

2025 Report

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), our philosophy — "Fostering Wisdom for Sustainable Development" — continues to guide us as we advance our mission to educate, empower, and inspire leaders who will shape a just, resilient, and sustainable society. In 2024, we translated this philosophy into tangible action through academic innovation, impactful research, community empowerment, and strategic partnerships at both local and global levels.

A milestone achievement this year was the elevation of the Sikhio Education Center to the Sikhio Campus, endorsed by the NIDA Council. As our knowledge gateway to Northeastern Thailand, the Sikhio Campus represents our commitment to inclusive education and equitable access to knowledge. It serves as a regional platform for lifelong learning and professional development for government officials, community enterprises, and local citizens — reflecting our dedication to serving communities beyond our Bangkok campus.

We have also strengthened sustainable livelihoods through our collaboration with the Dental Innovation Foundation Under Royal Patronage on the vetiver cultivation project at Sikhio Campus. This initiative empowers local farmers with supplementary income opportunities while advancing environmental conservation and soil rehabilitation efforts. Complementary initiatives such as NIDA for All and NIDA for Life, our online lifelong-learning platform, continue to build learning ecosystems for all segments of society.

NIDA's academic and research excellence remains a hallmark of our institution. Our scholar has been recognized among the top 2% most-cited researchers globally in Environmental Sciences and Earth & Environmental Sciences for five consecutive years (2020–2024). This recognition is a testament to our commitment to addressing climate change and environmental governance. Our faculty also played a substantive academic and public role in advancing Thailand's **Draft Clean Air Act**, particularly regarding PM2.5 pollution — reinforcing the Institute's responsibility to contribute to evidence-based policy for public well-being.

This year, we also launched Thailand's first Master of Management in Aviation Management for Sustainability, in partnership with Thai Flight Training (TFT), integrating academic rigor with professional practice and creating a new pathway for sustainable aviation leadership and employment.

To support the transition toward a green-economy, NIDA signed an agreement with Sanken Setsubi Kogyo Co., Ltd. of Japan to advance Zero-Energy Building (ZEB) innovation. Through joint research and pilot campus projects, we are taking steps toward transforming our built environment into a model for energy efficiency and sustainable campus design.

Our commitment to strong governance and ethical leadership remains unwavering. Under our open-governance framework, NIDA continues to uphold transparency, accountability, and participatory decision-making. This year, we convened global thought leaders at our international conference "Redesigning Our Common Future for Sustainable Transformation", featuring dialogue on governance, reputation, and meritocracy in the public sector.

We believe that sustainable development requires collaboration across boundaries. Our partnership with East China Normal University (ECNU) on the International Debate on Sustainable Development nurtured youth leadership and global citizenship. Meanwhile, the SDG Profiles Project with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) provided evidence-based insights for sustainable development across 15 provinces — strengthening local capacity and policy alignment with global goals.

As we look forward, NIDA remains steadfast in our mission to advance knowledge, cultivate responsible leadership, and serve society with integrity and purpose. Our work continues to reflect the principle of "global insight and local wisdom", bridging research and practice, theory and action, and innovation and community empowerment.

Together, we remain committed to shaping a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for Thailand and the world.

1. Lorsumarat

Professor Tippawan Lorsuwannarat
President







# NIDA's SDGs (\*\*) Strategic Plan 2022-2025

## **Vision**

To be an institution that cultivates society's wisdom and develop leaders to advance sustainable development at the global level.

## **Philosophy**

Wisdom for Sustainable Development

## Missions (SDG 1-17)

NIDA's missions align closely with the thematic metrics of the 17 SDGs, encompassing policy, research, teaching and learning, community outreach and engagement, and operations, as shown below.

Direction and Guidance --- POLICY

Establish guiding principles to uphold the institute's philosophy.

 Wisdom for Sustainable Development ---RESEARCH

Generate knowledge through leading-edge and high-impact research to best benefit society.

Future Agents of Change --- TEACHING
 & LEARNING

Provide valuable academic services that support national development through various accessible channels and methods for everyone.

 Social contribution --- COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Foster collaboration and engagement for the betterment of community and society

 Best Practices for Societal Impacts ---OPERATION

Promote sustainable actions and practices that align with 'Wisdom for Sustainable Development' to foster positive societal impacts.

## **Strategies**

## Balance global insights and local wisdom

- Motivate faculty members to publish papers in international journals (Q1-Q3).
- Support faculty members whose research has a beneficial impact on the social development.

## Self-directed learning & lifelong learning

- Future change agent who are both national & global citizens.
- Provide fundamental courses for all regular program students to study sustainability and sufficiency economy.
- Provide master's and doctoral programs related to SDGs.
- Open access to education with financial aid for low-income students
- Collaborate with other international universities.

## NIDA for All

Integrate cross-disciplinary disciplines to develop impoverished provincial areas by using NIDA's educational regional centers as hubs with collaboration with faculty members, students, alumni, communities, local government, local people, and other sectors

## **NIDA** Impacts

Analyze research projects and make them easily accessible to policy makers, public and private agencies.

## **Drivers**

## Organization & People (SDG 3, 5, 8, 10, 11)

- Become a more adept and transparent organization in the recruitment and retention of a knowledgeable and skilled workforce.
- Create a healthy university which supports engagement of all generations to have solidarity in transforming the university in the direction of sustainable development.
- Generate the policy that ends discrimination and reduces inequalities in the university

## Open Governance (SDG 12, 16, 17)

- Promote transparent governance, public participation, and accountability.
- No gift policy.
- Improve an efficient resource and energy utilization system.
- Ensure that a complaint handling process is fair and efficient.
- Meet with NIDA stakeholders to inform the key policies and performance.
- Collaborate with other international and local universities, together with the government, civil society, and the private sector.

## NIDA's core values

## WSE

NIDA's core values, collectively known as WISE, embody the essence of the institution's identity. WISE stands for Wisdom, Integrity, Sustainable Impacts, and Empathy. These values are instilled in our Master's and Doctoral graduates, who serve as NIDA's change agents. More importantly, WISE functions as a guiding framework for the NIDA community, empowering us to apply wisdom for sustainable development, uphold integrity in every action, and practice empathy toward others.



**W** 

Wisdom encompasses organized knowledge, lifelong learning, critical thinking, and insightful understanding, all of which enable individuals to judiciously address complex challenges.

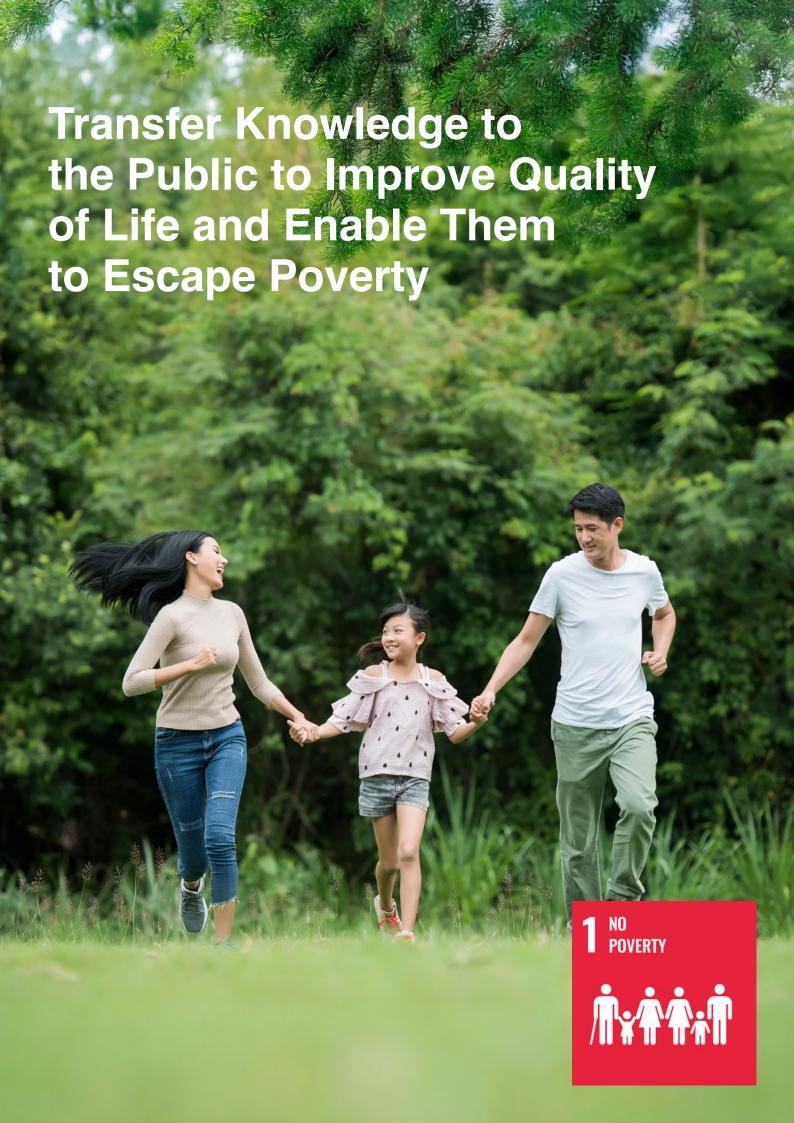
Integrity involves honesty and a steadfast commitment to ethical principles, whether or not anyone is watching.NIDA promotes integrity through initiatives such as the "Growing Good" project, run by the Center for Philanthropy and Civil Society, which aims to instill integrity in younger generations, encouraging them to refrain from monopolizing benefits for themselves or their factions.

<u>S</u>

Sustainable impacts focus on achieving long-term benefits rather than short-term gains, with consideration for the well-being of future generations. When undertaking projects, it is crucial to ask how they can create enduring positive effects on society, the economy, and the environment.



In a society marked by increasing diversity in thoughts, beliefs, interests, and needs, there is a heightened risk of discrimination and social crises. NIDA graduates are encouraged to engage in empathetic actions, which include listening actively to others, respecting differing perspectives, and embracing diversity. Empathy also involves ensuring equal access to services for marginalized groups, aligning with the leadership responsibilities of the new era, known as "Empathetic Leadership."







NIDA is dedicated to creating wisdom for society and developing leaders for national and global sustainability. To achieve this aim, the institute formulates local, regional, and national policies, supports local communities in developing financially sustainable businesses, and encourages faculty members, researchers, and students to conduct research that maximizes national benefits in a balanced and sustainable manner. Specifically, guided by this mission and the late King's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, NIDA creates, applies, and shares knowledge with people at all levels through various forms of dissemination—all aimed at addressing poverty, supporting low-income populations, and eventually advancing Thai people's quality of life.

## **RESEARCH/ FUNDING**

## Promoting research for sustainable social solutions

One of NIDA's key research projects, "Employment of Thai Older Adults," funded by the Office of the Science, Research and Innovation Promotion Board (TSRI), has been conducted twice a year since 2014. The fifth round of the survey was carried out between July 2024 and January 2025 using CAPI interviews via the Qualtrics program, covering 4,129 households nationwide.

The findings revealed that most older adults (58.05%) were unemployed, with only 41.9% still engaged in work or economic activities. Of those employed, 63.10% were self-employed, while 36.90% were wage earners. Employment rates declined with age, especially for wage earners. Women tended to be more self-employed than men, and elderly people in non-municipal areas had higher employment rates. Most respondents (over 80%) expressed a desire to continue working, with no plans to retire.

In terms of income, the main source was the state allowance (47.34%), followed by income from work, welfare benefits, and pensions. However, most working seniors earned less than 100,000 baht per year, particularly those outside municipal areas. Pension income was unevenly distributed between municipal and non-municipal areas. The highest expenditure category was food, followed by financial support for children/grandchildren, housing rent, and medical expenses.

Most seniors possessed assets valued under 1 million baht and had low debt levels, with 95.55% owing less than 1 million baht—indicating the economic vulnerability of Thai seniors. Policy recommendations emphasize promoting productive aging through measures such as delaying retirement, improving work environments to suit older workers, and supporting work–life balance to enhance the economic security and self-worth of Thailand's aging population.

In recent years, NIDA has conducted a wide range of research projects contributing to poverty reduction and social sustainability, such as:

- Enhancing participatory agrotourism potential in Ban Juang, Phitsanulok Province
- Strengthening grassroots economies through social enterprises: a study of social enterprise governance in Thailand
- Documenting lessons on sustainable solutions to farmers' debt through community welfare funds
- Analyzing the role of social capital in sustainable community-based tourism development
- Evaluating economic, social, and environmental returns in sustainable agricultural communities
- Exploring pathways to strengthen household and community economic resilience for sustainable development
- Analyzing factors influencing the use of social capital in community-based tourism in Thailand
- Financial security of Thai older adults: Surveys (Rounds 5–7) and evaluation of policies related to the transfer of subdistrict health promotion hospitals to provincial administrative organizations



### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Bridging theory & practice gap through community services in Phang Nga Province

NIDA promotes academic services and research among students that generate tangible social benefits. For example, under the guidance of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Patthareeya Lakpetch, master's students from the Phuket campus conducted field research and brainstorming sessions to bridge theory and practice in the project "Upgrading Marina Pier Development to Connect with Tourism in Khlong Khian Subdistrict," Takua Thung District, Phang Nga Province.

The project aimed to disseminate knowledge to the community, provide policy recommendations to the Khlong Khian Subdistrict Administrative Organization (SAO), and integrate findings into the tourism pier development plan to stimulate sustainable community-based economic growth.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-phuket-marina-community-tourism/



### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## Bridging communities & innovation for a sustainable future

NIDA is committed to alleviating societal poverty and fostering sustainable development by engaging communities through a joint project, publications, and a training workshop.

To start with, NIDA held a joint project "Enhancing Community Capacity for Sustainable Development in Lat Bua Khao Subdistrict" between YUNUS Student Club, NIDA Student Union, and the Rural Development Volunteer Club at NIDA Sikhio Campus, Nakhon Ratchasima Province. The project focused on empowering older adults through communication skills, leadership development, and personal growth, enabling them to become high-quality seniors. <a href="https://nida.ac.th/sikhio-lat-bua-khao-subdistrict-community">https://nida.ac.th/sikhio-lat-bua-khao-subdistrict-community</a>



NIDA also disseminates academic outputs through its website via NIDA Digest, a platform for sharing insights on development administration and national progress. Articles include:

- "Redesigning Our Common Future for Sustainable Transformation"
- "Economic Crisis Warning: Worse Than the Tom Yum Kung Era—SMEs Facing Liquidity Shortages and Turning to Informal Loans"
- "GSB Yuwaphat Rak Thin 2024 Project."

https://nida.ac.th/article/nida-digest/



Additionally, NIDA hosted a workshop titled "The Igniting Power of Digitalization in Tourism and Hospitality" in Chachoengsao Province to prepare tourism and service entrepreneurs for digital transformation. The event was part of the program to develop an innovation-based ecosystem and enhance workforce capabilities for digital and sustainable tourism.



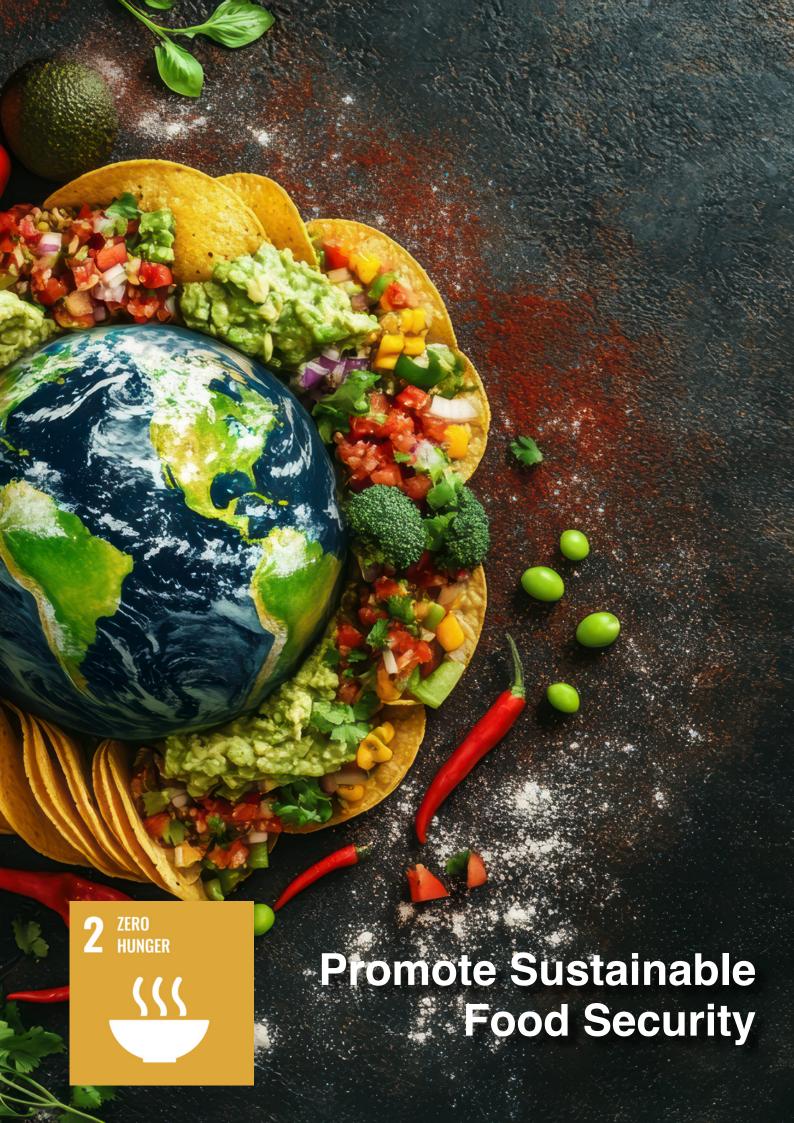
## **OPERATION**

## Investing in their future: Financial aids for graduate students

NIDA offers various financial aids to graduate students of all nationalities to reduce their financial burdens. The funding sources include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Graduate scholarships (Type 1, 2, and 3) are offered to eligible applicants upon admission. There are three types of financial support.
- Type 1: A full-tuition waiver plus monthly stipend throughout the program of study
- Type 2: A full-tuition waiver throughout the program of study
- Type 3: A half-tuition waiver throughout the program of study
- 2. Research and teaching assistantships (RA/TA) are granted to students providing teaching or research services to their School and faculty members by assisting them in either teaching or research conducting duties.
- 3. Thesis and publication scholarships are offered to students who have passed their thesis or dissertation proposal defenses.









NIDA recognizes its social responsibility and actively supports efforts to enhance food security among disadvantaged communities—an essential factor for human well-being. The Institute transfers knowledge through various training programs, projects, and activities designed to strengthen communities, promote resilience, and ensure long-term sustainability. NIDA also encourages faculty members, researchers, and students to develop research that benefits society. The dissemination of this knowledge aims to empower vulnerable groups to achieve self-reliance and eradicate hunger sustainably.

#### **POLICY**

## Addressing social challeges & solutions

NIDA advances its University Social Responsibility (USR) policy by supporting poverty alleviation and community well-being through financial aid, social outreach, and donation initiatives. The institute is also guided by the "Social Laboratory" concept to promote collaborative, hands-on innovation to address complex social challenges and drive sustainable change.

## NIDA for University Social Responsibility (USR)

NIDA has established policies to strengthen its social responsibility role in alleviating poverty and supporting disadvantaged groups. The Institute allocates funding to assist students, staff, and underprivileged individuals with limited access to safe and nutritious food. It has also established a dedicated unit responsible for social outreach and networking, organizing community service, fundraising, and donation activities to support those facing social and economic hardship.

## Promoting "Social Laboratory" concept

NIDA President, Prof. Dr. Tippawan Lorsuwannarat, discussed the "Social Laboratory" concept as a practical approach to addressing complex social issues. A social laboratory serves as a space for learning and experimentation, using real-world social challenges as the foundation for problem-solving. It relies on participants with diverse expertise, experience, and knowledge who engage collaboratively and actively.

This approach encourages agencies and individuals to act as change leaders and promotes social innovation through hands-on, iterative processes that lead to transformative and sustainable change. The concept is inspired by Zaid Hassan's work with the Sustainable Food Lab, which brings together stakeholders from corporations, NGOs, and governments to co-develop and test solutions for a more sustainable global food system through a "hands-on and collective" approach.

### RESEARCH / FUNDING

## Research for strengthening community welfare funds

One notable initiative is the research project titled "Documenting Lessons Learned from Sustainable Solutions to Farmers' Debt through Community Welfare Funds." This project, funded by the Office of the Science, Research and Innovation Promotion Board (TSRI), aims to explore approaches to alleviating farmers' debt problems through community funds, using model communities as case studies. The project also seeks to develop policy recommendations for sustainable debt solutions through community-based mechanisms.

Data were collected through focus group discussions and in-depth interviews with 10–15 key informants from each of the four research sites:

- Ban Donkha Subdistrict, Thung Song District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province
- Bang Namphueng Subdistrict, Phra Pradaeng District, Samut Prakan Province
- Ban Rang Phlap Community, Krab Yai Subdistrict, Ban Pong District, Ratchaburi Province
- Ban Saen To Community, Bua Yai Subdistrict, Nam Phong District, Khon Kaen Province





Participants included community leaders, fund administrators, model farmers, local development officers, and fund members selected through purposive sampling. The research employed semi-structured interviews and content analysis as the main tools.

Findings revealed three key components contributing to the strength of community funds: the community, the fund committee, and the fund members. The collaboration among these three components generated social capital, enabling collective problem-solving and sustainable debt relief. Community funds thus serve as vital mechanisms in strengthening local economic structures and offer a promising model for addressing farmers' debt in Thailand sustainably.

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Food & hospitality fieldtrip for experiential learning

NIDA promotes experiential learning through company visits and field studies related to the food industry. Students visited Food Passion Co., Ltd., the parent company of Bar B Q Plaza, GON Food Take, Redsun, and GON Express. The visit showcased the company's expansion from restaurant operations to establishing the Food Passion Training and Learning Center, as well as its successful adaptation to the economic challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and strategies for maintaining competitiveness in today's food service industry.







Students also visited Amari Bangkok Hotel and ONYX Hospitality Group, where they learned about internationally recognized sustainable hotel management practices.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-tourism-global-hotel-standards

#### **OPERATION**

## From Riceberry to Energy Booster: Workshop for BCG Innovation

NIDA held a workshop, "I-DIN SYRYP: Syrup from Riceberry Rice" to introduce an innovative Zero Waste and BCG-based product—an Energy Booster Syrup made from Riceberry, providing a healthier sugar alternative. Participants learned to make the syrup and co-developed ideas for product improvement and community extension in the Nam Sai Dok Mai Suai community, Nimit Mai Road, Khlong Sam Wa, Bangkok.

https://tour.nida.ac.th/th/i-din-syryp/









NIDA promotes good health and well-being among its stakeholders. Faculty members conduct research and provide academic services related to well-being, and collaborate with external organizations to host various health promotion activities. Additionally, the institute encourages students, personnel, alumni, and the general public to pay more attention to their own health.

#### RESEARCH/ FUNDING

## Good health & well-being through research

Faculty members within the institute conduct research on the health and well-being of the public, receiving funding support from various governmental and private sector organizations. Examples include:

- Research project on creating a long-term aging database using a repeated sample for Thailand: dimensions of society, health, and life satisfaction.
- Research project studying the situation and policy proposals based on data for sustainably communicating the issue of e-cigarettes in the health and well-being dimensions of the Thai population.
- Research project on the study and analysis of the online social media landscape regarding the e-cigarette issue with big data using machine learning techniques.
- Research project on developing indicators for public perception of the e-cigarette issue in Thailand.
- Research project on the driving behavior of drunk drivers in the Bangkok Metropolitan area to serve as a guideline for developing accident prevention plans.
- Research project on the study and review for improving the operating standards of the Elderly Quality of Life Development and Occupational Promotion Center (ECDP).
- Research project evaluating the policy of transferring Subdistrict Health Promoting Hospitals to Provincial Administrative Organizations.

# Research evaluating the transference of subdistrict health-promoting hospitals to provincial administrative organizations

The research project evaluating the policy of transferring Subdistrict Health-Promoting Hospitals (SHPH) to Provincial Administrative Organizations (PAO) received funding from the Health Systems Research Institute (HSRI). The objective of this project was to evaluate the policy of transferring SHPHs to PAOs through both qualitative and quantitative studies, covering 8 provinces. The findings indicate that most PAOs fully complied with the transfer criteria in terms of structure, personnel, and budget. The overall primary healthcare system largely retained its pre-transfer characteristics, but there were improvements in budget allocation and the administrative authority of SHPHs, making them more flexible. Challenges still exist in terms of workforce, data integration, and inter-agency governance. However, the public has greater satisfaction and confidence in the services provided by SHPHs, reflecting a positive trend in the transfer towards the long-term development of the local health system.

https://nida.ac.th/research/the-policy-evaluative-re-search-project/

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Health collaboration with external organizations

In 2024, the institute organized the NIDA USR Blood Donation Project in collaboration with the National Blood Centre, Thai Red Cross Society. Personnel, students, and interested members of the public participated in blood donation. The institute hosted this activity a total of 5 times, with a large number of participants each time.







In addition, the Center for Aging Society Research and the Wisdom and Information Resource Center (WIRC) collaborated with the Program Management Unit for Competitiveness (PMUC) to host a seminar on the topic "Changing Age...Changing Roles" at the launch event for the Health, Aging, and Retirement in Thailand (HART) survey and study project. The HART project is currently starting its 5th round of surveying, using the same group of samples, which will help to understand the transitions and changes throughout the life course, especially in the dimensions of social aspects, self-identity, income, and satisfaction of the elderly. This ultimately leads to the formulation of public policy in Thailand. Furthermore, the HARTproject is part of the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) - Around the World (HRS-ATW) network and a research network in ASEAN.

https://nida.ac.th/health-aging-and-retirement-in-thai-land/





The institute organized the "NIDA RUN FOR HEALTH 2024" project. The goal was to promote and encourage the institute's personnel, students, and alumni to exercise for better physical and mental health, make beneficial use of their free time, and diversify their exercise options. The project also involved tracking running distance results every Thursday, starting from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Between July 11 - August 15, 2024 (a total of 6 sessions)

https://nida.ac.th/nida-run-for-health-2024/





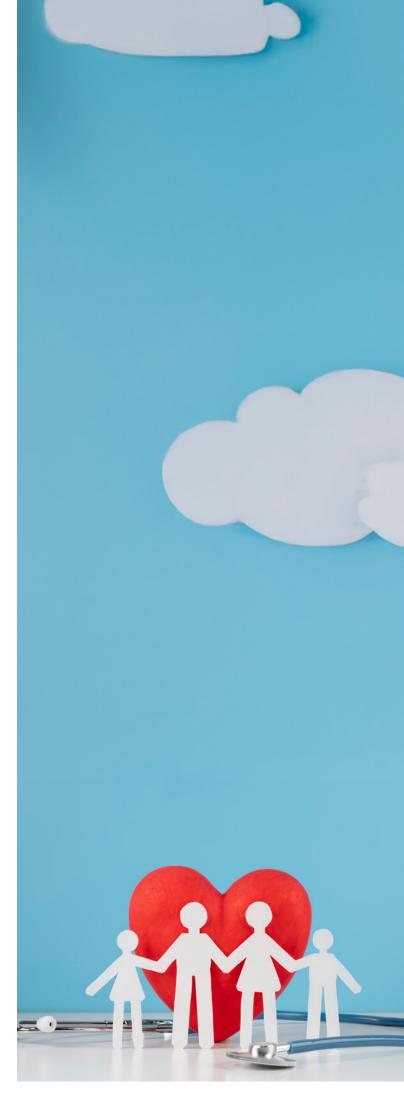
## **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Developing an incubation curriculum for sustainable health innovation



NIDA's GSCM participated in the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Academic Cooperation (MoU) to develop an Incubation Curriculum for Sustainable Health Innovation at the ThaiHealth Academy. The objective of the MoU is to create a curriculum that can accelerate the development and incubation of sustainable health innovation. It focuses on developing skills and knowledge in creating innovations that are crucial for solving health problems in Thai society, which will lead to continuous development at both individual and societal levels. It also emphasizes training skills in Empathy, Critical Thinking, and Human-Centered Design, as well as Systems Thinking. This will help drive the development of health innovations that can sustainably solve health problems in the long run.

This MoU is considered an important collaboration for developing health innovation, while also promoting the creation of a sustainable network to continuously improve the quality of life for people in Thai society.









NIDA is guided by the philosophy WISDOM for Sustainable Development: Building Knowledge for Sustainable Development. With this vision, the institute recognizes the importance of developing a lifelong learning system a leading institution of wisdom for society and a creator of leaders for sustainable international development suitable for learners of all ages. This is achieved through research, an online training platform, NIDA for Life, all of which is designed to enhance knowledge and skills in areas of personal interest, professional learning, and academic development. In brief, the initiative provides lifelong learning experiences and promotes sustainable improvement in educational quality.

#### RESEARCH

## Promoting research related to lifelong learning for people of all ages

The research project titled "Sustainable Training of Artificial Intelligence Artists Using Small Training Data on Deep Learning Models" received funding support from the Office of the Science, Research and Innovation Promotion Board (TSRI). The project aims to study deep learning techniques to develop AI artist models capable of efficiently creating digital artworks under data and resource constraints. The research was conducted through two main approaches:

- Utilizing Al artists to create and integrate traditional Thai art patterns: The results demonstrated that the proposed methods could preserve the cultural identity of Ban Chiang and Sukhothai (Sangkhalok) motifs while enhancing possibilities for contemporary creative expression.
- Developing cross-lingual learning techniques for the Thai language: This involved training linguistic encoders in Al artists to support Thai language input using resource-efficient techniques and high-quality synthetic data training. This advancement allowed Al artists to respond accurately to Thai text inputs and generate culturally contextualized images that better represent Thai heritage.

The research findings indicated that although working with limited training data in deep learning contexts presents challenges regarding data diversity and may incur additional costs for generating synthetic data, the proposed approach successfully enhanced the Al artist models for practical applications. Moreover, it demonstrated the potential for adapting open Al artist models for low-resource languages in the future. In terms of its theoretical and practical contributions, this research stressed the role of artificial intelligence in preserving and extending Thai artistic and cultural heritage, while simultaneously creating new value in the creative economy for sustainable development.

## **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Empowering lifelong learning for sustainable development

NIDA established a Sikhio Campus as an educational hub for northeastern Thailand, expanding access to high-quality graduate education and professional training for government officers, local citizens, and community enterprises.

NIDA has established a platform for lifelong learning through its online learning system, NIDA for Life, offering five main learning categories: AI / Digital Technology, Environment and SDGs Language and (Mass) Communication, Management, and Self-Improvement. To realize this program, faculty members from 11 schools and one college contribute their expertise across a variety of contemporary topics. Learners can access courses through NIDA for Life, and upon completion, receive a certificate of achievement.





In addition, NIDA organizes study visits and learning exchange activities on local community development at the Community Organizations Development Institute (Public Organization), and activities at the Foundation of Dentistry under Royal Patronage, helping students recognize the importance and value of sustainable development.

What is more, NIDA continuously develops its lifelong learning system through online teaching formats and the design of training courses in collaboration with external organizations. These initiatives respond to the lifelong learning needs of people of all ages, emphasizing both hard skills and soft skills development.

Last but not least, NIDA supports education for sustainable development through specialized programs and elective courses that enable students to learn and apply knowledge to promote sustainability within business and organizational contexts.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## Learning, sharing & building sustainable communities

NIDA promotes learning exchange in various forms, including:

• Training courses like "How to Learn English Sustainably in the 21st Century" for students, and "Combating Fake News and Cyber Threats" for senior citizens and community leaders in Sikhio District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province.



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• The "Proposal Presentation Forum: GSB Yuwaphat Rak Thin Project 2024" (link), aimed at enhancing and developing local products and services, promoting local wisdom, strengthening the grassroots economy, and improving community entrepreneurship capacity. This initiative also encourages participating students to apply their knowledge in development administration to create tangible and sustainable benefits for communities.



• The "NIDA Little Free Library: Take a Book ... Leave a Book" project (link), which provides a shared learning space for communities and fosters lifelong learning.



- NIDA advances sustainable infrastructure and green innovation through
- MOU with Sanken Setsubi Kogyo Co., Ltd.(Japan),
   a leader I Zero-Energy Building (ZEB) engineering.
- Initiation of main campus energy-efficient survey and planning for a ZEB pilot demonstration and joint research project.







NIDA has continued to strictly adhere to its founding principle of promoting an inclusive institution where people of all genders are treated equally, given equal access to opportunities, and can grow academically and professionally on an equitable basis. This principle reflects NIDA's ongoing commitment to SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. NIDA has also established mechanisms to monitor the progress of gender equality policies, requiring improvement, correction, or additional action.

NIDA's commitment to gender equality is driven by a shared belief that fair, inclusive, and evidence-based indicators can lead to genuine equality for all genders. Recognizing that gender divides have long persisted across social, cultural, and institutional structures, NIDA continuously strives to remove barriers faced by women and gender-diverse individuals and ensure their full participation in all spheres of academic life.



The institute continuously collects statistical data and presents it to administrators and policymakers to ensure that decision-making is informed by real evidence. The public can also access such information through multiple channels—such as the university website, Facebook, dashboard, and other digital platforms—providing transparency and accountability. Data are updated regularly to maintain relevance and effectiveness of gender-related policies.

NIDA's gender equality implementation covers policy issuance, revision, and enforcement to ensure participation and inclusiveness among all gender groups both within the university and in surrounding communities. Students, faculty members, staff, and community stakeholders are regarded as part of one family that must be supported equitably.

### **POLICY**

## Policy revision for gender equality & inclusion

NIDA has revised its policies on preventing discrimination against women and gender-diverse individuals to align with current social realities and enhance fairness for all affected persons. To achieve this, the Committee on Institutional Equality convened to collect opinions, analyze findings, and amend key policies—such as the Gender Equality Policy and the Policy for the Protection of Complainants in Cases of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination.

The Committee also oversees improvements to facilities, including childcare centers and nursing rooms for mothers, all-gender restrooms. It remains steadfast in advocating for the rights of women and transgender individuals by organizing awareness campaigns, and promoting the integration of gender-responsive budgeting processes.



Ultimately, by strengthening gender equality policies, institutional mechanisms, and gender-responsive programs, NIDA continues to advance SDG 5 with persistence and integrity. The institute remains firmly committed to fostering inclusivity, eliminating discrimination, and building a community where everyone can reach their fullest potential.





### **RESEARCH**

## 2024 research related to gender equality

Since 2024, several female faculty members have secured research funding for projects related to gender equality. From the School of Development Economics, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Amornrat Apinanmahakul has conducted research on "Gender Inequality among the Elderly and Well-being after the COVID Era." Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Sastra Sudsawat has worked on "Long-Term Care and Gender Equality in Thailand." All of these studies are currently under review for international publication.

#### **OPERATION**

## Celebrating female academics

To demonstrate its commitment to gender equality in research excellence, NIDA consistently recognizes and celebrates the achievements of its female scholars. The institute is proud of Professor Dr. Thitirat Siribovornratanakul from the School of Applied Statistics, who has been recognized on Stanford University's World's Top 2% Scientists List (2024–2025). NIDA's pride also extends to other faculty members who have published research in international databases at increasing rates - a testament to their outstanding academic contributions and research excellence. In the academic service realm, 15 female lecturers actively conducted consulting projects in 2024 with a total project value of 61,838,650.32 baht.



Her publications for 2024 are available via the following link: <a href="https://share.google/YpbCGBwcsUJyfOKea">https://share.google/YpbCGBwcsUJyfOKea</a> Source link: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BHBDD4NkU/">https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BHBDD4NkU/</a>

## Gender equality in access to education

NIDA have collected, updated, and regularly monitored gender-disaggregated data to ensure equitable access to education. This includes tracking indicators such as the number of first-generation female graduate students and women's application and enrollment rates.

NIDA also implements a gender-friendly admission policy. Before each admission period, staff are reminded to provide assistance and flexibility to female and LGBTQ applicants who may have specific needs. A Statement of Equal Opportunity is included in all institutional publications and digital platforms.

This policy is reviewed annually and revised as necessary to reflect current conditions. The recorded data indicate that NIDA has maintained a high proportion of female students across disciplines comparable to, or even exceeding, that of male students, including in fields traditionally dominated by men.

## Academic promotion & career advancement for female faculty and staff

## For female faculty members:

Female and LGBTQ faculty members achieved significant academic and administrative advancements. The university's female president was reappointed for another three-year term. Among the four members of the executive team, two are women serving as Vice President for Research and Academic Services, and Vice President for Planning and Community Relations. At the faculty level, each dean serves a three-year term. Of NIDA's twelve faculties, six deans and twenty-seven associate deans are female. Furthermore, both the Research Center and the Training Center appointed female directors in 2024.

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NIDA also encouraged faculty members to apply for academic promotion. Six female faculty members applied, and all six were successfully promoted-three to assistant professorship and three to associate professorship. Their achievements were publicly recognized through university announcements, monetary awards, and a congratulatory bouquet presented by the university president.

#### For female and LGBTQ administrative staff

NIDA's administrative staff members also advanced in their careers in 2024. The institute supports the promotion of female and LGBTQ employees under a transparent, merit-based policy that ensures gender and sexual identity do not create disadvantages. In 2024, six female staff members were promoted to supervisory positions, including two who attained division director roles. The Chairperson of the Staff Council is also a woman.



Congratulations to **Assistant Professor Dr. Thunyanee Pothisarn**on her appointment as

Assistant Professor.

Congratulations to **Associate Professor Dr. Khanyapass Punjaisri**on her appointment as

Associate Professor.





Congratulations to **Associate Professor Dr. Thitirat Siribovornratanakul**on her appointment as

Associate Professor.



Congratulations to
Assistant Professor Dr.
Bongkoch Chencharassakul
on her appointment as
Assistant Professor.

Congratulations to
Associate Professor Dr.
Praowpan Tansitpong
on her appointment as
Associate Professor.





Congratulations to
Assistant Professor
Dr. Xuemei Sun
on her appointment as
Assistant Professor.



Congratulations to **Ms. Papatsorn Pathumnok** on her appointment as Director of the Legal Affairs Division, Office of the President.







Congratulations to Ms. Sirirak Wattanapintu on her appointment as Director of the Siripattana Office Administration Division.



Congratulations to **Ms. Paradee Thepkayon** on her appointment as Chief of the Planning and Development Section, School of Economics Development.



Congratulations to **Ms. Rattarin Rakham** on her appointment as Chief of the General Administration Section, School of Social Development and Administration Strategy.



Congratulations to **Ms. Sirinthip Pramaipim** on her appointment as Chief of the Academic Affairs Section, School of Public Administration.

## Updated and Revised Existing Policies

Policies concerning the prevention of discrimination against women and gender-diverse individuals were revised to align with current social realities and to enhance fairness for affected persons. The Committee on Institutional Equality convened to gather opinions, analyze, and amend key policies—such as the Gender Equality Policy and Policy for the Protection of Complainants in Cases of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination. The Committee also supervises improvements to facilities, including childcare centers and nursing rooms for mothers. It remains steadfast in advocating for women's and transgender individuals' rights—supporting the installation of all-gender restrooms, awareness campaigns, and the inclusion of gender-responsive budgeting processes.

## Enabling Policies and Actions to Support Women's Success

The NIDA Student Union, led by a female president, organized multiple activities promoting leadership, equality, and student development. With financial and institutional support, these initiatives aimed to empower students and strengthen inclusion across campus. The Division of Educational Services systematically tracked female participation and reported all outcomes publicly. The Committee on Gender Equality reviewed project results and provided feedback for the following year. Activities included:

• Team Building for Student Union Committee – annual project enhancing team-building and budgeting skills and fostering collaboration.



https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.793632002775117&-type=3&locale=th\_TH





• Student Orientation Program – encouraging new students to engage in Student Union activities.



https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.766929205445397&-type=3&locale=th\_TH

• NIDA Board Game Project – developing analytical and networking skills among students and staff.



https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AbrKzZewG/

• English Training – TOEIC 800+ Project – improving English proficiency and employability.



https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CZ5M3seA9/

• Al Training Project – developing competencies in artificial intelligence and digital literacy.



https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16ZkX5JzWi/

• Financial Literacy Training – building strong financial foundations for women's long-term independence.



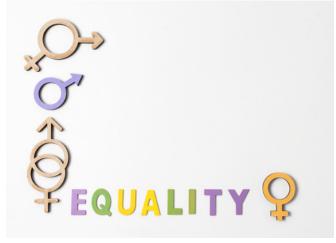
https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1D4e6DNh5i/

• Pride with Us Project – raising gender equality awareness and promoting solidarity among students, staff, and the broader public.



https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17UqThk1dW/

To conclude, NIDA has consistently upheld its principle of creating an environment where all individuals—regardless of gender—can access equal opportunities and progress on fair terms. By strengthening gender equality policies, institutional mechanisms, and gender-responsive programming, NIDA continues to advance SDG 5 with persistence and integrity. The institute remains committed to fostering inclusivity, eliminating discrimination, and building a community where everyone can achieve their fullest potential.









NIDA deeply understands the significance of managing water resource sustainably and establishing networks with communities and organizations to promote environmental awareness for a sustainable society. The institute therefore endeavored to achieve this aim via environmental management research and education as well as hands-on learning experiences to enhance our understanding of practical environmental management.

#### **RESEARCH**

## Building sustainable communities through the "Cycle of Faith" approach

NIDA's notable research, "Guidelines for Sustainable Development of Thai Communities under the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy" by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nareenoot Damrongchai, employed qualitative methods—including in-depth interviews and both participatory and non-participatory observations—with three successful communities: Dong Khee Lek Community in Prachinburi Province, Phu Tham Phu Kratae Community in Khon Kaen Province, and Ban Lim Thong Community in Buriram Province.

The findings revealed that a "Cycle of Faith" serves as the foundation for processes leading to sustainable development. Four key elements drive successful community development: (1) strong and capable leadership, (2) appropriate problem-solving and development approaches, (3) effective communication for development, and (4) commitment to sustainable resource management. The study highlights the need for community awareness of local issues, transforming "knowledge" gained through learning into practice based on community values—fostering the "faith" that continuously sustains community-driven development.



## Circular economy research & collaboration in the Lancang-Mekong Region

Additionally, NIDA faculty members—Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pakpong Pochanart, Prof. Dr. Wisakha Poochinda, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aweewan Panyagometh—collaborated on the "Circular Economy (CE) Capability Building in the Lancang-Mekong Region: Product Verification of Plastic Packaging in Supply Chains" research project, implemented by the Management System Certification Institute (MASCI). The project received the "Project with Outstanding Pragmatic and Result-Oriented Approach" award from the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-circular-economy-award-mlc/

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Bridging theory & practice in environmental & sustainable education

As part of its core academic mission, NIDA—through the School of Environmental Development Administration prepares graduates equipped with both theoretical and practical skills to address social and environmental issues in an integrated manner. The program produces sustainability-oriented administrators, entrepreneurs, and professionals who seek to advance knowledge and management skills in sustainability.

Hence, on November 15, 2024, students from the Environmental Management Program visited the EGAT Learning Center to study Thailand's energy management systems and explored community environmental management at Rewadee Zone 2, Nonthaburi Province. These visits provided students with concrete, real-world experiences beneficial for their future professional practice.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-environmental-management-study-visit



### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## Seminar on raising awareness of water value

Doctoral students (Cohort 20) from the School of Environmental Development Administration organized a seminar titled "Apologizing to Mother Ganges through PES," discussing how water—a vital resource for life and livelihoods—should be valued and compensated through payment for ecosystem services (PES).seek to advance knowledge and management skills in sustainability.

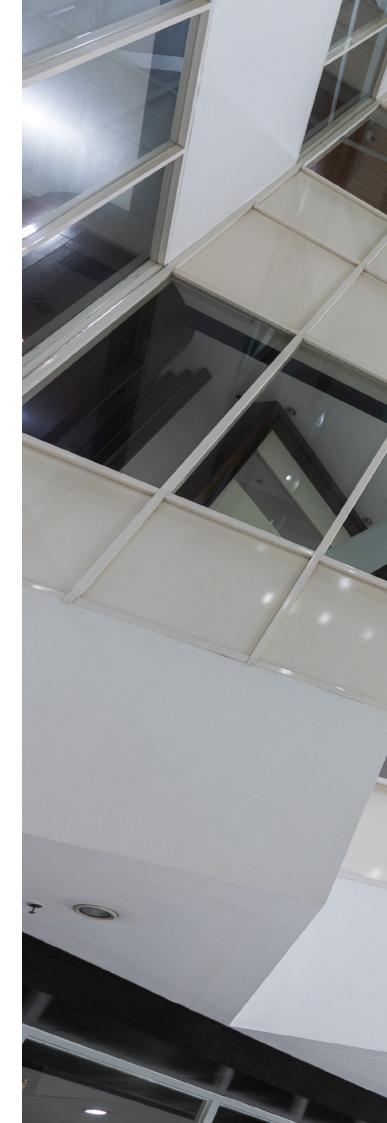
#### **OPERATION**

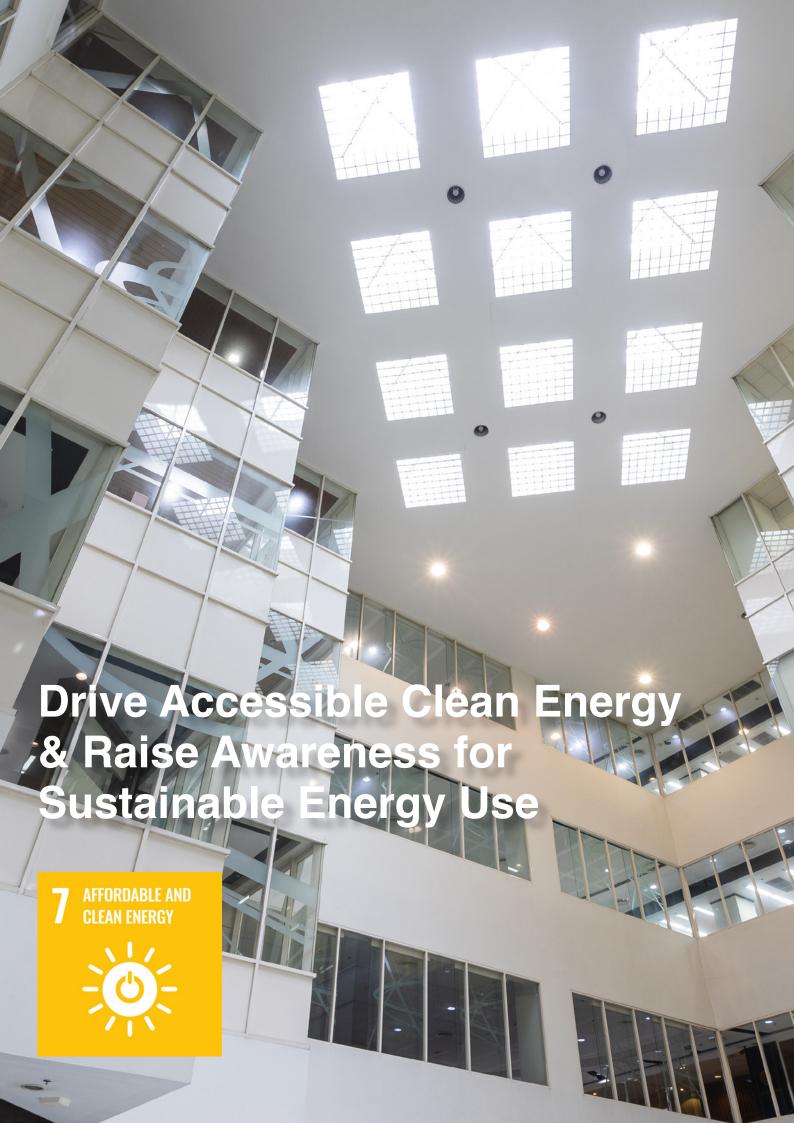
## Promoting on-campus water quality & use management

NIDA promotes water conservation among faculty, staff, and students while cultivating eco-friendly habits. The campus provides free, safe drinking water on every floor and in all buildings, ensuring access to hygienic water for students, staff, and visitors alike.

NIDA also improves water quality and treats wastewater before releasing it into the Phatthanathara Water Park Pond. Each building has a closed-aeration wastewater treatment system and a centralized biological rotating-disc treatment unit. The treated water is released into the pond, which is aerated using solar-powered paddle wheels (Solar PV) to increase oxygen levels, supporting a balanced ecosystem of fish, frogs, and turtles. The pond has an overflow pipe connected to a pumping station that discharges water into Khlong Saen Saeb.











NIDA has adopted a Net Zero Emission policy and promotes clean energy use in education, research, and institutional energy management while raising consciousness among students and staff to encourage sustainable energy practices.

### RESEARCH/ FUNDING

## Joint research with NASA to advance Thailand's clean air

NIDA's faculty members collaborate with international organizations on research that advances clean energy and environmental sustainability. For example, Prof. Dr. Siwatt Pongpiachan, Director of the Center for Research and Development of Disaster Prevention and Management, School of Social Development and Management Strategy, has conducted joint research with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) under the project "Clean Air Act for Thailand: Sustainable Solutions to Air Pollution and Its Root Causes." This research aims to address air pollution, particularly PM2.5, to protect public health and the environment in a sustainable way.

## Research promoting eco-friendly restaurants

Additionally, NIDA has implemented Fundamental Fund (FF)-supported research programs focusing on developing environmentally friendly, low-carbo restaurant businesses to enhance competitiveness. Studies have examined consumer behavior in restaurant businesses on Koh Samui, Surat Thani Province, to promote low-carbon, eco-friendly practices; explored BCG-based business transformation in the restaurant industry; and developed communication models to drive low-carbon business concepts in the region.

## Research for climate innovation & sustainability at COP29

Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Siwatt Pongpiachan was invited to present research from the Future Earth Thailand network—funded by the Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)—at the 29<sup>th</sup> United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan on November 11–22, 2024.

Discussion topics included "Sustainable Growth: Thailand's Climate Commitment—Leveraging Innovation in Blue Carbon, Carbon Capture Storage, Air Pollution Mitigation, and Beyond Banking for a Green Future" and "Innovative Approaches to Sustainable Agriculture, Forest, and Water Management." Panelists shared their visions and commitment to leveraging innovation in blue carbon, carbon capture, air pollution reduction, and financial innovation to advance sustainable development goals. https://nida.ac.th/nida-joins-cop29/

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Fostering visionary leaders for sustainable development

The School of Environmental Development
Administration offers a Master of Science in
Environmental Management, designed to produce
visionary environmental leaders with analytical,
research, and policy expertise. The curriculum
integrates global environmental knowledge and the
Philosophy of the Sufficiency Economy to support
sustainable development.

One of the key courses, Clean Technology and Energy Management (J.S. 7204), focuses on principles of clean technology, waste generation assessment, mass and energy balance, pollution estimation, and clean technology alternatives. It also includes topics such as life-cycle assessment, eco-design, environmental labeling, policy instruments for resource efficiency, and national and international energy management strategies.

Students also participate in field learning at Khao Yai National Park and the EGAT Lam Takong Learning Center, applying their knowledge to real-world environmental and energy management practices for organizational and societal benefit.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-sustainable-energy-ghg-reduction/







### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## "Low Carbon High Future" seminar for green tourism

NIDA hosted a seminar titled "Low Carbon High Future: Tourism Pathways Toward a New Ecosystem for a Sustainable Society" at the Plant Genetic Conservation Project under the Royal Initiative, Sikhio District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province.



The seminar engaged local communities from Khlong Phai and Nong Ya Khao subdistricts in green tourism initiatives aligned with the BCG (Bio-Circular-Green) Economy Model. Activities included organic vegetable cultivation, composting food waste, waste separation, community-based food production, reduced burning practices, and local tree planting to foster sustainable eco-tourism.

### **OPERATION**

## Net Zero initiatives toward energy sustainability

NIDA's Net Zero Emission policy is supported by a Net Zero Steering Committee responsible for implementing, monitoring, and communicating energy practices across the Institute to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2027. The committee also works to improve energy efficiency, optimize resource use, and promote campus-wide participation, emphasizing that all members share responsibility for this goal.

Additionally, NIDA's campus design integrates natural ventilation and daylighting, reducing the need for artificial lighting during the day. All buildings have adopted LED lighting, which lowers power consumption and air-conditioning load. A Building Energy Management System has been implemented, and solar panels are installed on the Navamintradhiraj Building's rooftop, producing 1.06% renewable energy.

Lastly, NIDA is equipped with EV charging stations for electric vehicles used on campus by staff, students, alumni, and the public—supporting zero-emission mobility and affordable clean energy use.





NIDA is deeply committed to promoting decent work and advancing economic growth through research, education, community engagement, and inclusive policies and practices. All of these efforts aim to ensure the well-being of citizens, support skill development and knowledge exchange for learners of all ages, and guarantee equality and representation for all individuals.

#### **POLICY**

## Promoting decent & productive employment to foster sustainable economic growth

NIDA continues to uphold its commitment to fair employment practices, equality, and compliance with labor laws, in line with its policy on promoting decent work for sustainable development. This policy also extends to employment practices of service contractors.

The institute actively supports the hiring of individuals over the age of 60 who possess valuable knowledge and skills. In 2024, NIDA employed 9 elderly workers (housekeepers and security personnel) aged over 60, accounting for 12% of the total in those roles. Additionally, NIDA renewed contracts for 38 academic staff and 9 support staff aged over 60.

To ensure adequate and equitable welfare for students and staff, NIDA has provided various facilities without discrimination. These include three gender-inclusive restrooms accessible to all and three mother-and-child restrooms equipped for diaper changing in three buildings. These efforts reflect NIDA's dedication to creating an inclusive, respectful, and sustainable working and learning environment.

### **RESEARCH**

## NIDA's top 2% research excellence in driving sustainable economic growth

NIDA is a global frontier research university with numerous research projects that aim to enhance industrial productivity and economic growth, in line with the 8th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG8). In particular, the works of Professor Dr. Peerayuth Charoensukmongkol, recognized among the Top 2% of scientists worldwide, have made significant contributions to international scholarship. His research encompasses workforce capability development, equitable work environments, and the enhancement of entrepreneurial competitiveness. These studies were published in SCImago Quartile 1 journals, most of which are ranked in the Top 10% globally, including the Journal of Asia Business Studies, Management Research Review, International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management, to name just a few. All publications have demonstrated a Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) above the world average, underscoring their scholarly quality and international influence.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-worlds-top-2-scientists-2025









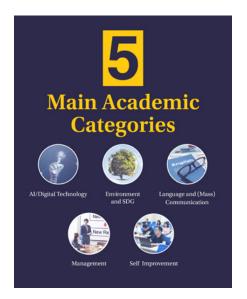
### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Teaching, academic services & activities designed to enhance workforce competencies in alignment with national needs

NIDA promotes lifelong learning through a diverse range of educational offerings at the master's and doctoral levels, as well as ongoing short- and long-term training programs designed to develop knowledge and skills aligned with industry needs and sustainable development goals.



To begin with, NIDA launched a free lifelong learning platform called "NIDA for Life" in 2024, which offers short online training courses for skill development and personal growth. The platform provides updated knowledge and global trends across five main subject categories: (1) Al & Digital Technology, (2) Environment & SDGs, (3) Language & (Mass) Communication, (4) Management, and (5) Self-Improvement. It caters to learners of all ages, allowing them to freely choose from over 40 online courses and gain new skills and knowledge to support career advancement and income generation. So far, more than 5,000 certificates have been issued to participants.



What is more, on August 21, 2024, NIDA, in collaboration with East China Normal University (ECNU) of the People's Republic of China, hosted the 1st International Sustainable Development Debate. The event brought together student participants from NIDA, ECNU, and Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (SUFE), and was attended by students from various universities across Thailand. The competition provided a platform for students to exchange ideas and gain international perspectives on management and sustainable development. It also helped them enhance their debating skills, language proficiency, and analytical thinking abilities, while fostering professional networks valuable for their future careers, both in Thailand and abroad.







#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

# Enhancing the economic well-being of the community & society in Sikhio District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province

In 2024, NIDA launched a series of initiatives at its Sikhio Campus in Nakhon Ratchasima Province across three key areas—smart farming, community training, and degree-level education. These efforts aim not only to generate income for local residents but also to stimulate economic growth in line with NIDA's master plan for sustainable community development and the provincial development strategy.

In the area of smart farming, NIDA signed an MOU with the Dental Innovation Foundation under Royal Patronage to collaborate on research and academic development. The initiative involves applying NIDA's expertise in vetiver grass cultivation by conducting pilot planting at the Sikhio Education Center and integrating smart farming technologies into demonstration plots. High-quality vetiver grass that meets industry standards can be sold at premium prices for use as a key raw material in the production of mouthwash by the DIF Research and Development Institute for Medical Industry.





In the area of community training, through a collaboration among the Rural Development Volunteer Club, the NIDA YUNUS Student Club, and the Student Union, NIDA organized a project titled "Enhancing the Potential of Lad Bua Khao Subdistrict Community for Sustainability" at the Sikhio Education Center. The project aimed to provide students and community leaders with opportunities to gain knowledge, exchange experiences and ideas, and prepare for the transition to a fully aging society.

In the area of education, NIDA has implemented the Master of Political Science program at the Sikhio Education Center and plans to launch a Master of Laws program in the near future. These initiatives aim to expand access to higher education and promote economic development in the Northeastern region of Thailand.

Importantly, all of these initiatives promote strong and sustainable community economic development and align with the master plan for developing learning potential toward sustainable development for communities in Nakhon Ratchasima Province. https://nida.ac.th/nida-mou-dif-on-20240229/

#### **OPERATION**

# Ensuring equality for all employees within the Faculty Senate & the Staff Council

NIDA has established both the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council as representative bodies for all personnel—regardless of gender, race, or nationality—in accordance with Sections 31–34. Both councils actively promote inclusivity by encouraging employees of all genders, ethnicities, and religious beliefs to be elected as council committee members.

Furthermore, the institute has implemented processes to support collective bargaining for the benefit of both academic and support staff. For example, NIDA ensures representation from both groups on the Employee Welfare Fund Committee, which oversees the equitable allocation of funds for various employee welfare programs.



Drive Innovation & Infrastructure for Sustainable Development





NIDA produces research in the fields of technology and innovation that enhances the competitiveness of the industrial sector. These research outputs are published in internationally recognized academic journals of global standing. Furthermore, NIDA produces highly capable graduates who enter the industrial sector and operates several units that promote innovation, including the Business Incubation Center, the Business Innovation Center, the Center for Data Analytics and Data Technology Management, and the Center for Entrepreneurial and Innovation Development Research. These units work together to transfer technology and innovation to communities, society, and the nation.

#### RESEARCH /FUNDING

## Advancing AI & innovation research for sustainable growth

NIDA has produced outstanding research supported by the Office of the Science, Research, and Innovation Promotion Board (TSRI), under the Fundamental Fund (FF) program. Notable projects include:

- Al Artists and Augmented Reality for Sustainable Career Pathways of Artists
- Sustainable Al Artist Training with Small Data Sets on Deep Learning Models
- Sustainable Workload Balancing between Al Artists and Human Artists: A Strategic Perspective on Human Resource Management

In addition, NIDA's research has been published in high-impact international journals, namely:

- "A Technological, Data-Oriented Design Journey for Teaching and Learning Business Intelligence and Analytics Projects in Higher Education" in Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education
- "Real Options: Connecting with Other Perspectives and Exploring New Frontiers" in Academy of Management Perspectives

Moreover, NIDA researchers presented their work at the 2024 INFORMS Annual Conference in Washington, USA, with the paper titled "AI-Enabled Smart Retail Solutions for Improving Customer Experience Management."

In sum, NIDA places great importance on the development of technology and innovation by promoting and supporting job creation, prosperity, social stability, and sustainable development. This commitment is reflected in the institute's research income from STEM fields. In the fiscal year 2024, NIDA's average research income per faculty member in STEM fields amounted to 2.79 million baht, while the average research income per faculty member in arts, humanities, and social sciences was 3.56 million baht. Community Engagement.

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Innovative education for the digital transformation era

NIDA emphasizes the use of innovation in teaching and learning. The School of Business Administration offers programs such as Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Science in Corporate Finance, Investment, and Risk Management (Flexible - CFIRM) and Ph.D. in Business Administration. These programs focus on developing modern executives capable of managing and defining strategies to guide organizations through digital transformation. In addition, business students at NIDA have represented the institute as University Innovation Fellows (UIF) under the UIF Networks of Stanford d. School, which serves as the innovation hub of Stanford University in the United States.

Meanwhile, the School of Applied Statistics also offers programs such as:

- Master of Science in Smart Logistics and Supply Chain Management (LSCM)
- Master of Science in Data Analytics and Data Science (DADS)
- Master of Science in Information Technology Management (ITM)
- Ph.D. in Smart Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Ph.D. in Computer Science & Information Systems
- Ph.D. in Data Analytics & Data Science





These programs aim to develop personnel and knowledge to meet the needs of society and national development policies. They focus on producing graduates with expertise in statistics, data science, and information technology who can apply their knowledge to enhance organizational performance and capacity.

#### **OPERATION**

## Bridging research, learning & community development

NIDA runs several centers that serve as hubs for research, innovation, and knowledge transfer, including the Center for Change and Innovation, Business Incubation Center, Business Innovation Center, Center for Data Analytics and Data Technology Management, Environmental and Climate Change Research Center, Center for Entrepreneurial and Innovation Development Research, NIDA Design & Innovation Hub, and NIDA AI Innovation Hub. These centers focus on studying, researching, supporting exchanges, incubation, and transferring technology and innovation to communities, society, and the nation.

In addition, NIDA provides a learning environment that supports both teaching and research. For example, the GSAS Sm@rt Lab is equipped with Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Smart Logistics, and Data Analytics technologies for teaching and training purposes.

https://as.nida.ac.th/faculty/

The NIDA Design & Innovation Hub and NIDA AI Innovation Hub are learning centers for technology and innovation inspired by the principles of Design Thinking. These hubs help organizations drive transformation through experiential learning and enable the creation of genuine business innovations using tools such as AI, Big Data, Smart Retail, and robotics. https://nidahub.nida.ac.th/











NIDA advances research and initiatives to reduce inequality in economic development and social wellbeing. CEGIS studies income distribution, poverty, and local governance to inform policy reforms, while CASR's HART project provides insights into aging and social disparities. Beyond research, NIDA promotes inclusion through youth entrepreneurial training and USR projects, such as donating calendars to produce Braille learning materials, and supporting education and empowerment for marginalized groups.

#### RESEARCH

#### Research on reducing inequality

NIDA's research centers — the Center for Economic and Governance Inequality Studies (CEGIS) and the Center for Aging Society Research (CASR) — have continued conducting research focused on reducing inequality in economic development and addressing challenges related to an aging society, respectively.

#### CEGIS Study:

The Center for Economic and Governance Inequality Studies (CEGIS) studied how income distribution and poverty changed during the COVID-19 pandemic and how these factors affected social class and human capital (Kasetsart Journal link). The study found that pensions, farm and non-farm incomes, remittances, and government transfers were the main sources of inequality. During the pandemic, 22.18% of the population lived below the poverty line, earning about 286 Baht less than the threshold each month. Landless farmers were the most affected, with 41% living in poverty and a 187% higher risk of being poor than other groups. CEGIS also found that since 2019, the population and number of households have been declining in most municipalities and district administrations in Thailand. The smallest administrative areas had around 7,765 people, while the largest had 239,367. The study recommended merging small and inefficient local administrative bodies and reforming laws to expand local tax bases. It also suggested using economic incentives to improve local efficiency and strengthen resilience in the face of global warming and green trade challenges.

#### CARS Study:

In 2024, the Center for Aging Society Research (CASR) continued its longitudinal survey and study on aging under the Health, Aging, and Retirement in Thailand (HART) project, which began in 2014 and has now entered its fifth wave.

https://hart.nida.ac.th/about-hart/.



### "Our main purpose is to collect survey data to

#### research and inform policymakers.

We gather nationally representative data on health, retirement, and economic well-being to help researchers understand aging and help decisionmakers create informed policies.

The HART dataset has been widely utilized by researchers in Thailand and abroad. Notable 2024 publications using HART data include:

Anantanasuwong, D., Pengpid, S., & Peltzer, K. (2024). Time-varying lifestyle and mental-ill health risk factors for the longitudinal development of daily activity limitations among middle-aged and older adults in Thailand. Translational Medicine of Aging. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tma.2024.05.002

Pengpid, S., Peltzer, K., Hajek, A., et al. (2024). Determinants of depressive symptoms among persons 80 years and older: longitudinal national evidence from the Health, Aging, and Retirement Study in Thailand, 2015–2022. BMC Geriatrics, 24, 880.



#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Entrepreneurial skills training to strengthen the grassroots economy

On February 24, 2024, NIDA's School of Business Administration, School of Tourism Management, and School of Environmental Development Administration collaboratively provided entrepreneurial skills training to participating students in the 2024 Government Savings Bank Youth Development Project, aiming to enhance and develop products, services, and local wisdom to strengthen and sustain the grassroots economy.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-aomsin-yuwaphat-2567/



#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

## From old calendars to new opportunities: Support for the visually impaired

On March 13, 2024, NIDA's Corporate
Communications Division, International Affairs and
Organizational Communications, and NIDA Library
jointly delivered old desk calendars donated by NIDA
faculty, students, alumni, and staff to the Educational
Technology Center for the Blind in Nonthaburi
Province. The donation was part of the NIDA USR
project "We Request Old Desk Calendars," which
aims to support the production of Braille books and
other learning materials to promote education, skill
development, and the empowerment of visually
impaired individuals.

https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19eHmzZzU5/







**Build Inclusive & Resilient Communities through NIDA Sikhio Model** 

NIDA is firmly dedicated to advancing the development of urban and rural communities that are inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. The institute conducts research on SDG 11 through a structured institutional framework and targeted initiatives. According to its SDG Framework (2022-2024), NIDA embeds SDG 11 into its "Research - Outreach - Teaching" harmony, ensuring that urban-sustainability issues are addressed not only in academic output but also community engagement and capacity building. Aligned with the vision of Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and more than different research on SDG 11, NIDA has prioritized the transformation of its Sikhio Campus into a dynamic model of sustainability in action.

This initiative exhibits the Institute's confidence that higher education can serve as a driving force in shaping communities that are not only livable and equitable, but also environmentally responsible and economically sustainable. NIDA takes a holistic approach to sustainable development by integrating environmental care, social inclusion, and economic resilience. The initiative focuses on enhancing safety and quality of life within the Sikhio Campus and nearby communities through a supportive, nature-friendly environment for learning and living. It also preserves local culture and wisdom while positioning the campus as a center for knowledge sharing, research, and innovation that drives sustainable development across Nakhon Ratchasima Province.

#### **POLICY**

#### Integrated framework to sustainable cities

Together, these initiatives form an integrated sustainability framework that connects NIDA's academic mission with Thailand's broader efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through education, research, and community engagement, NIDA's Sikhio Campus embodies the spirit of SDG 11, demonstrating how institutions of higher learning can lead by example in building cities and communities that are safe, inclusive, and resilient. The campus now functions as a collaborative platform where students, scholars, local leaders, and entrepreneurs work side by side to co-create solutions for sustainable growth.

By linking policy with practice and bridging national priorities with local realities, NIDA has transformed its educational environment into a catalyst for community empowerment and sustainable transformation. The Sikhio Model stands as a testament to what can be achieved when academic excellence aligns with social purpose, a reminder that sustainable development is not an isolated project but a continuous process of learning, adaptation, and collaboration. Through its sustained commitment, NIDA continues to demonstrate leadership in driving SDG 11 and strengthening Thailand's resilience in the face of environmental, social, and economic challenges. Its integrated approach, which are grounded in research, community engagement, and the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, ensures that the pursuit of knowledge goes hand in hand with creating a more inclusive, safe, and sustainable future for all.



#### **RESEARCH**

## Advancing sustainable cities through integrated research approach

NIDA operationalizes SDG 11 research by:

- (1) embedding it in institutional strategic frameworks.
- (2) conducting applied living-lab research on infrastructure (smart campuses) for sustainable urbanization.
- (3) facilitating knowledge exchange via conferences to convert research into policy-oriented outputs.

NIDA has emphasized research under SDG 11 through collaboration among all its faculties to promote inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable human settlements. Examples of this research include the development of local leadership capacity for self-reliance and self-management toward sustainable development (Target 11.3); identifying best practices and approaches for building economic resilience to strengthen sustainable agricultural communities (Targets 11.a and 11.b); promoting cooperative networks to improve community environments such as the "Better Bangkok Mobility" initiative (Target 11.2); and analyzing state measures and policies for sustainable urban and community planning (Target 11.3).

These activities reflect NIDA's integrated approach, combining academic research, community engagement, and policy support, to ensure that Thailand's cities and local communities move toward the SDG 11 vision of inclusivity, safety, adaptability, and sustainability. NIDA has also expanded its community development research to the Sikhio Campus, where initiatives focus on carbon footprint management and the sustainable development of surrounding communities.

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Teaching SDG 11 through experiential and community-based learning

NIDA integrates teaching for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through experiential, community-based learning. The Sikhio Campus serves as a living classroom where students learn to apply sustainable development principles in real contexts. Courses and field activities emphasize topics such as local leadership, environmental management, and inclusive urban planning. For instance, students collaborate with residents of Lat Bua Khao Subdistrict to strengthen community resilience, develop teamwork, and prepare for an aging society—illustrating how teaching extends beyond academic theory into social practice. This participatory learning aligns with SDG Indicator 11.4.7, which promotes collaboration between local authorities and academic institutions in community development.

Furthermore, NIDA's teaching initiatives include digital literacy and information-safety programs, such as training on combating fake news and cyber threats for the elderly and local leaders. These programs promote responsible digital engagement and inclusive access to knowledge, supporting SDG Indicator 11.2.1 on public accessibility and safety in learning environments. Through these integrated teaching practices, NIDA transforms education into a tool for community empowerment, ensuring that its graduates not only understand sustainability but also embody it in their professional and civic lives.



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Activities of Enhancing the Capacity of
Lat Bua Khao Subdistrict
Community for Sustainability at SiKhio Campus



Workshop on Developing Distinctive Value Creation for Sustainable Community Enterprises, organized by the Center for Sustainable Development and Sufficiency Economy Studies



Activities of NIDA Nakhon Ratchasima Alumni Homecoming: Uniting for Creative and Sustainable Development



Activities of digital agriculture learning center and demonstration plot for organic vetiver grass in Sikhio



#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

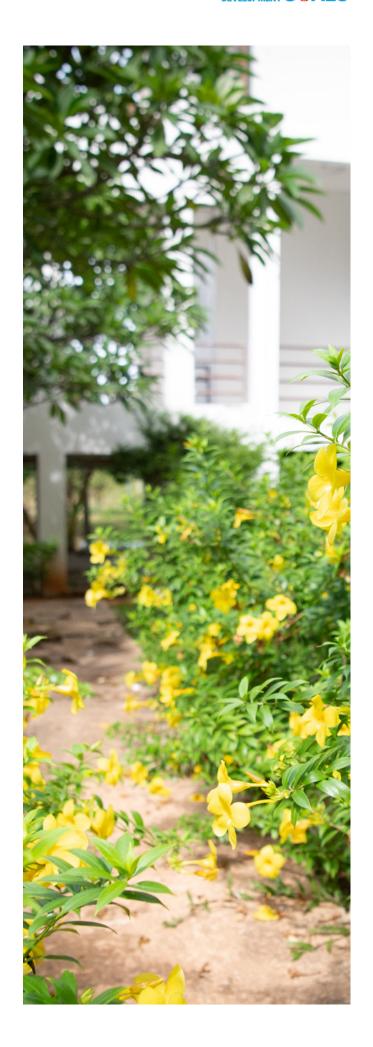
## Fostering sustainable communities through participatory engagement

NIDA's community engagement under SDG 11 focuses on inspiring local communities through participatory development, social inclusion, and sustainable livelihoods. At the Sikhio Campus, NIDA collaborates closely with community leaders, local authorities, and residents to co-create projects that reinforce local resilience and enhance quality of life. Projects such as the Lat Bua Khao Subdistrict partnership demonstrate how NIDA fosters community-driven planning and intergenerational cooperation, aligning with SDG 11.3 on inclusive and participatory urban and community development.

Beyond urban engagement, NIDA also advances sustainable local economies via workshops like "Developing Distinctive Value Creation for Sustainable Community Enterprises." Shown under the royal initiative on sufficiency economy, this program helps local entrepreneurs adapt to the digital economy, improve marketing skills, and manage resources efficiently, reflecting SDG targets 11.a and 11.b on linking rural—urban development and strengthening local disaster resilience.

Additionally, alumni engagement activities, such as the "NIDA Nakhon Ratchasima Alumni Homecoming", bring together academia, government, and civil society to discuss and act on sustainability challenges. Collectively, these community partnerships demonstrate NIDA's model of applied learning and civic collaboration in advancing the vision of inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable communities.

https://nida.ac.th/sikhio-nida-homecoming, https://nida.ac.th/nida-sikhio-sustainableentrepreneurship-training, https://nida.ac.th/sikhio-as-fake-news670425







NIDA promotes environmental sustainability through its comprehensive waste management Policy, both on and off-campus. The policy emphasizes reducing waste at the source, properly segregating all waste types including hazardous and infectious waste and promoting eco-consciousness through learning activities. Together, these initiatives foster environmental awareness, social responsibility, and sustainable community development.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ ENGAGEMENT

# From financial literacy to waste reduction: community pathways to sustainability at Samut Prakan Province

NIDA Environment School, in collaboration with Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited, organized the "Financial Security, Environmental Sustainability" initiative for the Bang Nam Phueng Market community in Phra Pradaeng District, Samut Prakan Province. The program promotes proper waste separation for environmental sustainability, with an emphasis on resource management and consumption that is moderate, reasonable, and prudence.

https://www.facebook.com/share/17CqVdzsT8/?mib-extid=wwXlfr





## Sustainably sharing: Reducing waste & expanding access to learning

NIDA Library organized the "Sustainably Sharing Knowledge with the Community" initiative, comprising life-skill development workshops and outreach booths such as Waste Back to the Community, Share-a-Bag, Spin-the-Wheel for Kids, Pass On Books to Schools, and a Book Buffet. The initiative aims to create a sustainable positive impact on the community in three areas: (1) environmentally, by reducing waste and fostering eco-consciousness; (2) educationally, by enhancing participants' life skills through training in portfolio creation, 3D modeling, and the art of plant cultivation, as well as increasing access to books and learning media; and (3) socially, by building a culture of sharing through activities like sharing household items, donating books, and the NIDA Little Free Library, which helps reduce educational inequality. These activities also strengthened the relationship between the institute and the community, while promoting a sustainable circular economy and helping to build a strong, long-term network for learning and sharing.

https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BjAZFUiFk/?-mibextid=wwXlfr and https://www.facebook.com/share/p/15fnHA1J5P/?mibextid=wwXlfr



#### **OPERATION**

#### Comprehensive waste management

NIDA has implemented a comprehensive waste management policy through numerous practices. First of all, the institute seeks to reduce single-use plastics through various measures such as discontinuing plastic bag distribution, banning foam containers, encouraging the use of personal cups and cloth bags, and adopting electronic documents instead of paper. Next, the institute also extends this commitment to on-campus service contractors by requiring them to use environmentally friendly products, procure materials made from natural and safe raw materials, and properly dispose of hazardous and infectious waste through the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration's disposal services.

#### https://nida.ac.th/waste-management/



## Sustainable cities, responsible consumption & innovation

NIDA advances sustainable infrastructure and green innovation through

- MOU with Sanken Setsubi Kogyo Co., Ltd.(Japan), a leader I Zero-Energy Building (ZEB)engineering.
- Initiation of main campus energy-efficient survey and planning for a ZEB pilot demonstration and joint research project.

















Climate change is one of the most important challenges for human life, economic growth, society, natural resources, and the environment, including disasters and various epidemics. It is crucial for NIDA to adopt an integrated and participatory approach by linking climate change mitigation strategies with economic and social development strategies. Integrating these dimensions will lead to effective and efficient greenhouse gas reduction and create shared sustainable success.

#### **RESEARCH**

Faculty-led research promoting low-carbon practices



NIDA faculty apply their knowledge and experience to conduct significant and high-impact research, for example:

- A project studying consumer behavior in the restaurant business to contribute to a low-carbon, environmentally friendly society on Samui Island, Surat Thani Province, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Charoenchai Agmapisarn.
- A project driving restaurant businesses toward a low-carbon society based on the BCG concept, using restaurants on Samui Island, Surat Thani Province, as a case study, led by Prof. Dr. Wisakha Phoochinda.
- A project studying communication models to drive the concept of a low-carbon society in restaurant business operations in Surat Thani Province, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kullatip Satararuji.

#### Climate action and disaster solutions

NIDA faculty have played key roles in disaster and climate adaptation, including:

- Prof. Dr. Chamlong Poboon, School of Environmental Development Administration, as Subcommittee Chair on Climate Change Adaptation, Thai Senate.
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pakpong Pochanart, Prof. Dr. Wisakha Phoochinda, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aweewan Panyakometh undertaking the project, The Circular Economy (CE) Capability Building in the Lancang-Mekong Region: Product Verification of Plastic Packaging in Supply Chains". This project also received the "Project with Outstanding Pragmatic and Result-Oriented Approach" award from the Mekong-Lancang Special Fund.
- Prof. Dr. Siwatt Pongpiachan also participated in NASA's Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality (ASIA-AQ) project, supported by NARIT and GISTDA, using the world's largest airborne chemistry laboratory adapted from DC8 and G3 commercial aircraft at U-Tapao Airport. Participation in ASIA-AQ allowed access to multi-kilometer air pollution measurement technology, reducing limitations of traditional research and improving data accuracy for air quality monitoring. Professor Pongpiachan also represented Thailand at the UN Climate Change Conference COP29 in Azerbaijan, presenting research and innovative solutions for carbon management, air pollution, and natural resource sustainability, emphasizing balance between economic, social, and environmental development in line with sustainable development.

In addition, he was also an academic and public communication support for the Draft Thailand Clean Air Act, particularly addressing PM 2.5 pollution.







#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Academic programs preparing leaders for climate action

NIDA offers programs in Environmental Management and Sustainability Science and Management, which emphasize the development of leaders for sustainable development (WISDOM for Sustainable Development) who can apply strategies to prevent, reduce, and address the impacts of climate change. Courses include:

- Climate Change and Carbon Management
- Product Life Cycle Analysis
- Pollution Control Management
- Eco-Industrial Environmental Management
- Environmental Leadership
- Clean Technology and Energy Management

Students also have opportunities to study and research through independent study projects, theses, and dissertations on climate change and sustainability, such as:

- Long-term analysis of air pollution in Bangkok
- Long-term visibility studies in Thailand and correlations with meteorological factors
- Public attitudes toward PM2.5 mitigation strategies in Bangkok

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Engaging communities in climate awareness, adaptation & sustainable solutions

NIDA organizes forums and seminars to engage the general public in raising awareness about climate, adaptation, mitigation, and early warning, for example:

- NCC Forum: "PM2.5 Management Measures for the World, for Us, for the Future", led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pakpong Pochanart, School of Environmental Development Administration.
- Participation by Prof. Dr. Siwatt Pongpiachan in "No-Burn Agriculture: Community Participation for Sustainable Solutions" with the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, addressing agricultural burning issues in Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai Province.
- "Storytelling to Create Value for Communities and Localities for Sustainable Development", empowering young filmmakers and community leaders to tackle climate change challenges through science-based storytelling.

#### Provincial climate initiatives

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pakpong Pochanart, School of Environmental Development Administration, leads the Net Zero GHG Emission Provincial Development Project under the Greenhouse Gas Management Organization. This project supports 12 provinces in setting carbon neutrality or net-zero greenhouse gas emission goals, establishing reduction measures, preparing net-zero action plans, and developing business models for greenhouse gas mitigation. This initiative encourages participation from all sectors at the local level to manage greenhouse gas reductions, implement climate adaptation plans, improve quality of life, and move toward a low-carbon society, reducing environmental impact and loss of natural resources caused by climate change.

#### **OPERATION**

#### Net zero & smart city initiatives

NIDA is committed to driving towards Net Zero Emissions by 2027 through environmental policies and energy conservation. The "NIDA Smart City" project, focusing on smart energy, serves as the primary mechanism for reducing greenhouse gas emissions across all dimensions. To advance this vision, NIDA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sanken Setsubi Kogyo Co., Ltd., a leading Japanese engineering company. This collaboration focuses on the development of education, research, and the exchange of knowledge and technology to produce graduates with advanced skills and innovative capabilities that meet sustainable development needs. The partnership with Sanken is therefore a key step in strengthening technological and academic capacity and underscores NIDA's role as a leading educational institution that creates a sustainable future.

NIDA has actively promoted the use of renewable energy through its Net Zero Emissions policy by encouraging the use of electric vehicles (EVs) among both students and staff, in line with the national 30@30 policy for promoting electric vehicles in the country.





Promote the Conservation of Marine Ecosystems in a Balanced & Sustainable Manner





NIDA continues to promote research and community engagement that advance sustainable resource management and environmental stewardship. Through initiatives such as the Report on Sustainable Area Development in the Eastern Region (2022), the Institute supports evidence-based solutions for water resource management aligned with the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) project. Complementing these research efforts, various community-based activities—ranging from marine resource conservation and environmental education to international cooperation projects—foster public participation, legal awareness, and cross-sector collaboration toward sustainable development.

#### **RESEARCH**

## Water resource management through research

The institute encourages professors to conduct research related to water resource management through a project to produce the "Report on Sustainable Area Development in the Eastern Region, 2022". This project is notable for reflecting the history of development in the Eastern region of Thailand during the time of the Eastern Seaboard project implementation and drawing lessons from various problems that occurred, such as pollution. These lessons are intended for use with the current EEC project being undertaken by the government and to prevent similar problems from recurring. The project has received interest from various sectors as it presents guidelines for water management in the Eastern region, highlighting the weaknesses in the public sector's water management system and proposing balanced and sustainable solutions to these problems.

https://repository.nida.ac.th/items/555cb933eeee-46cb-916a-a9b778fe4e6e

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

# Creating participation & instilling consciousness in the conservation of marine resources

The School of Law organized a thesis progress seminar for the Doctor of Laws program, combined with a study visit and relationship-building activity for the Master of Arts program in Law for Administration, on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at Sirindhorn International Environmental Park, Phetchaburi Province. A speaker gave a lecture on the history of the Sirindhorn International Environmental Park, and participants took part in a CSR activity: releasing blue swimming crabs into the sea.



Additionally, the institute held the activity "M.A. NIDA Volunteer Mind: Concerned and Caring for the Environment" on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at Bangtaboon Witthaya School, Phetchaburi Province. The activities included a lecture on the topic "Community Administration Strategy under the Rule of Law and Good Governance" and a study visit to learn about community involvement in the conservation and study of the mangrove ecosystem, including a visit to the Mangrove Environmental Conservation Center. https://nida.ac.th/law670518/

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The institute organized the International Practical Cooperation Learning Project: 21st Century Silk Road Project (Thailand-China) for executives from the People's Republic of China between June 14–17, 2024. The project featured numerous learning activities, one of which was a crucial visit to observe the Royal Thai Navy's innovation development alongside environmental conservation efforts at the HTMS Chakri Naruebet and the Sea Turtle Conservation Center. During this activity, sea turtles were also released back into nature.











NIDA focuses on managing terrestrial ecosystems both inside and outside the institute, by encouraging faculty members to conduct research and provide academic services related to the protection, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, and also continuously campaigns for increasing green spaces and conserving forest resources.

#### RESEARCH/ FUNDING

# Research on the protection, restoration & promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems

NIDA supports faculty members in conducting research and providing academic services related to the protection, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, by receiving funding from various public and private sectors. Examples include the project on assessing the suitability of indicators and measures for land degradation management based on the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) using Space and Geo-informatics technology in the context of Thailand, which received project funding support from the Land Development Department with a project value of 1,800,000 Baht. Other work includes the analysis of soil sediments using Synchrotron-based Fourier Transform Infrared Microspectroscopy (SR-FTIR Micropectroscopy).

# The analysis of soil sediments using Synchrotron-based Fourier Transform Infrared Microspectroscopy (SR-FTIR Micropectroscopy)

The Director of the Center for Research and Development of Disaster Prevention and Management, School of Social Development and Management Strategy, is interested in studying soil in Antarctica, which is an area that should have the least contamination from various substances due to human activities.



The data obtained will serve as background data indicating the levels of various substances in nature free from human activities, and will be used as a basis for setting standards for various toxic contaminant levels in the environment. Soil samples from the South Pole, collected from King George Island in Antarctica, were analyzed at the Synchrotron Light Research Institute in collaboration with a scientist from the Institute, to analyze the soil sediments using Synchrotron-based Fourier Transform Infrared Microspectroscopy (SR-FTIR Micropectroscopy).

It was found that the soil samples from the South Pole contain organic compounds originating from various human activities in Antarctica, such as the use of fossil fuels in generators at various research stations on King George Island, as well as exhaust from vehicles and the use of fuel for heating, among others, accounting for a high proportion of 44%. Furthermore, the closer the location to the airport or research stations at the South Pole, the greater the distribution of these organic compounds was observed compared to other areas. Penguin droppings, along with substances resulting from the decomposition of lichens, ferns, and mosses, accounted for 25% of the organic compounds.

The results of this research will lead to measures to control the use of fossil fuels on King George Island, as it directly impacts the contamination and accumulation of organic compounds in the Antarctic soil samples.

https://nida.ac.th/synchrotron-contaminantsfossil-antarctica/







#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## Increasing green space both inside & outside the institute

NIDA is committed to increasing green spaces by planting trees, both inside and outside the institute, through the following collaborative activities:

1) Participation in the "Governor's Mobile Mission, Bang Kapi District" activity on February 3, 2024: Trees were planted to develop a vacant lot into a public park, in line with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration's 15-Minute Park policy, located at the vacant lot of the Housing Authority (Klong Chan Flats), which is opposite the institute.



2) Collaboration with the Bang Kapi District Office to organize the "Doing Good for Society and the Environment" activity on the occasion of the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NIDA's founding on April 1, 2024, at the 15-Minute Park, Klong Chan Housing (Flats 12 and Flat 1 opposite the institute): A pétanque court and playing equipment were handed over to the Director of the Bang Kapi District Office and representatives of Housing Flat 12, and nine Ratchaphruek (Golden Shower) trees, the institute's symbolic tree, were jointly planted.

https://nida.ac.th/nida58csr/



3) NIDA organized the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Executive Seminar 2024 on the topic "Up Level NIDA Rankings" on June 27-28, 2024, at the Sikhio Education Center, Nakhon Ratchasima Province. The Governor of Nakhon Ratchasima Province was honored to give a lecture on "Development Guidelines for Nakhon Ratchasima Province for Sustainability", and vetiver grass seedlings were jointly planted with the Institute's executives

https://nida.ac.th/up-level-nida-rankings/



## Creating awareness for sustainable terrestrial ecosystem conservation

The institute created awareness for sustainable terrestrial ecosystem conservation by organizing a DIY easy-to-make plant pot activity from waste materials on August 7, 2024, at the rooftop garden on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Ratchaphruek Building. This activity was held to create awareness and recognition of the importance of tree planting among the Institute's personnel through hands-on creation of plant pots and their subsequent use for planting trees received from the project.





# Serve as a Robust Institution While Promoting Peace & Justice







NIDA recognizes its profound responsibility and assumes a pivotal role in advancing the agenda of SDG 16. NIDA's commitment is actualized through a tripartite mission encompassing rigorous academic research, transformative educational programs, and the deliberate cultivation of an institutional environment that champions justice, integrity, and transparency.

- Through Policy: NIDA has formulated a five-year strategic development plan (2023–2027). A central objective is to promote transparency, adopt open governance and foster participatory management within the institution.
- Through Research: NIDA generates critical knowledge and evidence-based policy recommendations aimed at strengthening governance and enhancing the rule of law.
- Through Education: NIDA is dedicated to molding a new generation of leaders, public servants, and citizens imbued with a strong sense of ethical responsibility and a commitment to democratic principles.
- Through Community Engagement: NIDA actively collaborates with community stakeholders to implement initiatives that foster responsible citizenship and empower local participation in governance.

#### **POLICY**

## Creating an environment that promotes integrity & good governance

NIDA develops and annually reports on its Anti-Corruption Action Plan. It also implements annual measures to enhance transparency and prevent corruption. In 2024, three core measures have been established:

- 1) Measures to improve the quality of operations and services
- Measures to strengthen internal and external institutional communication
- 3) Measures to prevent and address corruption

These initiatives aim to cultivate an institutional environment that supports transparency and safeguards against corruption, thereby serving as a protective mechanism for the institutional community.

Furthermore, NIDA has revised relevant regulations to align with the principles of good governance in higher education institutions, as promulgated by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI). For example, in 2024, NIDA amended its regulations concerning the qualifications, criteria, and procedures for appointing the President and Vice Presidents. These amendments include changes to the composition of the Presidential Selection Committee to ensure compliance with the aforementioned governance guidelines and to reinforce NIDA's role as a national model for sustainable institutional development.

NIDA also emphasizes stakeholder engagement, as outlined in its 2024 Policy on External Stakeholder Participation. This policy encompasses public and private sector involvement in anti-corruption efforts, in accordance with the Public Procurement and Supplies Administration Act B.E. 2560 (2017). In terms of institutional governance, the composition of the University Council includes not only external experts but also representatives from various internal constituencies—such as the President of the Alumni Association (representing students), faculty representatives, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, and the Chair of the Staff Council (representing support personnel).



Creating a participatory atmosphere that engages students, staff, and the broader community is a vital component in strengthening the Institute and fostering long-term institutional resilience.





#### **RESEARCH**

## Advancing justice, integrity, & resilient communities through research

NIDA actively supports research and innovation that contribute to the promotion of justice, peace, anti-corruption efforts, and the strengthening of robust institutions. Emphasis is placed on research that leads to the development of long-term solutions to social challenges.

One notable example is the participatory action research (PAR) project led by Prof. Dr. Banjerd Singkaneti of the Graduate school of Law, which has been ongoing since 2023. His work on social innovation aims to foster resilient communities grounded in the concept of "Thai Identity-Based Democracy." The project mobilizes networks of civil society at the subdistrict and provincial levels, in collaboration with government agencies, the private sector, and academic partners. Through participatory group activities—co-thinking, co-creation, shared learning, coordination, and operational integration—the initiative has produced several publications, including:

#### https://nida.ac.th/social-innovation-thaidemocratic-identity



NIDA upheld ethical and transparency governance:

- Implementation of open governance practices, including transparency, stakeholder participation, complaint-handling mechanism, and efficient resource management.
- Organization of the National and International Conference 2024 (NIC-NIDA) "Redesigning Our Common Future for Sustainable Transformation," featuring governance policy panels such as "striving for Excellence: Navigating Reputation and Meritocracy in global Governance" by international famous scholars, including Professor James L. Perry from Indiana University and Adjunct Professor Girol Karacaoglu from Victoria University of Wellington.

https://nida.ac.th/nic-nida-2024/, https://nida.ac.th/navigating-reputation-and-meritocracy-in-global-governance/

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## Education for peace, human rights & global citizenships

NIDA actively promotes peace and human rights education by integrating these themes into its graduate and doctoral curricula. This commitment is reflected in the design and delivery of core and elective courses that equip students with both theoretical understanding and practical competencies.

#### Key courses include:

#### · International Human Rights Law

This foundational course enables students to understand the recognition and protection of human rights, mechanisms for safeguarding rights under Thai and international law, and the roles of international organizations and other actors in the global human rights landscape.

#### International Humanitarian Law

This course addresses legal and institutional responses to conflicts that result in displacement and humanitarian crises. Students explore the responsibilities of international organizations in protecting and assisting individuals during armed conflict, including the rights of displaced persons, and the protection of women and children affected by war.

• International Law Concerning Status of Individuals
Students examine the legal status and roles of
individuals in the international system, with particular
attention to international protection frameworks for
persons in special circumstances—such as refugees,
stateless persons, and minority groups—as well as the
duties and responsibilities of individuals within
the global community.

#### International Law Relating to Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the legal definitions of refugees and stateless persons, the principles of protection derived from international treaties and customary international law, and the legal frameworks governing nationality and the rights of stateless individuals.







In addition to formal coursework, all academic programs emphasize the development of critical peacebuilding skills, including negotiation, active listening, and non-violent conflict resolution. These skills are cultivated through participatory activities designed to prepare students to become leaders and responsible citizens capable of fostering peace within their communities and society at large.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## Youth, community & sustainable development at NIDA's Sikhio Campus

NIDA actively collaborates with local communities through diverse modalities to foster resilient and sustainable development. One notable initiative is the "Youth for Development and Local Preservation" project, a partnership with the Government Savings Bank GSB), which emphasizes youth and community engagement to enhance local products, services, and long-term community strength.

A key focus area is the development of the Sikhio Campus, located in Ban Khlong Tabaek, Village No. 4, Tambon Lat Bua Khao, Sikhio District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province. NIDA has convened consultative meetings with village leaders, representatives from government agencies, the private sector, civil society, and the Sikhio community to jointly plan the management and development of the Sikhio Campus as a sustainable learning hub. This includes advancing graduate-level education and enhancing the skills and knowledge of public and private sector leaders to promote sustainable community and societal development.

Based on these consultations, the Institute has formulated the Sikhio Master Plan 2024–2027, comprising projects and activities across four strategic dimensions:



#### 1. Production and service sector

Initiatives include the establishment of an integrated digital agriculture learning center and a model vetiver grass demonstration plot for dental industry applications. The objective is to train local residents in vetiver cultivation as a raw material for mouthwash production, with practical application in their own communities. The pilot targets 50 participants from 10 surrounding communities.

#### 2. Economic and social equity

NIDA offers graduate programs in Law, Public and Private Sector Management, Public Health, and Educational Administration to expand educational opportunities for residents in Sikhio and neighboring provinces.

#### 3. Resource sustainability

Action research is conducted to build the capacity of local administrative organizations and communities in Sikhio District to transition toward a low-carbon society. The aim is to pilot newly developed frameworks and curricula to support this transition effectively.

#### 4. Transformative enablers

Legal literacy and capacity-building programs are designed to strengthen public officials, private sector personnel, and local citizens. The goal is to equip 350 individuals from communities surrounding the Sikhio Education Center with foundational legal knowledge to support sustainable development.

https://nida.ac.th/nida-opens-sikhio-campus











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. <a href="https://nida.ac.th/nida-nasa-air-quality-sdg17/">https://nida.ac.th/nida-nasa-air-quality-sdg17/</a>

## 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-thai-land/





#### **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-sustainabledevelopment/









# 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-sustain-ability/

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. <a href="https://ssed.nida.ac.th/th/program-th/phd-th/phd-pds-th">https://ssed.nida.ac.th/th/program-th/phd-th/phd-pds-th</a>

https://ssed.nida.ac.th/images/PDF/Course/reweb 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-partner-ships/









# 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 Sirisophat 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/



