



Embassy of Sweden
Bangkok



CONCEPT NOTE

Youth Consultation on Stockholm+50: toward Environmental Sustainability of Thailand

Date : Saturday 21st May 2022 (9.30-12.00)

Zoom Meeting

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://undp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZouce-opzguE9Gl_1YOvUN35akRgbyfVVo

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, the Embassy of Sweden in Thailand and UNDP in Thailand in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Kenya in Thailand are hosting a youth consultation workshop. The workshop is intended to inform young people about Stockholm+50 and to facilitate the sharing of young people's views, opinions, and expectations on Thailand's path toward environmental sustainability and sustainable development 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 as they relate to the national context.

Thailand as one of the most impacted countries by extreme weather events during the period 2000-2019 and high risk of Bangkok sinking by 2030¹. Last year, the Mission 1.5 campaign led by UNDP was conducted globally to observe people's voice on the climate emergency and policy choices to tackle climate challenge. Around 37,000 responses were collected from Thailand. The result has shown that 60% of Thai respondents believe in climate emergency, in which youth is among the top respondents at 64% and 61% for the age of 14-17 and 18-35 respectively. With more than 21 million of Thai youth between 15-30 years old, young people have witnessed the changes and impacts caused by climate change, biodiversity loss, and the pandemic through direct experience and stories from older generations. While being identified as one of the groups directly and indirectly impacted from environmental issues to their economic, social and well-being, youth still have shown their ability and potential as change agents bringing creativity and innovation to find better solutions for their communities.

Many of the challenges relating to youth engagement around climate change and biodiversity issues can be traced to broader human rights, democracy, and governance challenges. With representation of youth from different underrepresented communities, including youth with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and LGBTQ+ youth, voices and participation of those left behind can bring more ideas and solutions for effectively addressing the complex challenges. Furthermore, the current lack of representation risks holding young people from reaching their full potential to advocate for a cleaner, safer environment for both present and future generations. Therefore, to ensure inclusive and environmentally sustainable recovery plans, as well as recognizing interconnectivity of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, a youth consultation will be organized to advocate for climate and biodiversity action as a strategic priority for systemic change and to elevate youths' voices to the high-level dialogues at the national level and the Stockholm+50 international meeting.

Purpose of the Youth Consultation

Against this background, with overall objective of Stockholm+50, a series of national consultations have been conducted in Thailand to reflect the whole-of-society, whole-of-government approach, in which youth and relevant groups are engaged and consulted. To place more emphasis on youth perspectives, this consultation will provide an opportunity for youth to share their views and acknowledge the contribution of relevant stakeholders on environmentally sustainable development approach in the Thai context. Outcomes of the youth consultation, which will be included into the national consultation report, emphasize the urgent actions for government and non-government actors to enhance enabling ecosystem for meaningful youth participation on climate change and biodiversity related policy and action at both decision-making level and on the ground with communities. Based on the three themes of the Leadership Dialogues expecting to contribute to the outcome of Stockholm+50, the consultation will focus on youth contribution and expectation on environmental sustainability of Thailand.

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.

Structure of the Youth Consultation

Target: 50 Youths aged between 15-30 years old as well as relevant concerned and interested individuals/organizations.

Format: The youth consultation will be organized in 2 formats

- **SparkBlue (18 May – 30 June 2022):** an online community engagement platform powered by UNDP will be created for youth to openly share their views, experience, expectation to the guiding questions provided on the platform. This is to allow continuity of the discussion and deepen the insights collected from the participants who come from the online dialogue on 21 May. The moderators will also be invited from different youth groups to mobilize the discussion.
- **Online Dialogue (21 May 2022, 9.30-12.00):** an online interactive session organized for youth to actively engage and learn from each other through guiding questions as well as from the invited speakers. The dialogue will also provide guidance on how to use SparkBlue and encourage participants to disseminate the platform for further inputs from their communities.

Guiding Questions (for both consultation events):

1. What is your thinking about living in harmony with the nature? Describe your view of how low carbon city and living in harmony with nature for Thailand in 2030 should look like? What are your expectations in terms of infrastructure, culture, norm, value, etc. (LD1)
2. Based on your local context, how can youth build better relationships with nature? What support is needed from the governments, business and the private sector, academics, and civil society like ethnic minority and local communities, women, youth, other relevant stakeholders such as UN and international organizations? (LD1)
3. What are challenges for youth to take climate and biodiversity action? Feel free to share your experience here. (LD3)
4. What should be done to strengthen youth for effectively engaging in climate and biodiversity policy decision-making process and action on the ground with the community? Who should be the key partners for youth to collaborate with? (LD3)
5. Due to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, what issues must be addressed and solutions developed to ensure better green recovery for youth and people across generations? Feel free to share your experience here. (LD2)
6. What is the urgent action that need to be taken to achieve low carbon city and living in harmony with nature by 2030? What can youth do? And what can other stakeholders do to support youth? (LD3)

Agenda on 21st May 2022, 9.30-12.00

Time	Mins	Program	Speaker
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9.30-9.45	15	Opening and Ice breaking (Ahaslide)	
9.45-10.10	25	Opening Remarks - Embassy of Sweden Representative - Embassy of Kenya Representative - UNDP Representative in Thailand	
10.10-10.15	5	Introduction of the event	
10.15-10.25	10	Recap situation on climate change and biodiversity at the global and Thailand	by UNDP representative
10.25-10.35	10	Meaningful adolescent and youth participation on climate change	By UNICEF representative
10.35-10.40	5	Q&A	
10.40-10.50	10	Sparkblue introduction and guide	UNDP
10.50-11.40	50	Consultation through the guiding questions in breakout rooms (selected)	Moderated by Youth Networks
11.40-11.50	10	Summary	
11.50-12.00	10	Photo taking and closing	

Expected Output:

- **A Quick summary** of ‘Thailand youth’s voice toward environmental sustainability in Thailand’ for presenting at the Validation Workshop on the Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultation Report scheduled on 25 May 2022.
- **A Full report** of ‘Thailand youth’s voice toward environmental sustainability in Thailand’ for presenting at Thailand Climate Action Conference (TCAC) in August 2022 and other national dialogues related to youth and the environment.

Expected Outcome:

- Open space for youth to mobilize and continue their discussion on environmental sustainability in Thailand.
- Strengthen youth and stakeholder’s capacity on the context of youth and the environment in Thailand
- Enable opportunities for youth to advocate for issues that need support among their communities and relevant stakeholders
- Higher recognition and availability of forum for youth involvement in policy dialogues and decision-making processes.

Expected Partners for collaboration and outreach:

- Embassy of Sweden
- Embassy of Kenya
- UNICEF
- Democratic Youth from the Parliament
- Children and Youth Council of Thailand (CYCT)

- Action for Climate Empowerment Youth Camp (ACE Youth)
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network for Thailand (GYBN Thailand)
- Ton-Kla Indigenous Children and Youth Group
- Etc.

**Kindly note that the guiding questions and agenda details might be adjusted to compromise with participants and outcome of the consultation*