

Proposal

YOUTH AND GOOD GOVERNANCE : Second Phase

Promotion of Youth and Good Governance in Songkhla Pilot Project for National Expansion

I. Background

The ninth National Economic and Social Development (2002-2006) states that good governance is both means and goals to development. Education reform of Thailand promotes participation of all stakeholders and takes a learner-centred approach. Within a context of decentralization and participation, school committees are required to comprise school representatives, representatives from civil society and representatives from local government organizations.

The present Government has a policy to upgrade education in Thailand to meet international standards by focusing on concrete results of education reform that will have high impact on development of the country in all aspects. The Government views that appropriate approaches to education reform will shape Thai children and youth to become quality citizens who contribute to the country's advancement.

In order to promote good governance and participatory democracy, as outlined in the Constitution and the Ninth Plan, and to adopt a children-centred learning approach and promotion of student capacity building in all life aspects, the Office of Basic Education, the Ministry of Education has plans to develop capacity of students through extra-curricular activities, taking a learning-by-doing approach which focuses on awareness raising, knowledge creation and skill development about democracy and good governance.

Each high school is required to have a student committee elected from school students. In addition, at the national level, there is a National Student Council which comprises 350 high school student committee members nationwide. Student committees and members of the National Student Council already work on projects at the school level. Instilling knowledge and skills in democracy and good governance will allow students to learn how to strengthen their projects via good governance and democratic values and mechanisms. This will not only provide practical knowledge on democracy and good governance to students, but will also enhance students' skills in effective organizational management as well as allow students to participate in school development and management. Students that are equipped with skills and knowledge on good governance and democracy will be able to become quality citizens in a democratic society and help fulfil aspirations for good governance and democracy as outlined in the Ninth Plan. In addition, school development will be more participatory.

Upon a satisfactory results of the first phase in 2005-2006, the second phase will focus on the Songkhla province, aiming at developing Youth and Good Governance training manuals for students and teachers, ready for distribution to the Educational Service Areas nationwide in 2008 and preparing a guideline based on a set of knowledge and lessons learnt from the pilot province for expansion of the youth and good governance initiative nationwide in 2008.

The targets groups in the second phase are 50 schools in Songkhla, 150 students, 100 teachers, 50 school directors, 6 representatives from all Educational Service Areas which are to be skilled in on good governance principles and application through hands-on trainings

II. Objectives

1. To develop capacity of high school student committees to have knowledge and skills to understand good governance principle and mechanisms as well as to implement projects based on such values, and to become facilitative leaders.
2. To build a nationwide and local network of the National Student Committee in development issues at the local level.
3. To develop Youth and Good Governance training manuals for students and teachers, ready for distribution to the Educational Service Areas nationwide
4. To prepare a guideline based on a set of knowledge and lessons learnt from the pilot province for expansion of the youth and good governance initiative nationwide in 2008
5. To recommend appropriate policy incentives and directions to Educational Service Areas, school directors and teachers for the nationwide youth and good governance scheme
6. To create virtual space on www.youthgg.org to be a base for YGG practitioner community

III. Expected Outputs

1. 50 schools in Songkhla, 150 students, 100 teachers, 50 school directors, 6 representatives from all Educational Service Areas skilled in on good governance principles and application through hands-on training
2. A guideline based on a set of knowledge and lessons learnt from the pilot province for expansion of the youth and good governance initiative nationwide,
3. Recommendations on appropriate policy incentives and directions to Educational Service Areas, school directors and teachers for the nationwide youth and good governance scheme in 2008
4. A Youth and Good Governance Knowledge Package ready to be sent to Educational Service Areas nationwide
5. A core group of trainers for youth and good governance training
6. A core group of provincial stakeholders as advisors of a provincial process in youth and good governance expansion activities in other provinces
7. A network of youth and good governance practitioners created and nurtured.

IV. Plan of Operations

- Organize two three-days/ two nights workshop on youth and good governance
 - ❖ first workshop on instilling good governance principle, good governance and project development and planning
 - ❖ second workshop on lesson learning and discussion on the nationwide expansion and sustainable mechanism
- Develop youth and good governance training materials, based on existing work, manuals and materials which were developed under the Youth and Good

Governance initiative by the Thailand Development Research Institute in partnership with the Ministry of Education and UNDP since 2001.

- Extract the recommendation for the Ministry role and create the policy incentive models and develop guidelines and plan further action plan of expansion
- Facilitate effective project implementation of pilot projects for the targeted schools, conduct the monitoring and evaluation field visits and serve as the platform of nation-wide and local knowledge networking between the student committees.
- Provide overall strategic direction for the “Youth and Good Governance” initiative and process as well as the conceptual guidance on students -centred learning approach.
- Provide policy support and directions to educational service and policy making areas for effective project implementation
- Create virtual space on www.youthgg.org for YGG practitioner community

V. Expected Outcomes

1. Knowledge, awareness and skills on good governance and participatory democracy for student committees, via learner-centred and learning-by-doing approaches.
2. Student committees participate meaningfully in local, regional and national student committee/council meetings.
3. Students have a firm basis to become quality citizens who contribute to development of a democratic society.
4. High-level policy makers can extract views from student committees/councils for local and national development.

VI. Responsible Organizations

This project is a partnership between:

1. Office of the Basic Education Commission. Ministry of Education, and
2. United Nations Development Programme (Thailand).

Project Team of Office of Basic Education Commission

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Youth facilitating team

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2. Mr. Suppawit Sanguankumtorn, facilitator team

3. Mr. Warat Cherdkiattrakul, facilitator team
4. Mr. Tosapon Krisanabutr, facilitator team

VII. Participating Organizations

1. Office of the Basic Education Commission, Ministry of Education
2. UNDP Thailand
3. Bureau of Academics and Standard in Education(Office of Basic Education Commission, Ministry of Education)
4. Participating Educational Service Areas
5. Participating Schools

VIII. Budget

UNDP Support of THB 1,695,000