

Summary

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

[\(Concept Note\)](#)

Based on the ‘Youth Consultation on Stockholm+50: toward Environmental Sustainability of Thailand’ organized on 21st May 2022 via ZOOM meeting. With 98 registered participants; there are 42 Male, 51 Female, and 5 Prefer not to say participants including youth non-youth staff.

With the questions that were specifically designed for consulting with young people in Thailand, 9 youth-friendly and focused questions will be presented with answers under 3 leadership dialogues as suggested by the guidelines for national consultations. Youth consultation’s results are presented as following:

Leadership Dialogue 1: Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all

Guiding Questions:

- 1.1 What do you think about living in harmony with nature? Explain how a low carbon city and living in harmony with nature in 2030 look like for you. What is your expectation on infrastructure, culture, lifestyle, norm, value, etc. that is vital to fulfil that vision?
- 1.2 Based on your local context, how can we build a better relationship with nature? What support is essential for the government, businesses, private sector, academic, and civil society i.e. ethnic groups and local communities, women, youth, and relevant groups including United Nations and international organisations.
- 1.3 What policy, structure, mechanisms, indicators, or activities should be promoted or developed to protect human and nature rights defenders. This includes ethnic groups, local communities, conservationists, women, youth, and future generations toward environmental conservation and prosperity for all.

Inputs from the participants in Discussion room 1:

Education, Capacity Building, and Jobs

- A Platform for youth to learn about culture and ways of living in harmony with nature should be created i.e. green space.
- Learning mechanism that allows learners to have an attitude of seeing the value of nature toward themselves. Not as materials for only one or another, but for the sake of human and nature altogether.

- More ecologists shall have more role in city development to enhance the integrity of nature and opportunities for humans to be connected with nature.
- Green Space Therapy helps with mental health shall be more promoted.
- Family institution's role in implanting the value of relationship with nature shall be enhanced.

Youth and Public Awareness, Mobilization and Participation

- Reliable and accessible data for problem analysis is needed to enable effective action and mobilization of youth and the public.
- Cooperation of all stakeholders throughout the supply chain is needed in building a culture of prioritizing relationships with nature.
- Promotion of applying ecological knowledge to city development and maintain ecosystem services
- Engagement from diverse communities is needed to promote and enhance public participation and ownership
- Understanding on ways of living from each vulnerable group i.e. youth, women, poor, migrants, ethnic groups and rural communities must be enhanced to suitably connect environmental issues and solutions to each context.

Others

- The government should allow local communities and ethnic groups to take better care of natural spaces and make a living with its resources without letting protected areas or concession schemes from the private sector to overpower local practices that are culturally and ecologically suitable to the area.
- Incentives from the government must be promoted in a way that allows people to be knowledgeable with their consumption responsibility toward natural resources in the long-run.

Leadership Dialogue 2: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

Guiding Questions

- 2.1 Regarding the impact of COVID-19, what good samples of solutions should be continued, promoted, and developed, or improved to support sustainable and inclusive green recovery. This can be practice led or operated by government, private sector, civil society, individuals, cities for the affected groups i.e. youth and future generations, ethnic groups, people with disabilities, etc.
- 2.2 What the government, industries, and business supply chain should do to promote green recovery? How can they ensure a just transition toward sustainable prosperity? What sectors are most critical? What issues should be emphasized by the financial and investment sectors to promote 'responsibility' toward sustainable recovery?
- 2.3 What is 'Green Jobs' that should be more promoted in the future? What are essential new skills? What is needed from the government, businesses, and academics to support youth and future generations in accessing and receiving

assistance toward generating income and working on careers that promote sustainable and green economy?

Inputs from the participants in Discussion room 2:

Education, Capacity Building, and Jobs

- Create a platform with support of policy and legislation to allow knowledge exchange on environmental issues among different groups in the society.
- Promote accessible supports and scholarship for studying equipment, learning cost, and upskilling of youth and future generations
- Enhancing mechanisms for supporting mental health with safe space in schools, work place, and other platforms to encourage understanding and promote cohesive society.
- School advisory should be able to guide students on finding their strengths and interests to allow them to put their afford into the area with their most potential and contribute to the society sustainability where they can.
- Curriculum shall be adjusted to allow learners to understand their strengths and interests which can allow them to practically apply the knowledge in the working environment that is changing and more sustainable.
- All jobs can be linked to the skills that promote environmentally-friendly practices. All sectors must encourage and support their employees to develop their skill sets that match with the sustainable practices needed for the market
- Accessible capacity building and knowledge for upskilling youth on e-commerce, technology, and start-up. This includes the capacity of both new and existing entrepreneurs.
- Promote jobs at the community level i.e. supporting local products or unemployment.

Youth and Public Awareness, Mobilization and Participation

- Reduce generation gap and mobilizing strengths of each generation to optimize the use of expertise and deliver the best sustainable solutions to the society.
- Inspire youth and future generations about the best stories to encourage and empower their ability in taking action across different issues i.e. green economy, water conservation, renewable energy, coastal restoration.
- Promote innovation, research and development of technology and accessibility to eco-friendly products, services, and facilities for youth and the public
- Strengthen the capacity of NGOs and civil society through budget allocation and accessibility to resource mobilization. These groups work closely with different vulnerable groups and could potentially help enhance effective participation across issues and levels.
- Mainstreaming environmental awareness strategy across sectors.
- Subsidize or support the cost of internet for students

Others

- Promote cooperation and collaboration of different sectors i.e. youth, public, and private sectors.

- Decentralize financial and human resources to different areas to allow more effectiveness of resource utilization and outcome in areas other than big cities
- Acceptance and understanding of decentralized issues must be acknowledged by the government to allow better management and governance with transparency
- Increase budget and value of environmental expertises to attract high potential human resources to contribute to certain areas of development in need.
- Reduce transportation between cities should be a big agenda for the government and businesses to find the most optimized options for mobilizing resources for sustainable consumption and production
- Public services must be accessible to all groups of people including people with disabilities, etc.

Leadership Dialogue 3: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

Guiding Questions

- 3.1 What are challenges for youth to take climate and biodiversity action? Feel free to share your direct experience as well.
- 3.2 What should be done to enhance meaningful youth participation effectively? This includes policy decision-making process, action on the ground covering climate change, biodiversity, technology, legislation, or specific agencies that should receive support or collaborate more with young people.
- 3.3 What urgent action is needed to achieve the goal of a low carbon city and living in harmony with nature in 2030? What can you do? What can relevant stakeholders do to support youth?

Inputs from the participants in Discussion room 3:

Youth and Public Awareness, Mobilization and Participation

- Youth must be provided with knowledge and understanding on government mechanisms on issuing and implementing legislation and policy to elevate youth from shouting to understanding and cooperating to finding solutions inclusively with other sectors and generations.
- Promote spaces for exchanging and collaborating among youth and people with different expertises and backgrounds.
- One time youth camp or public event should be strengthened with a long-term network/mechanism to enable continued actions and advance development of ideas and solutions across different issues and areas.
- Intergenerational understanding must be enhanced to strengthen cohesive society based on equal rights among different generations which can lead to effective cooperation between generations.
- SparkBlue must be made accessible and visible by the public so that they can engage more effectively.

- Public hearing should be more effectively promoted and accessible to people especially those affected with clear process of follow-ups and results throughout the process.

Others

- Coal energy must be the first to track how we can stop using or generating the least carbon dioxide from the process. Alternative technologies and investments on renewable energy must be promoted and enhanced.
- Public transportation must be explored more effectively on options and accessibility to the people.
- All environmentally-friendly products and services are expensive, although they should be affordable. These high prices will make people more against these products and practices. Proper solutions must be implemented.
- Non-user-friendly infrastructure and products must be solved based on needs, interests and capacity of youth, future generations, and other relevant groups.

In summary, 4 key priorities consolidated from the youth participants can be concluded per below:

1. Nature-based solutions

- Enhancing spaces and platforms for promoting living in harmony with nature value in compromise with human's culture and ecological context.
- Emphasizing roles, expertises, and skills of ethnic groups, local communities, youth, and relevant groups in building relationship with nature across sectors.
- Mainstreaming and embedded the value of living in harmony with nature across education, training, policy, legislation and practices across sectors.

2. Green Jobs

- All jobs can positively contribute to the environment and sustainability. Certain areas of green expertise must be identified and strengthened across sectors.
- Capacity building on e-commerce, technology, start-ups, and necessary skills must be supported by relevant sectors to ensure smooth and just transition.
- Research and Development of technology must be allocated effectively and made accessible to ethnic, local communities and all relevant groups in the process.

3. Meaningful Youth Participation

- Strengthening the understanding of needs and challenges of youth in which accessibility to data and meaningful participatory process must be prioritized.
- Intergenerational gap must be narrowed and strengthened based on capacity of each generation to promote cooperation toward responsive solutions for society.
- Shift from one time event to stronger network of community of practices to enable continued actions and elevate practices at different levels.

4. Human and Financial Resource Mobilization

- Decentralize opportunities to outside big cities to allow better accessibility of quality products and services from the government, private sectors, local communities, and relevant groups.
- Enhance accessibility of financial resources and human expertises to communities where they can lead and take more ownership for maintaining

the practice in the long-run i.e. ethnic groups, women, people with disability and youth.

- c. Transparency of resource mobilization must be implemented based on participatory and convincing practices that allow people to take sustainable action.