

IID Policy Environment in Thailand

Nipawan Thirawat, Ph.D.

Dolchai La-ornual, Ph.D.

Mahidol University



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Background

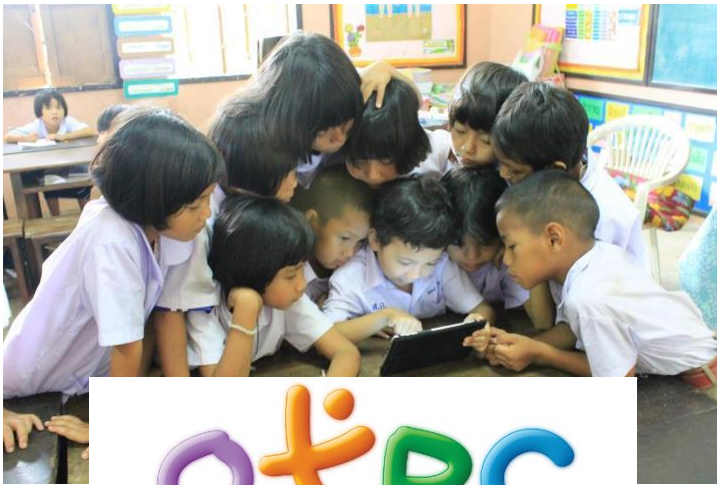
- Inequitable distribution of the benefits of economic growth e.g. employment and consumption opportunities
- Politically driven, centralized and top-down nature of Thai populist policies
- Elites, Experts, Politicians play important roles in policy development process
- Lack of good governance and effective formal enforcement
- Political instability



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Key issues being addressed

- Poverty Reduction & Inequality: Education, Finance, Healthcare



OTPC

โครงการเก็บเล็ดพีซีเพื่อการศึกษาไทย



Political structure and
policy environment

Policy design and
management

Roles of the
disadvantaged and
interest groups

IID Policy Interactive Model



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Selected policies

- One District, One Scholarship (ODOS) Program:

The Education, Religion, and Culture Policy is a big framework that promotes quality education and equal access in Thailand. Various programs under this policy go beyond primary educational promotions. One of these, is the innovative One District, One Scholarship (ODOS) Program – series of fully funded scholarships dispersed throughout each of the 878 districts in Thailand. These grants empowers underprivileged students by allowing them to choose their fields and countries of study.

- Urgent Policy on One Tablet Per Child for Education:

The strategy to promote technology capability at an early age procures tablet PCs to first graders in limited-budget public primary schools. It also aims to enhance the quality of education by introducing appropriate contents to existing curriculums.



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Selected policies

- Labor Policy: The 300 Baht Minimum Wage Increase:

This significant increase in the minimum wage rate intends to raise the quality of living, especially for day-to-day laborers, and to consequentially augment domestic demand.

- Poverty Reduction and Community Development Policy: Village and Community Capacity Building Project (SML):

The policy that directs funds to be self-managed by local communities enabling them to decide for themselves how to best increase their collective welfare.

- The Universal Health Care Policy:

The universal health care policy seeks to ensure that all Thai citizens receive quality healthcare in a convenient, timely, and equitable manner throughout the country.



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Policy Case Study

One District One Scholarship (ODOS) Program

- Part of the educational development policy
- To create and allocate educational opportunities to outstanding students from poor families nationwide to study at the university level, both in Thailand and abroad
- To enhance local development and create sustainable economic and social growth in rural Thailand



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Formulation to Implementation

Drivers:

- Coordination among governmental agencies
- Support from PMs and Ministers

Barriers:

- Changes in governments
- Policy uncertainty
- Public finance and budget problems



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Recommendations

- Participatory approach: promote and strengthen participatory activities in the policy development process
- Enhancement of monitoring and evaluation
- Openness and transparency
- Responsiveness
- Coordination and Integration/Synergies



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Recommendations

- Politicians should clearly define goals and align processes to sustain innovative initiatives
- Officials should consider people's potential responses to implementation of new rules and regulations
- People should be promoted to actively provide valuable feedback and participate in the decision-making process



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