



Funded by
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Strengthening Urban Climate Governance for Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Societies in Thailand (SUCCESS PROJECT)

Introduction

Urbanisation and climate change are emerging drivers that pose important and complex social, institutional and governance challenges. These challenges are further complicated by the fact that local governments, civil society, and community members are often not engaged in development planning processes, disaster risk reduction and management, and planning for climate risks, in any meaningful way.

The urbanisation process across Thailand has recently been accelerated by the national government in partnership with the business sector through urban and economic development projects. Secondary cities have been rapidly urbanising in recent times with urban economic development priority and little consideration of climate-related challenges in land use planning and infrastructure design.

The current development pathway is leading to dramatic transformations in ecological landscapes, waterways, wetlands and agricultural areas, as well as causing changes in hydrological patterns and regimes. In addition, there have been social consequences to the industrial development e.g. increasing conflict over land.

There is therefore an urgent need to:

- i) Investigate and better understand the implications of urbanisation and climate change, how they contribute to the vulnerabilities, poverty and equity of urban communities (particularly marginalised and vulnerable community groups, including those in the informal economy sector);
- ii) Create multi-stakeholder platforms to enable and support debates and dialogues and increase civic participation in decision making;
- iii) Increase access to scientific, spatial, social and environmental information and data for more informed decision and planning processes;
- iv) Identify and implement mechanisms to improve and increase engagement between local governments, civil society, and the private sector in planning processes, and;
- v) Identify approaches to address governance challenges in urban development processes to ensure inclusiveness, equity, and resilience in the context of sustainable urban development.





Project objectives

The overall objective of this project is to enhance the adaptive capacity of local urban communities through improved urban climate governance, state-of-the-art knowledge, and shared learning

The specific objective of this project is to strengthen local institutional mechanisms and practices for inclusive, climate resilient and sustainable urban development.

As secondary cities in regional Thailand continue to urbanise, there is an urgent need to transform the role of non-state actors to more effectively contribute to sustainable urban development goals. CSOs have an important role to play in supporting local governments in both disaster risk management and planning for climate risks by acting as a bridge to local communities and their needs.

The project aims to strengthen knowledge and technical skills of Thai Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), with the aim of improving policy-making, planning, and practice in the context of climate and water-related issues in the urban environment.

This project will enhance capacities and capabilities of the civil society to:

- i) Better understand complex urban systems, climate change, disaster risk management, the interaction of urbanisation and climate-related impacts, and the linkages between urbanisation and climate vulnerability, poverty and equity;
- ii) Be able to assess social vulnerabilities of urban communities, plan and develop community-based resilience strategies and action plans;
- iii) Engage and collaborate with local governments and the business sector in development planning;
- iv) Have improved technical skills in project management cycle in order to plan, design, implement and manage projects, and with these skills to increase access to funding; and,
- v) Be able to facilitate and support multi-stakeholder engagement and policy dialogues to inform local urban and economic policy planning processes.



Ultimately, the project aims to contribute to the implementation of *Sustainable Development Goals* 13 (Climate Action), 11 (Cities), 10 (Reduced Inequality), 5 (Gender Equality), 16 (Peace and Justice Strong Institutions), and 17 (Building Partnerships to Achieve the Goal).

Project activities

The main activities in five inter-connected Work Packages encompass learning, training, research, practice and integrating research and practice with policy components.

Five Work Packages

- **WP1: Transformative Learning**

New scientific knowledge and technical skills in urban climate resilience and sustainable development gained by local civil society organisations to inform policy planning and influence actions

- **WP2: Community-based urban resilience and climate action plans**

To increase community participation and improve institutional mechanisms addressing urban climate issues

- **WP3: Innovative Interventions**

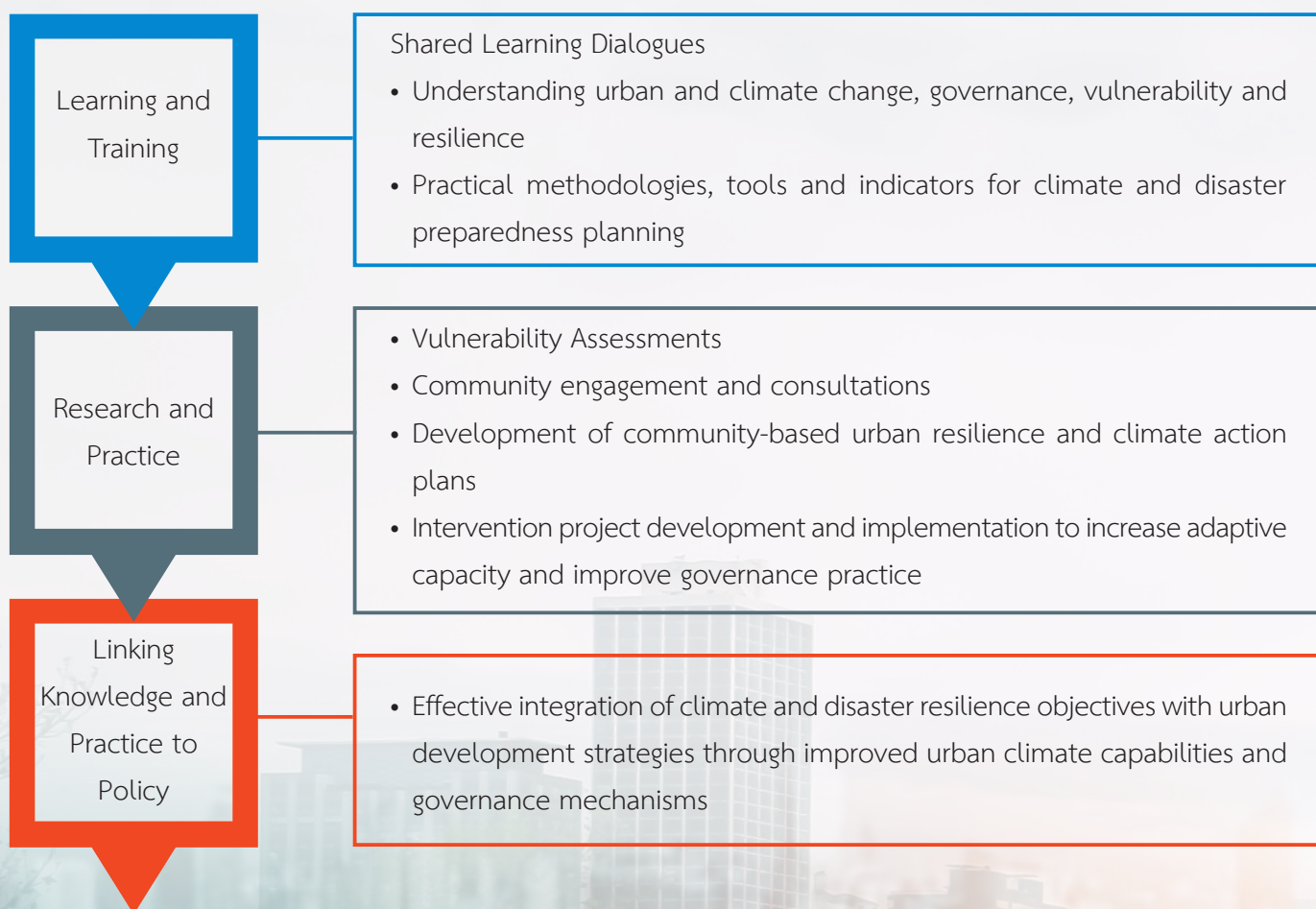
To increase adaptive capacity of local communities and improve urban climate governance practices

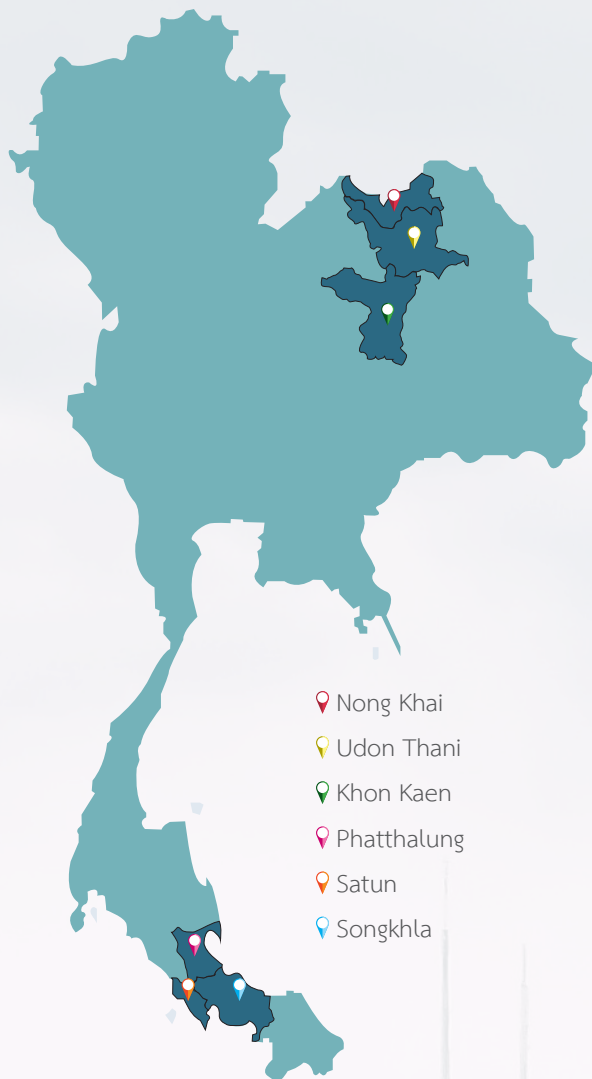
- **WP4: Communication, Documentation and Dissemination**

To increase public knowledge and understanding in urban climate and governance issues

- **WP5: Project Management and M&E**

To achieve the objectives and expected outputs and to deliver in a timely manner





- 📍 Nong Khai
- 📍 Udon Thani
- 📍 Khon Kaen
- 📍 Phatthalung
- 📍 Satun
- 📍 Songkhla

Project locations

SUCCESS is implemented in 6 provinces in two regions of Thailand

- *Khon Kaen, Udon Thani* and Nong Khai in the Northeast
- Songkhla, Phatthalung and Satun in the South

Project duration

60 months

(November 2019 – October 2024)

The Project Team consists of the project lead and three implementing partners, working alongside a National Advisory Committee and an International Expert Panel.

Lead Organisation

- Project Director – Dr Pakamas Thinphanga
- Thailand Environment Institute Foundation (TEI)

Implementing Partners

- *Centre for Civil Society and Nonprofit Management (CSNM)*, Khon Kaen University
- *Songkhla Community Foundation (SCF)*
- *Maastricht University*

National Advisory Committee

- Dr Chamniern Vorratnchaiphan (Senior Advisor of International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN-Thailand)
- Prof Surichai Wun'gao (Director of Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Chulalongkorn University)
- Assist Prof Dr Yanyong Inmuong (Director of GMS Research Center for Environment and Sustainability, Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahasarakham University)

International Expert Panel

- Prof Dr David Tabara (Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona)
- Prof Dr Darryn McEvoy (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia)
- Rotating experts from Southeast Asia



For more information

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