

17

**PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS**



**Strengthen Global Partnerships
for Inclusive & Sustainable
Development**

OVERVIEW

NIDA has sought to strengthen global partnerships for inclusive and sustainable development through collaborative research, innovative teaching, and community engagement. The Institute actively builds international networks that foster shared knowledge, policy innovation, and sustainable practices across sectors. By integrating global cooperation into research initiatives, curriculum design, and outreach programs, NIDA promotes inclusive capacity building, enhances institutional resilience, and reinforces Thailand's role as a key partner in advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

RESEARCH/ FUNDING

Airborne & satellite investigation of Asian Air Quality (ASIA-AQ) by NASA, with support from NARIT and GISTDA

Professor Dr. Siwatt Pongpiachan from NIDA's School of Social Development and Management Strategy participated in the Asia-AQ (Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality) project, which collects air samples over Thai airspace to better understand the sources of PM2.5 pollution and support the development of long-term solutions for Thailand. The project is also a collaboration with the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (Public Organization) (NARIT), and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation (MHESI).



Participating countries include South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Thailand. The data collected will be analyzed and used to create models to identify the causes and mechanisms of air quality changes. In the future, the project will also support the development of modeling systems and data collection from ground-based and satellite observations. This project, in all, represents a joint effort to utilize multi-perspective observations—from satellites, airborne platforms, and ground monitoring—to enhance the integration and interpretation of air pollution data across the region.

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-nasa-air-quality-sdg17/>

HART project strengthens Thailand's aging readiness



The Health, Aging, and Retirement in Thailand (HART) project by NIDA's CASR, established in 2009 with TSRI support, builds national longitudinal data on older adults to inform active aging policies. Collaborating with four regional universities and global networks, HART advances Thailand's leadership in aging research and policy. As a member of the Global Health and Retirement Study Network, HART also aligns with the ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI) and the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030), reinforcing Thailand's leadership in active aging research and policy.

<https://nida.ac.th/health-aging-and-retirement-in-thailand/>



TEACHING & LEARNING

Collaborative training on sufficiency living & the BCG strategy

In 2024, NIDA and its affiliated schools and centers organized a series of activities in support of the SDGs. A highlight was the training program “Sufficiency Living in BCG Development Strategy (SLingBCG)”, jointly organized by the Siripattana Training Center, NIDA, and the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA). The program aimed to deepen participants’ understanding of Thailand’s Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) within the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) development framework as a pathway toward sustainable development. Delegates from partner countries—experienced policymakers and strategic planners nominated by their governments—collaboratively designed SEP-based BCG models tailored to local contexts. The program also fostered international collaboration and networking to advance global partnerships for sustainability.

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-sdg17-partnerships/>



Upgraded graduate courses with SDG-aligned skills

NIDA acknowledges the importance of providing education and knowledge about sustainable development to all students. Therefore, in the academic year 2024, the institute improved and upgraded the basic course for graduate studies (ND4000) to allow regular master's students to study basic subjects and leadership skills and other essential skills in line with the SDGs. Four skill sets based on the NIDA's DNA and Skillset Architecture framework consists of (1) Digital Literacy, (2) Glocal (Global + Local) Citizenship, (3) Leadership Development, and (4) Sustainable Development. Students also go on field trips to organizations involved in sustainable community development, such as visiting the operations of the "Community Organizations Development Institute". They also learned from real-world experiences shared by local community and organization leaders in the hope that they will apply the skills and knowledge gained from their studies to drive various activities across all sectors to achieve the SDGs in various dimensions, including economic, social, political, ethical, and environmental aspects.

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-sdg-education-field-study/>

<https://nida.ac.th/nd4000-leaders-and-sustainable-development/>



NIDA–PSU–Thai flight training collaboration on aviation management for sustainability

NIDA's School of Environmental Development Administration, Prince of Songkla University (PSU)'s Bachelor of Aviation Industry Management Program, and Thai Flight Training Co., Ltd., under an institutional MoU, have jointly developed a Master's in Aviation Management for Sustainability. The program promotes academic collaboration, professional skill development, and sustainable growth in Thailand's aviation and tourism sectors. It integrates theory and practice to strengthen sustainability and enhance national competitiveness.

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-sdg-education-aviation-sustainability/>

<https://www.facebook.com/nida.ac.th/posts/1128952242592597/>



Preparing doctoral leaders for sustainable strategic intelligence

In parallel, NIDA's Doctoral Program in Politics and Development Strategy emphasizes Integrating Political, Development, and Sustainable Strategic Intelligence, fostering leaders capable of adapting to global change and advancing SDG 17 on institutional capacity for sustainable development. Key courses cover governance and sustainable development, adaptive policy and economic resilience, and ethical frameworks for sustainability-oriented policymaking strengthening foresight, decision-making, and institutional resilience toward Thailand's sustainable social, economic, and environmental progress.

<https://ssed.nida.ac.th/th/program-th/phd-th/phd-pds-th>

https://ssed.nida.ac.th/images/PDF/Course/re-web_2023/PhD-PDS/02ABOUT/04_Courses_and_Courses_Description_PhD_PDS.pdf

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ ENGAGEMENT

International collaboration and best practices through policy & research partnerships

The European Union (EU), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and Ministry of Interior (MOI) launched Thailand's first 15 SDG Provincial Profiles at the UN Conference Centre, marking a milestone in advancing local sustainability. Developed by NIDA and TDRI, the project covers 15 provinces to align local actions with the SDGs. To strengthen local understanding of how provincial development aligns with global goals. Each SDG Profile, based on open data and local consultations, serves as a strategic tool for planning and monitoring sustainable development. Bangkok's SDG Profile Report, for example, maps the city's progress against UN indicators and the 20-Year Bangkok Development Plan (2018–2037). Over 400 participants, including governors, government agencies, private sector, academia, and civil society, attended the launch, reaffirming Thailand's collective commitment to "Change for Good."

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-sdg-implementation-partnerships/>



Collaborative educational activities for alumni, local residents & displaced people

NIDA continued to advance its mission of fostering community empowerment and sustainable development through a series of impactful outreach initiatives, as follows:

To begin with, “Capacity Building and Network Strengthening for Subdistrict Administrative Organizations (SAOs): Transforming for Change to Become the People’s Pillar” is the collaborative project among alumni from the School of Social Development and Strategy, the Center for Sustainable Development and Sufficiency Economy Studies, and the Sirisopha Institute. Held on February 9–11, 2024, at Cavalli Casa Resort, Ayutthaya Province, the activity aimed to promote and strengthen Thailand’s soft power—across art, culture, cuisine, fashion, tourism, music, literature, and sports—among local community members to foster sustainability. Participants included local government officials and personnel from various SAOs nationwide.

Next is the “Combating Fake News and Cyber Threats for the Elderly and Community Leaders” activity, targeted local residents. Organized on April 25, 2024, at Sikhio Community and Local Area, Nakhon Ratchasima Province, it was co-organized by NIDA and Suranaree University of Technology. Professors and students from both institutions trained 50 elderly participants and community leaders to tackle online misinformation and digital security threats.

The third activity involved displaced populations through the IU-NIDA Teacher Development Program, co-organized by NIDA’s School of Language and Communication and Indiana University Bloomington, USA. Held on May 17–23, 2024, at NIDA Campus, the workshops trained 23 Myanmar teachers and educators, including 11 taking refuge in Thailand after the military coup d’état. The training addressed areas critically needed—or even absent—in the Myanmar education system, such as technology integration, trauma-informed teaching, and content-based instruction, and concluded with a certificate-awarding ceremony.

<https://nida.ac.th/nida-inclusive-sdg-education-out-reach/>

