



**Embassy of Sweden
Bangkok**



CONCEPT NOTE

Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations

A Roundtable Discussion on SEP for SDG Localization (Northern Region):

Our Opportunity to Accelerate Action for Sustainable, Balanced, and Resilient Transitions

Date: Friday 29 April 2022 (13:00-17:00)

Le Meridien Chiang Mai, Muang, Chiang Mai

Hybrid Meeting (In-person and ZOOM, with English-Thai and Thai-English Interpretation)

Objective

In preparation for the Stockholm+50 international meeting convened by the United Nations General Assembly to be held in Stockholm, Sweden from 2-3 June 2022, UNDP in Thailand is hosting a roundtable discussion intended to inform key actors and the general public about Stockholm+50 and to facilitate the sharing of people's views, opinions, and expectations on Thailand's path toward environmental sustainability and sustainable development through the sufficiency economy philosophy (SEP) that can be taken forward in the High-level Leadership Dialogue discussions at the Stockholm+50 international meeting.

Background

To enhance action and sustainable transformation agenda launched at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972, the Government of Sweden with support of the Government of Kenya will host a crucial international meeting under the theme "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity." Leading up to the Stockholm+50 international meeting, national level consultations will be held under UNDP's leadership in a number of countries, including Thailand. The objective of the national consultations is to stimulate an inclusive whole-of-society and whole-of-government dialogue on the three main themes of Stockholm+50 Leadership Dialogues and priority themes as they relate to the national context.

The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej is Thailand's core approach toward sustainable development in a globalized world. The SEP encourages the people to make decisions and take actions in all aspects of their lives on the basis of moderation, reason and prudence, guided by knowledge as well as ethical and moral considerations. It has been studied and proven that the SEP creates a positive impact on building resilience and self-immunity of people and communities particularly during crises; and helps to create balance

economically, socially, environmentally and culturally leading to sustainability transitions at the individual, community, organizational, and society levels. Since the Ninth National Development Plan (2002-2006), the principles of the SEP have been and continue to be a vital element of Thailand's development strategies and plans, contributing to balanced and sustainable development of the Thai economy. The SEP has also been applied in a number of areas and sectors, including public, private, and community. Integrating all three dimensions of sustainable development, the SEP is thus a local approach that can be delivered on the ground toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In Chiangmai, a northern province of Thailand, the first royal project was set up in 1969 to address the opium cultivation problem in northern hilltribe areas while offering the people appropriate alternative sources of income and an opportunity for sustainable development. Over the past decades, through the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and its applications, royally-initiated projects in Chiangmai and across Thailand have secured livelihood opportunities, enhanced related skills, conserved natural resources and environment, increased income in rural and urban areas, and balanced growth. The impact of royal development projects and the SEP has extended beyond their immediate scope and are applied in various areas of sustainable development, as well as adapted and practiced by different countries through lessons learned, best practices and knowledge sharing. Continuing to examine the opportunities, as well as the constraints, to engage the SEP in Thailand's socio-economic-environmental development strategies is essential for accelerating action at the national and sub-national levels to achieving the SDGs.

Purpose of Roundtable Discussion

Against this background, with overall objective of Stockholm+50, the roundtable discussion will be an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the participants and to highlight an environmentally sustainable development approach in the Thai context. Outcomes of the roundtable discussion will emphasize the ethical, knowledge-based approach of the SEP to leverage local action for achieving environmental sustainability and sustainable development, which will be included into the national consultation report. Based on the three themes of Leadership Dialogues expecting to contribute to the outcome of Stockholm+50, the discussion will focus on the SEP approach to engage governments, business and the private sector, academics, civil society, ethnic minority and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to exploit opportunities and overcome challenges to implementation of SDGs in the local context.

Leadership Dialogue 1: Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all, where aspirations and rights can be fulfilled and which focus on the need to live in harmony with nature, ecosystems restoration, including how we measure and define wealth and prosperity, and integrate human development and planetary pressures with a focus on social equity, ecological security, and economic prosperity.

Leadership dialogue 2: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on actions needed to recover and build forward from the pandemic and

its adverse impacts on people, planet and prosperity; and to put the world back on track to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. This could be through a focus on sectors most affected by COVID-19, through rethinking financing, social protection schemes for the informal sector, policies for circularity and sustainable consumption and production, digitalization, where job creation, skills building, and capacity enhancement form a central part of the just transition for all countries and in particular for the poorest and most vulnerable.

Leadership dialogue 3: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context of the Decade of Action, with a focus on the means (i.e., multi-level governance, institutions, multilateral frameworks, and commitments highlighting accountability, accessibility, and incentives) necessary to implement commitments and actions, ensuring delivery on the 2030 Agenda (SDGs), the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and the national implementation plans of the emerging Global Biodiversity Framework.

The roundtable will seek to achieve three primary goals:

- Communications and discussions – The roundtable will give an opportunity to hear from the speakers and the participants their perspectives and views, including concerns and recommendations for achieving environmental sustainability in the context of SEP in line with the three of Leadership Dialogues;
- Identification of issues and responses to challenges – The roundtable will attempt to map out the primary issues relating to the relationships between SEP and environmental sustainability in the context of Stockholm+50 (i.e., climate change, nature and biodiversity, pollution, COVID-19, and SDGs), examining both positive and negative effects of these relationships, and to identify possible responses to challenges identified; and,
- Avenues for cooperation – The roundtable will explore possible avenues for future cooperation between and among various partners and stakeholders (i.e., public, private, CSOs, IOs, and academic sectors) and local community and ethnic groups on the topic of SEP for SDGs and Stockholm+50.

Structure of the Roundtable

The roundtable discussion will be conducted in a hybrid mode, both in-person (at the Le Meridien Chiang Mai) and virtually on Zoom meeting with simultaneous translation and live streaming to UNDP Thailand Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDPThailand>. The roundtable will last over approximately three and a half hours (13:30-17.00 hrs.), consisting of three sessions. In each session, three speakers will make short presentations (up to 10 minutes each) with a moderator to introduce the topic and the speakers at the beginning of the session as well as to stimulate the discussion. This will be followed by a session discussion facilitated by the moderator (20 minutes).

Participants

Participants will include representatives from governments, civil society, business and private sector, women, youth, local communities and ethnic groups, academia, international organizations, and relevant networks and associations as well as professionals whose work and experience involve SEP for sustainable development or SDGs, environmental conservation and management, and sustainable development.

Program and Agenda

Time	Agenda
13:30-17:00	Master of Ceremonies (MC) – Mr. Kesrat Sukasam, UNDP Thailand
13:30-14:15	Keynote Session – Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations: SEP for SDG Localization
13:30-13:35	Welcome and Introduction by MC
13:35-13:45	Welcome/Keynote Address by Mr. Prajon Prachsakul, the Governor of Chiang Mai Province (tbc)
13:45-13:55	Keynote Address by Ms. Lina Eidmark, Counsellor, the Embassy of Sweden in Thailand
13:55-14:05	Keynote Address by Mr. Renaud Meyer, UNDP Resident Representative in Thailand
14:05-14:15	Keynote Address by Mr. Jakarin Wangviwat, Chairman, Federation of Thai Industries Chiang Mai Chapter
14:15-15:10	Roundtable Discussion Session I: <i>Reflecting on Actions to Achieve a Healthy Planet and Prosperity of All</i> <u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Sukanya Thongtamrong, UNDP Thailand
14:15-14:20	Welcome and Introduction
14:20-14:30	<i>Restoring and Regenerating a Positive Relationship with Nature: How can applying SEP help restore and regenerate a positive relationship with nature and support SDG localization? What actions are needed to scale up the change towards a healthy planet?</i> <u>Speaker:</u> General Vinai Tansri, Senior Volunteer of Brain Bank, National Economic and Social Development Council
14:30-14:40	<i>Building and Restoring Sustainable and Resilient Relationship with Nature for Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups: How could marginalized and vulnerable groups benefit from SEP initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)?</i>

Time	Agenda
	<u>Speaker</u> : Ms. Walaitat Worakul, Gender and Sustainable Development Promotion Specialist
14:40-14:50	<i>Measuring the Progress Towards a Healthier and More Prosperous Planet</i> : What are the indicators needed for evaluating the performance of SEP towards a healthier and more prosperous planet? <u>Speaker</u> : Mr. Sopon Tangpetch, Director, Northern Region Economic and Social Development Office, NESDC
14:50-15:10	<i>Session Discussion I</i> : How can applying SEP/SDGs help safeguard or protect the rights of people and nature? What policies or measures are needed to be in place for applying and upscaling SEP/SDGs to safeguard the nature and the people who depend on it? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
15:10-16:00	Roundtable Discussion Session II: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic <u>Moderator</u> : Ms. Sukanya Thongtamrong, UNDP Thailand
15:10-15:15	Welcome and Introduction
15:15-15:25	<i>Shaping an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery</i> : What are the most promising equitable, sustainable and inclusive recovery initiatives/practices currently being applied that are based on the SEP/SDGs? How could we scale them up? <u>Speaker</u> : Mr. Chatchawan Thongdeelert, President, Chiang Mai Breathe Council
15:25-15:35	<i>Decent Green Jobs and Skills of the Future</i> : How has SEP contributed to creating decent green jobs? What are the decent green jobs of the future? What are the new skills needed from business, government, and academic? <u>Speaker</u> : Dr. Nattawut Sareein, Environmental Science Research Center, Faculty of Science, Chiang Mai University
15:35-15:45	<i>Better Performing Industries and Supply Chains for a Just Transition</i> : How can the SEP help creating better performing industries and supply chains for a just transition to more sustainable economies? which sectors are most critical? <u>Speaker</u> : Mr. Narongsak Phachareon, SME Strategic Planning Specialist
15:45-16:00	<i>Session Discussion II</i> : How do we ensure that all communities can benefit from opportunities stemming from a sustainable and just transition? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?

Time	Agenda
16:00-16:50	Roundtable Discussion Session III: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context of the Decade of Action <u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Sukanya Thongtamrong, UNDP Thailand
16:00-16:05	Welcome and Introduction
16:05-16:15	<i>Challenges in the Decade of Action:</i> What are the biggest challenges we are facing in implementing SDGs, climate action, and other environment-related measures? <u>Speaker:</u> Dr. Pairach Piboonrungsroj, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Economics, Chiang Mai University
16:15-16:25	<i>An Enabling Environment for Delivery on the Ground:</i> How can the SEP support for delivery environmentally sustainable development on the ground? <u>Speaker:</u> Ms. Kesaraporn Sreechun, Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization)
16:25-16:35	<i>Partnership for a Green, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Transformation:</i> What type of partnerships from a private sector perspective are needed to accelerate a green and sustainable economic transformation that leaves no one behind? <u>Speaker:</u> Dr. Narong Kongprasert, MD, Pracharath Rak Samakkee (Social Enterprise) Co.
16:35-16:50	<i>Session Discussion III:</i> What capacities and technologies are needed to improve human wellbeing in harmony with nature? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
16:50-17:00	Closing: Remarks by H.E. Mr. Kiptiness Lindsay Kimwole, the Ambassador of Kenya to Thailand

*Afternoon tea/coffee served during the sessions.

Registration

To participate, please complete the online registration form at:

<https://undp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrduiupi0oGt38lliGs2aASvelipukmyfY>.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, in-person audience is limited (approximately 50-60 persons). All in-person participants must have a negative COVID test before entering the venue. Masks must cover a participants nose and mouth at all times during the meeting. Please keep a minimum distance of one meter to others at all times. Hand sanitizers will be installed right outside of the meeting room.

To participate in the Stockholm+50 National Consultation Roundtable Discussion via Zoom, please complete the online registration form at:

<https://undp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrduiupi0oGt38lliGs2aASveLipukmyfY>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Online Survey

Please participate in *an online survey (in Thai language)* by scanning the QR code below, or clicking here: <https://forms.gle/dNzZ2FoGqTfKC2PQ7>. Thank you for completing the survey by 10 May 2022.



For more information on the Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations and related activities, we are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, or please send us an email at undp.thailand@undp.org as well as visit the *Stockholm+50 websites* at: [Stockholm website](#) or [the sparkblue channel](#).

To help us capture the opinions of people around the world on the world's progress towards a sustainable planet, please participate in *a global survey* to inform the Stockholm+50 Global High-Level meeting in Stockholm at: <https://www.stockholm50.global/state-planet-global-public-survey>.