer and the sharing of knowledge of nature-based solutions to reduce emissions and create green jobs.
 - Partner with GCNT/private sector/SMEs to incorporate responsible business practices, human rights, gender equality, environmentally sound technologies, decent work, and promote a conducive business environment for SMEs.
 - Promote ecological and biodiversity-based sustainable and cultural tourism in partnership with Government, private sector, and local communities.
 - Promote policy solutions and green technologies, low emission mobility, as well as circular economy practices for regenerative economy, for climate resilient agriculture and sustainable food production and livelihoods in partnership with civil society and private sector, including the sustainable rice platform.
 - Accelerate private sector adoption of the UNs sustainable and responsible banking, investment, and insurance principles to advance their contribution to the target of net zero emissions.
 - Strengthen the INFF for SDG implementation, including through innovative financing, green bonds, and impact investing.
- UN Focus Areas:** Enable and strengthen capacities for low carbon society, resilience, and disaster recovery with capability to adapt to and reduce the risks of disasters.
- Facilitate new partnerships for energy transition, renewables, bio-circular, blue, and green economy.
 - Conservation and protection of biodiversity scaled up with meaningful consultations with Government, community, and private sector.
 - Reducing pollution (air, water and land) and improved waste management through evidence generation, partnerships with Government, private sector, academia and communities to reduce, reuse and find sustainable and nature-based solutions to biomass burning, ocean debris, chemical toxic waste etc.
 - Strengthen community resilience and marine ecosystems through adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction including through multi hazard risk assessment and real-time disaster monitoring through big data sources and analytics.

13th NESDP Key Priorities
KEY ENABLERS FOR THAILAND

Milestones
 12 13

Outcomes for consideration
 Human capital needed for social and inclusive development is improved through strengthening of institutions, partnership, and the empowerment of people.

Primary Milestone Alignment
 12 13

Secondary Milestone Alignment
 1 4 6 7 8 9 10

SDGs Alignment



- UN Focus Areas:** Improving accessibility, responsiveness, and quality of public services as enablers for Thailand's transformation.
- Enhance quality education, training, skills development, and lifelong learning to promote decent work with a focus on green education, inclusiveness, empowerment, early childhood development, employability over the life course.
 - Expanding digital education and e-learning platforms and opportunities with access to digital infrastructure, digital devices, teaching training and development of learners' digital citizenship competencies school access.
 - Facilitate partnerships to address NCDs across the life cycle, aging and other critical health challenges, including sexual and reproductive health and nutrition, and scaling up technology-based solutions to deliver quality and inclusive health services.
 - Support reducing inequality of access to critical services for prevention, treatment, and care for people living with HIV and promoting enabling factors for stigma and discrimination.
- UN Focus Areas:** Enable digital transformation, digital inclusion, and innovation for human capital optimization
- Accelerate digital inclusion in public service delivery in under-served locations and LNOB populations.
 - Accelerate e-governance and promote innovation and technology, including inclusive digital solutions for improved public sector effectiveness and efficiency with a focus on SMEs.
 - Leverage youth and mix-generation initiatives to promote and scale up innovative solutions for SDGs.
 - Promote innovations and technologies, including inclusive digital solutions across agri-food systems for improved food safety and nutrition, and enhanced trade.
 - LNOB groups as identified in the CCA comprise of children and young people, women and girls, people with disabilities, people living with HIV, migrants, ethnic groups, displaced persons, refugee and asylum seekers, stateless person and farmers and small-holders.

13th NESDP Key Priorities
HIGH OPPORTUNITY SOCIETY


Milestones
 7 8 9

Outcomes for consideration
 People living in Thailand, especially those at risk of being left furthest behind, are able to participate in and benefit from development, free from all forms of discrimination.

Primary Milestone Alignment
 7 8 9

Secondary Milestone Alignment
 12 13

SDGs Alignment



- UN Focus Areas:** Provide an enabling, rights-based, inclusive environment to address inequalities, support equal opportunities and reduce poverty.
- Expansion of social protection coverage to all in Thailand, improve social security benefits, expand coverage to all workers and especially those risk of being left further behind.
 - Integrated initiatives targeted towards gradual formalization of the informal economy, ensuring decent work, conditions and social security benefits, linked to the social protection system.
 - Focused support for migrants, displaced persons, refugees, stateless and other LNOB groups to ensure their access to education, skills development and recognition, healthcare services, decent work, and social protection, based on international human rights norms and standards including durable solutions for ADC.
 - Enhance women's empowerment and gender equality by addressing GBV, supporting women and girls in STEM, create an enabling environment for women's participation in the labour market and access to decent work and forge partnerships with private sector to adopt women's empowerment principles.
 - Support an enabling environment for grass-roots social innovation and entrepreneurship through innovative financing and marketing for scale up with a particular focus on LNOB.
- UN Focus Areas:** Good governance, rule of law and social contract enhanced for SDG acceleration.
- Strengthen mechanisms for SDG implementation and localization.
 - Labor market governance enhanced through strengthened social dialogues between worker's and employer's organizations, civil society and the private sector based on following international labor law as well as business, human rights, and gender equality principles.
 - Strengthen rule of law institutions and systems to ensure a fair and inclusive environment, fostering gender equality, improved transparency and accountability.
 - Strengthen Thailand's data eco-system for the SDGs and effective decision-making through super databases, use of big data and alternative, innovative data sources, such as satellite imagery, and strengthen SDG data collection, including monitoring and public access to data as well as analytics.