**Promoting a Human Security Approach to PVE in Thailand**

**A UNODC-UNDP Full Programme Proposal**

**for the UNTFHS, February 2021**

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| **Date of submission** | 15 February 2021 |
| **Benefiting country and location(s)** | Bangkok; Chiang Mai, Khon Kaen or Pattani (to be confirmed), Thailand |
| **Title of the programme** | *Promoting a Human Security approach for the development of peace agenda in Thailand* |
| **Duration of programme** | From 01 April 2021 to 30 Sept 2022 (18 months) |
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| **Non-UN implementing partners** | National Security Council of Thailand (NSC),  The Royal Thai Police (RTP), The Anti Money Laundering Organization (AMLO), The Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC), The Counter-Terrorist Operation Center (CTOC), The Office of Attorney General, the Ministry of Justice (OAG), The National Intelligence Agency (NIA). Ministry of Foreign Affairs.  Ministries of Social Development and Human Security, Interior, Education, Public Health, Culture, Environment  Institute of Asian Study, Chulalongkorn University, School of Public Policy, Chiang Mai University, Khon Kaen University, Prince of Songkhla University |
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| **Total programme budget including indirect support costs in US$** (UNTFHS and other sources of funding) | 300,000 US$ |
| **Amount requested from the UNTFHS in US$** | 300,000 US$ |
| **Amount to be sourced from other donors in US$** (please list each donor and the amount to be contributed) |  |
| **Target SDG(s):** | **SDG. 16 - Peace Justice and Strong Institutions**   * - Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all. * - Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.   [*further SDG targets, including SDG 5 and 10, to be confirmed upon selection of target thematic/areas*] |

1. **Executive Summary**

The overall purpose of the project is to advocate and promote a Human Security prevention-based approach to societal tensions in Thailand, through a framework for Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE), which is developed in a comprehensive, gender-responsive and multisectoral manner, based, as possible, on a government and civil society consensus. Two specific results are expected of the project:

1. Thai Government preparation and implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) for Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) is informed by a Human Security approach, including through the development of Human Security Guidelines by a cross-Government group, fully informed by gender considerations, and validated a multi-stakeholder ‘whole of society’ platform.
2. A Human Security approach to PVE is adopted through outreach at local level in 2 selected target areas, for replication elsewhere under provisions of a NAP. This aims to mainstream bottom-up gender responsive responses to challenges, that are not purely hard security driven but that respond to locally identified drivers of conflict.

Thailand has long experienced cyclical political and developmental challenges and remains deeply polarized today. Recent protests point to grievances around inter-connected issues of governance, most notably political marginalization, due to over-centralized decision-making and absence of long-term inclusive and participatory government at the local level, with impacts on access to justice and natural resource management issues. They also point to uneven resource distribution reflected in stark regional inequalities, now exacerbated under COVID. These issues are often overlaid by identity issues, and a sense of exclusion of some groups outside of the mainstream of Thai society. The two specific target areas may either be in the north (Chiang Mai), north-east (Khon Kaen), or south (Pattani), to be determined in coordination with the National Security Council (NSC) and the multi-sectoral platform, platform, a valuable analytical exercise in itself. (*see section 2*).

The NSC is a key player within Government to address the above challenges, and a key partner in developing a NAP PVE, and main counterpart for UN Agencies. Since late 2018, the Office of the Resident Coordinator, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have been closely engaging the NSC by providing supports to enhance policy and operational capacity. Main supporting frameworks have included the Sustaining Peace Resolutions, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Secretary General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Concretely, UNODC has lent technical assistance on the National Counter-terrorism Strategy (2017-2021), criminal justice and law enforcement, including facilitating exchanges on international frameworks and good practices on counterterrorism and prevention of violent extremism. UNDP has undertaken research on the drivers of violent extremism in Thailand and presented findings to the NSC and key government agencies. This exercise revealed a lack of cooperation among government security and non-security government agencies, and with civil society stakeholders. Acknowledging the need for a multi-stakeholder platform, and building on UN-NSC collaboration to date, the NSC considers UNODC-UNDP as the natural counterpart for this intervention. In December 2020, the NSC informally requested the Office of the Resident Coordinator, to coordinate UNCT-wide inputs to its draft NAP. Bringing in UN Women, UNOCT, and UNESCO, this exercise now provides an excellent and timely opportunity for the UN to collectively steer a people-centred Human Security-based approach in the coming year and is a highly complementary exercise to this project.

In concrete activities, this proposed intervention will support the NSC to develop a multi-sectoral cross government platform on PVE, reaching out to local community stakeholders and civil society groups (youth and women’s groups, human rights and environmental defenders, academia, media and political parties etc.). Secondly, concrete and integrated locally driven people-centred innovative solutions are developed to address local grievances in two selected areas (to be decided together with the NSC per first activity).

In the first outcome, state agencies are primarily targeted. In the context of Thailand, the ‘Human Security’ approach and terminology, adopted in this programme, unlocks the dilemma of the NSC, as lead agency, in advancing PVE priorities across Government. An NSC traditionally more focused on hard security has stymied a more people centred multi-sectoral methodology to the development of a PVE National Action, since late 2018 when it adopted the ASEAN Plan of Action. While prevention remains the core objective of Human Security, the paradigm avoids the sensitivities around the terminology of ‘violent extremism’ and its associations with religious tensions; as well as top-down more kinetic responses, heavily informed by counter-terrorist thinking. In contrast, this intervention uses Human Security principles and methodologies to overcome those obstacles, opening doors for greater collaboration and developing a culture of prevention across government. This multi-sectoral approach will rebalance PVE efforts, and, as a result, enhance a people centred approach.

In the second outcome around local level interventions, infusing Human Security approaches will bring local communities, leaders, and local officials together in multi-stakeholder forums. This methodology will help widen understandings of the drivers and enablers of conflicts and insecurity. The open, people-centred approach will lead to bottom-up solutions, grounded in local realities as opposed to more top-down securitised approaches – and thereby addresses the lack of voice, opportunity or inclusive participatory processes at local level, as well as the lack of institutional feedback for redress. Successful bottom-up approaches will consolidate a Human Security approach for policy makers at the central level and give a cross government impetus to the finalization of the HS Guidelines.

1. **Joint Multidimensional Human Security Analysis**
   1. **Overall context analysis**

Thailand today is deeply polarized politically, inter-generationally and geographically. After decades of instability, national elections in 2019 led to the establishment of a civilian-led government and a democratically elected parliament. Renewed youth-led country-wide protests, however, including millions of online engagements, show that many of the underlying sources of fragility, that led to previous protests, remain inadequately understood or addressed. Protests have involved diverse groups, for example representing urban based students and youth, those identifying as LGBTIQ, urban and rural poor and middle-class communities, and youth from the Southern Border Provinces (SBPs). As the socio-economic impacts of COVID deepen, and resources more contested, these groups are likely to widen. The broadening constituencies reflect the interconnected nature of drivers and challenges, and their roots in gross inequality around weak governance, weak resource distribution, overlaid with issues around identity, and a sense of exclusion of some groups outside of the mainstream of Thai society.

The prime driver of conflict in Thailand revolves around contested governance. Since the 1990s, democratic freedoms and civil and political rights have waxed and waned, against a background of political tensions between Bangkok and the periphery. Elected governments were toppled (2006, 2008, and 2014), while pro-democracy street protests (led by ‘red shirts’) were common in response (2009 and 2010). The period was characterized by use of violent and nonviolent tactics and intense media propaganda, resulting in hundreds of casualties. Elections in 2019 have done little to alleviate the polarisation, given the hundreds of protests in 2020 against the 2017 Constitution, the dissolution of opposition political parties, arrests of pro-democracy protesters and curbs on media freedoms[[2]](#footnote-2). Nor have they reversed the return of highly centralized top-down decision making by Bangkok elites in place since the 2014 coup. This highly polarised landscape has seen a shrinking of space for political representation and participation, for both men and women, both at the national and local level. As a result, socially, economically, and culturally vulnerable communities are often excluded, while extra-institutional activism is often met with security-led state intimidation.

An inevitable corollary of such limited political participation is conflict over resource distribution. Economic inequality is highly geographical in Thailand: Despite GDP per capita growth of 10.8 percent over the 2015–18 period, poverty increased by 36.6%, with 1.8 million more poor in 2018 than in 2015, including across all regions and 61 out of 77 provinces.[[3]](#footnote-3) This reflects Thailand’s export-led industrialization, which has seen a growth in manufacturing plants located around Bangkok, a growing service industry headquartered in Bangkok, however coupled with instances of dispossession of natural resources, including agrarian land from rural communities, and declining revenues generated by the agricultural sector in the north and north-eastern regions. In response, there have been little serious attempts, despite constitutional provisions, to devolve power or resources from Bangkok to the provinces[[4]](#footnote-4). In local governance in Thailand, two parallel tracks operate, in which the unelected and better resourced Governors tend to dominate the locally elected administrations, responding rather first and foremost to the Ministry of Interior that appoint them, rather than local constituents. As a result of this inability or lack of political will to effectively decentralize, local aspirations are often stymied, as communities find themselves unable to articulate local needs, leading to an over-emphasis on large corporate leaning infrastructure investments, at the expense of human centred needs. In some cases, community rights in resource management suffer, creating tensions at the local level.

Issues around ethno-regionalism and identity overlay the above. Thailand is historically and socially multicultural in nature with various ethno-linguistic and religious groups in different regions of the country, such as ethnic minorities, or those with Laotian heritage of Lanna in the North, of Isaan in the Northeast, and of the Malay Muslim communities in the Southern Border Provinces. Today, some minorities feel a sense of exclusion from a mainstream nation-building agenda, as pre-existing local and linguistic identities may be submerged by historical efforts to cultivate a sense of “Thainess”. In recent years, there have been signals that regional populaces feel less tolerant towards Bangkok centric approaches, for example where historical resentment felt by Isaan and Lanna ethnic groups has been a driver of political protest in the 2009-2010 period[[5]](#footnote-5). Similarly, in the SBPs, low-level unrest has been driven by factors around ethnicity, religion, culture, and history, resulting on more than 7,000 lost since 2004.

* 1. **The interconnected challenges to be addressed.**

Across the interconnected challenges, the lack of representation and political participation is considered most critical, insofar as it is both a grievance, and a process whereby grievances can be voiced and addressed. Lack of voice has the potential to drive sentiment that the ‘system’ has failed to represent their interests, address their socio-economic concerns, or allow different expressions of cultural aspiration. Supporting greater voice can mitigate social frictions at the local level, if it entails meaningful participation in processes of decision-making that affect their lives, and lead to concrete solutions. Conversely, without this, a sense of exclusion is reinforced, leading to a loss of confidence, and potentially other pathways, even violent, to make their voices heard.

In terms of the selected challenges, particular areas of tension revolve around large scale developments, natural resource management, environmental conservation, land use, access to justice, and cultural marginalization issues. These longstanding resilience challenges have been further impacted by the impact of COVID. The final selection of areas will depend on progress in developing a cross government platform – the project will seek to leverage the commitment of ‘soft’ Agencies in order to empower their voice for a gender-responsive and people-centred approach; and secondly on the multi-stakeholder platform, in order to maximize buy-in from the local communities. The following three areas will be under consideration.

* In the north-east, the most populous region faces a myriad of local grievances, including cases of tensions between forest dwellers and large-scale developers, and between local communities and mining companies over environmental and health impacts. In one high-profile case in Loei Province, CSOs have documented more than a decade of alleged abuses against a mining-affected community, including judicial harassment, through Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP)[[6]](#footnote-6), arbitrary detention, death threats, and violations of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly[[7]](#footnote-7). Six different communities have struggled to have their voice heard and participate in decisions affecting their lives. As a result, they joined under a single banner ‘Homeland Loving People Group’, and the grassroots movement has associated with the nationwide political movement, including through ongoing street protests.
* In the north, many ethnic groups, particularly women struggle with political, social and economic prejudice, all of which can fuel fragility in society[[8]](#footnote-8)[[9]](#footnote-9). This is in great part due to a lack of citizenship, a status which would confer rights to run for office, lands, territories, natural resources, freedom of movement, and improve access to education and basic services[[10]](#footnote-10). Such a precarious status results in discrimination, including from the mainstream and officials, who may view ethnic groups as foreign and dangerous. This lack of rights and state empathy is particularly true when ethnic groups live in protected forests, or where corporate interests may seek use of land, similarly to the north-east. Activists working on ethnic minority land rights have been at particular risk of intimidation, judicial action, violence, including enforced disappearance. One high profile case saw an extrajudicial killing of a 17-year-old Lahu human rights activist and ethnic Lisu, Abea Sea-moo, and another of ‘Billy’, an ethnic Karen environmental rights activist, both alleged to have died at the hands of state officials.[[11]](#footnote-11)
* In the south, decades of low-level unrest have been driven by factors around ethnicity, religion, culture, and history, is characterized by intermittent violence between the State and groups that think differently from the State. Years of violence have taken their toll on social cohesion as Muslim and Buddhist communities are increasingly fractured and polarized. One area of concern to both communities revolves around the planned ‘Chana Industrial Estate Project’ in Songkhla Province. On the one hand, the $578 million investment in Chana as a city model for industrial expansion as part of the Southern Economic Corridor (SEC), could be a main driver of the economy, create jobs for the region, much needed as the impact of COVID-19 hurts livelihoods. On the other hand, local communities bringing Malay Muslim and Thai Buddhists together, backed by youth in the three Provinces, claim lack of consultation, and top-down Bangkok centric planning, serving big business rather than local citizens.

Despite these challenges, opportunities for improved dialogue may emerge more broadly in 2021. Firstly, Parliament has established a Reconciliation Committee, which has the potential to create safe spaces for political engagement. In parallel, an elected Constitutional Drafting Assembly will likely consider critical amendments to the Constitution, an acknowledgement by all parties that status quo cannot continue. Secondly, elections at the level of Provincial administration took place in late 2020, and Municipal elections are set to take place in the first half of 2021, bringing a rejuvenation of politics at the local level. These are likely to enlarge the civic space and bring some issues to the fore, as well as new progressive partners for this programme, providing opportunities for fresh thinking. Thirdly, in the SBPs, the latest round of peace talks underlined the need for violence reduction and promotion of citizen participation to solve longstanding issues[[12]](#footnote-12).

Regarding entry points, firstly, the request by the NSC to support the development of a NAP will allow the UN to infuse the principles and framework of Human Security through the framework. Inclusion of vulnerable communities in local decision making in two selected areas can inform a national framework and ensure well informed and context dependent analysis from community perspectives. Such process will allow aspirations and goals of all parties could be accommodated in a collaborative fashion. At the central level, this approach will also foster an interagency and multisectoral partnership. Secondly, UNDP will partner with the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) in 2021, to support localization of the SDGs, initially in some nine pilot Provinces, providing further avenues, knowledge, and entry points with local government. This will complement and may allow for synergies in specific areas, including in any public consultation processes. It is worth noting that the NESDC plays the role of the part of secretariat of the National Committee for Sustainable Development (CSD), chaired by the Prime Minister, and the main mechanism for sustainable development in Thailand.

1. **Rational for funding and programme details** 
   1. **Workplan Narrative**

The proposed project will advocate and promote a Human Security people-centred framework to complex societal and local tensions, among security and non-security government agencies, and civil society. To materialize this objective, the project shall mainstream and codify a gender-responsive Human Security approach into the national and local management of societal tensions, through HS Guidelines, as a basis for the multisectoral PVE framework, based, as possible, on a government and civil society consensus. At the community level, the project will support the development of two pilot outreach focused initiatives on the ground – pilot cases for integrated thinking and solutions at local levels. The entry point is the NSC’s aim and mandate to develop a NAP PVE.

The programme will achieve this, firstly, by supporting NSC leadership role across Government on PVE, developing a wider understanding of insecurities, creating a ‘prevention culture’ across Government. Concretely, a cross Government working group will move beyond law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, critically, to include non-traditional security agencies.[[13]](#footnote-13) Bringing such actors together places a premium on a broadened understanding of threats and includes causes of human insecurity relating to a cross cutting range of issues, thus mainstreaming a HS, people centred approach to a national PVE framework.

Subsequently, the project will facilitate a ‘whole of society’ approach through multisectoral stakeholder dialogues with CSOs, and local men and women leaders across the country, based and expanded on UNDP existing networks. This inclusive and participatory engagement will provide bottom-up civil society inputs, developing a comprehensive analysis of threats and causes of insecurity relating for instance to economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security, including under COVID-19 conditions – while ensuring that views of all genders are heard and taken into consideration.

The third level will include targeted outreach/advocacy work at local level, engaging government and civil society through multi-stakeholder workshops. Concrete interventions and partnerships will be developed, based on multi-sectoral analysis, including through an SDG lens, of the obstacles to Human Security, specific to those communities. Through a UN facilitated approach, the NSC will incorporate civil society perspectives in the NAP design and implementation. Local government officials, security agencies, youth, students, women, peasant, fisherfolk, environmentalists, LGBTIQ people, ethnic minorities and faith-based groups, will be included. Targeted areas will include the SBPs, and in the north-east around environmental challenges – to be determined with the NSC and via the project (see above).

By the end of the project, stakeholders will have benefited in training in people-centred HS approaches, and gender-responsive HS guidelines will have been developed in an inclusive and participatory manner to support design, implementation and governance and approach of the PVE effort.

**Outcome 1**: National stakeholders are capacitated in Human Security analysis and approach and reach consensus on mainstreaming and gender-responsive codification of HS approach in a national PVE framework.

**Output 1.1:** A cross-government body on PVE is established & develops gender-responsive Human Security Guidelines towards a PVE NAP supported by a multi-stakeholder ‘whole of society’ platform.

Proposed Activities:

* + 1. Ongoing technical assistance to the National Security Council with four inter-agency dialogues on the national definition of PVE and adoption of a Human Security approach to national/operational strategies and effective coordination on PVE and Sustaining Peace.
    2. Two multisectoral -stakeholder dialogues to gain collective inputs on defining Human Security guidelines for multi-stakeholder dialogue and practice at community-level, thereby promoting and mainstreaming gender equality and Human Security principles within ongoing PVE NAP preparations.
    3. Supporting the drafting of Human Security guidelines of the NAP PVE, in partnership with Government authorities and key civil society stakeholders[[14]](#footnote-14).
    4. One multi-stakeholder forum to share, validate and endorse the Human Security guidelines.

**Outcome 2**: Enhanced Human Security at the local level in two selected target areas and increased likelihood of common initiatives undertaken in local partnerships.

**Output 2.1:** Concrete and integrated locally driven innovative solutions are developed to address local grievances based on a gender-responsive Human Security analysis and approach.

Proposed Activities:

* + 1. Two Human Security trainings per target area for local Government officials and law enforcement personnel.
    2. Two Human Security trainings per target area for civil society representatives and other informal community leaders.
    3. Multi-stakeholder workshop to support Human Security analysis and identify potential programme interventions and/or mitigation strategy.
  1. **Programme Rationale**

The Government of Thailand signed the ASEAN Plan of Action on PVE in Singapore on 31st October 2018, and is signatory also to the ASEAN Bali Workplan, agreed in November 2019. The ASEAN Plan calls on Member States to consider key elements when developing domestic guidelines and National Action Plans on PVE. These include the need to develop a baseline of evidence to ground peace and development interventions; definition of priority areas for action; and in line with the UN Secretary General’s Plan of Action, the call for a ‘*whole of society*’ approach to be taken to the design and implementation of National Action Plans for PVE.

The twin 2016 General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions 70/262 and 2282 on “Sustaining Peace” are the UN’s strongest commitment to ‘positive peace’ to-date, disconnecting the link between peace and violent conflict. Sustaining peace is a comprehensive agenda for preventing the onset, outbreak, and recurrence of conflict by addressing its root causes and drivers through inclusive bottom-up processes. In that light, peace is not the absence of violence or a one-off event but a locally owned process that requires sustained, inclusive, targeted attention and action.

More broadly, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a unique framework for managing and growing a diverse society in a manner acceptable to all. A key element of the Agenda is to reduce inequalities and promote peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. This approach recognizes that societal fractures, if left unaddressed, can drive instability, and conflict, and even lead to violence. Indeed, the UNGA Resolution adopting the 2030 Agenda notes that there can be “no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development”.

While mandated to develop a NAP on PVE, NSC engagement across Government has been limited due to sensitivities around the terminology of “violent extremism”, and its association with religious tensions. As a result, securitised approaches to local conflict management persist, against an absence of people-centred approaches to understanding or addressing root causes of tensions, either at the policy or local level. This is particularly pertinent at the community level where PVE work can arouse suspicion. Labelling sub-sets of the population as ‘vulnerable youth’, or ‘at-risk communities’, can provoke a hostile response from those that the project seeks to serve, and potentially increases perceptions of marginalisation and even risks moving individuals to the edge of their communities.

In Thailand at least, interventions are most sensitively integrated into development agendas, and couched in inclusive terminology around promoting Human Security. Such a neutral, developmental framing suits all stakeholders, especially if pursued within the 2030 Agenda. In this sense, this Human Security approach opens doors for UN engagement, which are otherwise closed. In addition, this also increases the possibility to bring gender considerations into sectors not usually working in that area, such as the security sector.

In partnerships, the project leverages UNODC-NSC collaboration to date under “Interagency Collaboration for Effective Prevention of Terrorism 2017-2020”, funded by Japan and Canada. This project led to an inter-agency platform of law enforcement/criminal justice agencies only and provides the required launch pad to supporting a broader cross-government PVE working group. Reference is made to the NSC request for further collaboration in this area. Separately, a regional EU funded UNDP project, “*Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity*” is in a second 3-year phase, launched in June 2020. This project focuses on knowledge management support, enhancing capacities to challenge online extremist narratives, including through training in conflict sensitive reporting. Thirdly, this project dovetails with a request by NSC to the Office of the Resident Coordinator, to coordinate UNCT-wide inputs to its draft NAP.

* 1. **Programme Development**

The NSC is the national security authority with the mandate to develop and oversee the implementation of a NAP. Hence, it is the best agency to be placed as the primary non-UN partner and will serves as the coordinating entity with security and non-security government agencies who will be part of the intersectoral process. This project was developed after discussion with and support from the NSC on the approach and areas of technical assistance and builds upon UNODC and UNDP’s extensive engagement with the Thai government and civil society stakeholders in the space of PVE. Following the NSC’s request for UN support to its efforts to develop a NAP, UNDP and UNODC agreed to synergize the existing collaboration with NSC through a Human Security people-centred approach.

Both Agencies have institutional knowledge and resources based on the long-standing work with multisectoral stakeholders including government, civil society and local community. UNODC has close contacts with criminal justice and law enforcement agencies; while UNDP has engaged CSOs and activists on the topic around the country during the first phase of PVE programming (see above). In terms of collaboration between the two UN agencies, UNDP and UNODC will enhance the coordinated efforts, integrate expertise and leverage each other strengths to address the broad range of complex challenges. UNODC’s expertise in criminal justice responds to violent extremism through a strong partnership with security agencies; while UNDP’s knowledge and experience is rich in more soft gender sensitive approaches to PVE, with a wide network of civil society and vulnerable communities.

Under this initiative, UNODC will serve as the lead agency due to its ongoing partnership in terrorism prevention with the NSC and criminal justice and law enforcement agencies. The existing NSC-UNODC inter-agency platform of law enforcement/criminal justice agencies will be capitalized to support a broader cross-government PVE working group under this proposed project. However, the overall implementation of the project will be carried out in a collective spirit as indicated in the section 5.1.

* 1. **Implementing through the Human Security approach**

This initiative will capitalize on government’s synergy and momentum to advocate Human Security approaches for PVE in Thailand in the following complementary and interrelated aspects.

People-centred: The project shall nurture the institutionalization of socio-political space for people participation through a series of consultative dialogues with local communities to gain comprehensive analysis of root causes, threats, drivers, grievances, concerns, needs and remedial strategies from their perspectives. The inputs will then inform a gender-responsive people-centred analysis, a prevention-oriented NAP and relevant national strategies and SOPs, enshrining their roles and participation in partnership with the government. Engagement at the local level and the central policy level will thereby be linked.

Regional linkages: The project shall facilitate exchange, learning and networking on good practices with stakeholders of similar initiatives in other countries where UNODC and UNDP operate such as the UNTFHS funded project in Indonesia. For example, the community of practice on P/CVE platform, whose members are national and regional offices of all UN agencies working on P/CVE in Southeast Asia will be capitalized to both facilitate the learning process and promote the outcomes and lessons learnt from this initiative which can be tailored to local contexts in other countries. Secondly, the project will UNODC and UNDP shall also work closely with the UNTFHS in designing the Human Security capacity building tool to strengthen collaboration and partnership among government and civil society stakeholders on the international level.

Comprehensive: The project aims at promoting the whole of government and whole of society approach to PVE in Thailand. It shall facilitate and support the establishment of the interagency and multisectoral platforms among security, non-security government agencies, civil society and local community stakeholders. To ensure comprehensive views and integrated efforts to promote Human Security approach to PVE, the platform and its multisectoral stakeholders will be fed and infused with Human Security approach to the development and implementation of NAP PVE.

Context specific: By definition, the initiatives at the local level will be specific: attention will be paid to context analysis including understanding local power dynamics and impact of intervention; promoting inclusion and ‘Leave No One Behind’ (LNOB) as key to prevention, for example ensuring perspectives, of youth, men and women; a stakeholder mapping of positions, interests, and fears, towards change, including a power graph mapping.

Prevention oriented: The linkages between the local level and the central policy level will ensure an integrated and effective delivery of prevention-oriented outcomes, both in the selected area, and then replicated as appropriate elsewhere. The NSC and multi-stakeholder platform will be engaged in the selection of the areas for intervention. This vertical integration will be supported by showcasing a HS approach on the ground and integrating it into the NAP as a case study for bringing together a range of actors, firstly within government, and then more widely, around a collective analysis of threats, drivers, grievances and needs, as well as strategies, NAP and SOPs to address and transform structural drivers as effective means to the prevention of violent extremism.

**3.5 Beneficiaries**

This project aiming at promoting interagency and multisectoral collaboration shall target beneficiaries representing government and civil society, gender balanced as possible. The government officials are the direct beneficiaries targeted in the projects which shall represent both security and non-security sectors responsible for preventing and addressing the conditions conducive to violent extremism as follows:

Security agencies: the NSC, the Royal Thai Police (RTP), the Anti Money Laundering Organization (AMLO), the Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC), the Counter-Terrorist Operation Centre (CTOC), the Office of Attorney General, the Ministry of Justice (OAG) and the National Intelligent Agency (NIA). Given the underrepresentation in the security sector, extra attention will be given to ensure that women’s voices are heard and able to influence the process.

Non-security agencies: Ministries of Social Development and Human Security, Interior, Education, Public Health, Culture, and Environment

Civil society/ local community: participants will be selected based on their engagement in addressing and/or their status as the affected populations of the challenges faced by communities in the North, Northeast, or southern Thailand. Priority will be given to women, youth, labor, peasant, ethnic and religious minority groups. While usual due diligence will be undertaken when selecting partners, note that UNDP has established a wide network of civil society organizations in the possible areas. They shall be the primary target participants from civil society and local communities in activities 1.1.2-4, and 2.1.2-3. The target communities of output 2 for the development and implementation of the locally driven innovative solutions shall be identified and selected collectively among participants in a series of consultative dialogues in activities 1.1.2 and 1.1.3. The following table broadly demonstrates number of participants per activity.

**Gender responsive approach**

The Human Security approach is by definition gender responsive. In line with the UN Sustainable Development Goal No. 5, dedicated gender analysis and expertise, informed by the WPS Agenda, will be provided through the regional EU-funded three-year UNDP project on PVE, launched in June 2020. This project will also benefit from two studies underway by UNDP on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, and the role of Human Rights Defenders, including the gendered experience of WHRDs. The project will seek to promote women in leadership and peacebuilding roles, targeting men in gender sensitizing activities and enhancing the capacity of the security sector on issues related to gender inequality.

The project will request partner agencies to promote gender equality in the planning and implementation of the project’s activities. UNODC and UNDP will seek to ensure that women are represented in every phase of the proposed project, both in terms of project/activity implementers and in terms of participants, particularly in the security sector, where women are traditionally under-represented. UNODC and UNDP will also continue to conduct selection processes that refer exclusively to gender-neutral professional skills and experience. Moreover, national stakeholders will be asked to prioritize the nomination of female officials and civil society participants, thus contributing to capacity-building of women. Women’s rights civil society will be included in the project’s outreach.

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| **Output 1.1: A functioning cross- government body on PVE, supported by a multi-stakeholder ‘whole of society’ platform, is established and develops** gender-responsive **Human Security Guidelines towards a PVE NAP** | | |
| Activity | No. of participants per activity[[15]](#footnote-15) | Note |
| Activity 1.1.1: Ongoing technical assistance to the NSC with four inter-agency dialogues on the national definition of PVE and adoption of a Human Security approach to national/operational strategies and effective coordination on PVE and Sustaining Peace | 30 | 15 participants from security agencies and 15 participants from non-security agencies |
| Activity 1.1.2: Two multisectoral -stakeholder dialogues to promote and mainstream the principles of Human Security within ongoing preparation of the PVE NAP | 30 | * 15 participants from government, (of whom 7 are from security and 8 are from non-security agencies). * 15 participants from civil society organizations and community affected by triple conflicts. |
| Activity 1.1.3: Drafting of the gender-responsive Human Security guidelines for the NAP, in partnership with Government authorities and key civil society stakeholders. |  | * (consultant supported) |
| Activity 1.1.4: One multi-stakeholder forum to verify, validate and endorse the gender-responsive Human Security guidelines. | 40 | - 25 participants from government, (of whom 25 are from security and 25 are from non-security agencies).  - 15 participants from civil society organizations and community affected by triple conflicts. |
| **Output 2.1: Concrete and integrated locally driven innovative proposed solutions to address local grievances based on a gender-responsive Human Security analysis and approach** | | |
| Activity 2.1.1: Two Human Security trainings per target area for local Government officials and law enforcement personnel; | 30 | 15 participants from security and 15 from non-security agencies. |
| Activity 2.1.2: Two Human Security trainings per target area for civil society representatives and other informal community leaders | 30 | 30 participants from civil society organizations and community affected by triple conflicts. |
| Activity 2.1.3: Multi-stakeholder workshop to support Human Security analysis of community security issues and to identify potential programme interventions and/or mitigation strategy. | 30 | - 15 participants from government, (of whom 7 are from security and 8 are from non-security agencies).  - 15 participants from civil society organizations and community affected by triple conflicts. |

1. **Advancing the Human Security approach**
   1. **Action plan for mainstreaming Human Security.**

As articulated in section 3.4, this project shall employ a gender-responsive Human Security approach throughout the implementation process. The project has been tailored to ensure the Human Security approach is both the means and the end. The HS approach will be used to raise awareness among government and civil society stakeholders on insecurities and the Human Security concept itself. It will then serve as the basis to aid the multi-stakeholders in gaining inputs and defining Human Security guidelines on the policy and community levels. This is how the HS principles are promoted in the NAP PVE preparations. The HS guidelines of NAP PVE will be developed and codified as a tool to shape the policy and national strategies. This can be shared with a wider audience and replicated in other countries and regions. On the operational level, UNODC shall incorporate HS tools into the ongoing counter-terrorism programs with law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia.

UNODC and UNDP are currently collaborating on the STRIVE Asia initiative in Southeast and Central Asia. The HS tools derived from this project could be further utilized and mainstreamed in the broader PVE activities, including the early warning early response, community policing and strategic communication to counter violent extremism in Southeast Asia. UNODC and UNDP shall share the tool, best practices and lessons learnt with members of the community of practice on PVE coordinated by UNOCT.

Since this partnership on this initiative exists at the highest level of UNDP, UNODC, as well as that of and the RCO, this project's outcomes shall be promoted alongside the human security framework at both the level of each agency, and within the UNCT.

**4.2 Best practices and lessons learned.**

UNODC and UNDP shall document best practices and lessons learned through observation, monitoring and discussion with participants in every activity. The periodical coordination meeting with partners and participants of the project will be facilitated to gain insight into program implementation and identify good practices and lessons learned. Participants will also be invited to write a short article or record a short video about their reflection on their engagement in this initiative after the end of each activity. These inputs shall be compiled and synthesized by UNODC and UNDP. The process of dissemination of lesson learned is also spelt out in section 6.2.

**5. Management structure and partnership strategy**

**5.1 Management Structure**

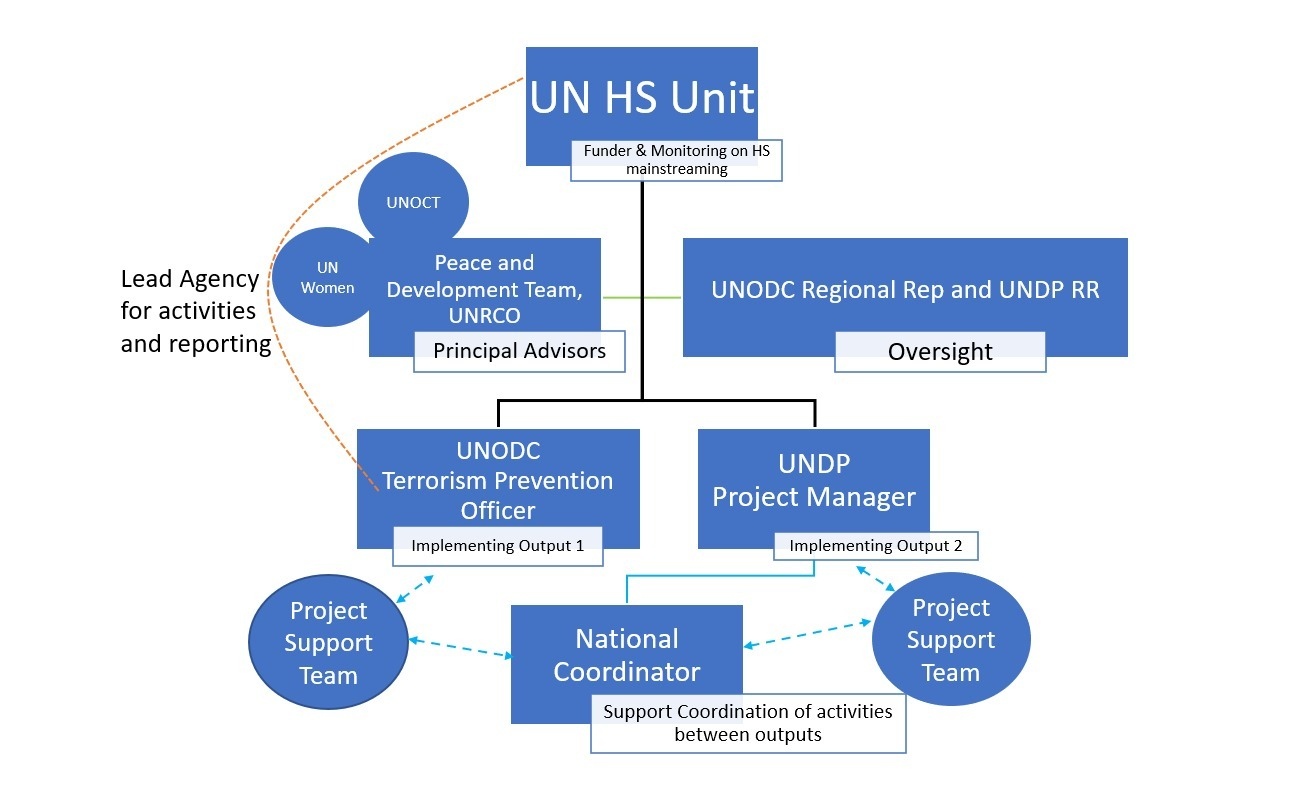
The management structure maximizes joint effective and integrated implementation and oversight, reflecting the links between the two outputs at the national and local level. As the Lead Agency, UNODC will lead coordination with HSU on activities and reporting and ensure overall programme implementation in line with the Human Security approach. While UNODC will take responsibility for Outcome 1, and UNDP will be responsible for Outcome 2, close collaboration and synergies will be ensured throughout.

The recruitment of one full-time National Coordinator will ensure that implementation of activities is synergized between outputs. At the same time, each component will have a strong management and support structure, as the National Coordinator will be jointly supervised by a UNODC Terrorism Prevention Officer and a UNDP manager; and serviced by two administrative and finance project support teams for respective operational activities. To note, The UNODC manager will be supported by a program assistant, while the UNDP Project Manager will allow for synergies as she oversees the complementary parallel activities of the EU-UNDP project (see above).

The project will be governed by the same Project Board as the EU-UNDP project, co-chaired by the MFA, which will be expanded to include UNODC. The NSC will act as Focal Point for project interaction with other Government agencies at national level and will take the role of Senior Beneficiary on the Project Board.

Via the Peace and Development Team (PDT), the RCO coordinates a UNCT-wide strategic relationship with the NSC, and specifically leads consultations with UNCT on draft NAP preparation. The PDT will act in an advisory capacity to this project to provide ongoing guidance to project implementation. As partner to the EU-UNDP regional project, UNOCT will also contribute substantive coherence and help coordination of inputs. UN Women in Thailand will support NAP development under the EU-UNDP project, to ensure that the NAP is gender sensitive and responsive, and that NAP M&E framework and budget are fully gender-disaggregated. Three meetings will take place, between these UN Agencies over the course of the project, to ensure an integrated implementation.

UODC (Lead Agency)



**MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

Consultant

**5.2 Participating of beneficiaries and government.**

UNODC and UNDP have been recognised from stakeholders as leading UN engagement on PVE in Thailand, especially by the Royal Thai Government and civil society. UNODC engagement on counter terrorism programme provided a long-standing relationship with the NSC on legal framework and implementation. UNDP provided the NSC with technical assistance, research, and bridging the gap between Government agencies and CSOs/Academia.

While the NSC will act as Focal Point for project interaction with other Government Ministries, Agencies and Departments at national level, UNODC and UNDP will bring in CSOs, Academia and international organisations. The NSC may require inputs from other specialised Agencies as Government moves to mainstream PVE across policy frameworks. Via the Peace and Development Team, the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator will ensure smooth and coordinated UN system response to future NSC requests for technical assistance.

Through the UNODC-NSC Interagency collaboration platform and the UNDP Knowledge Management Advisor Board (KMAB), stakeholders from cross-sector will support design activity and comment on the output together with the project team. Areas for conducting activities and pilot the project in activity 2.3 will be discussed and selected in consultation with stakeholders from both available platforms. Bilateral meetings of the UNODC-NSC platform will happen on a quarterly basis while the KMAB meeting will happen bi-annually with the option to create online communication channel for regular update and virtual consultation, should any urgent issues arise. Updated activities from this project will be produced and included in the Quarterly Newsletter of the EU-UNDP PVE Phase II Project.

UN commitment to ensuring a ‘*whole of society’* approach to PVE dictates a strong partnership with civil society in the preparation and implementation of all activities. This project foresees a multi-stakeholder forum to input to and endorse the Human Security guidelines, and which will remain a consultative forum over the longer-term for redress of grievances. It is intended that the targeted interventions at the local-level will be replicated more widely, including gender-responsive people-centred local approaches and remedies, eventually into the NAP consultations mechanisms. Due diligence will be undertaken on civil society partners, that will be identified together with NSC and based on UNDP’s extensive networks in the area.

**5.3 Partnership with other organizations**

Through the Knowledge Management Platform established under the EU-UNDP PVE Project Phase II, the projects will be able to reach out to a wider audience. The platform will share information, strengthen network, and engage a “Community of Practice” in support of NAP development and implementation in Thailand. Members of the platform will comprise registered users representing all groups of stakeholders– local and central Government, civil society and private sector, religious and educational institutions, academia and the media, and the donor community. UNODC will leverage the linkage of the Human Security knowledge/implementation with their peers in Indonesia and the Philippines and expand to other countries.

As the project will also develop HS guidelines, training materials, and workshop design, UNOCT and other specialized UN agencies and academic institutions will support their development, provide inputs and feedback to the materials. The Knowledge Management Advisory Board of UNDP will serve as another interface to receive input and engagement from CSOs, donors, media, parliamentarians working on similar issues and context. Apart from these platforms, the international community of CSOs and donors will be invited to contribute through academic seminars and engagement activities, including around Activities 1.1.4. and 2.1. 3..

1. **Risk management and sustainability**

**6.1 Risk management**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Description of risks and negative externalities** | **Impact** | **Probability** | **Proposed mitigation measures** | **Responsible organization(s)** |
| Lack of political will to support some aspects of PVE programming due to re-prioritization of needs and/or political resistance | Moderate | Moderate to low | The project team will work closely and discreetly with NSC officials to advance a national framework in a low-key manner, as appropriate. UN to engage in more advocacy to shape a more nuanced, holistic analysis and sensitive approach to help create understanding and support. | UN RCO/ UNODC/ UNDP |
| Broader political instability, following escalating protests, and shrinking civic space, impacting programming; making engagement at local level more challenging due to heightened mistrust. | Moderate | Moderate | The project team will monitor closely the situation and regular consult with counterparts. The team plans to interact with a range of actors on the ground, thus is not heavily dependent on one single partner but rather can keep running as intended. | UN RCO/ UNODC/ UNDP |
| Disruptive effect of possible violence in the SBPs, and impact on inter-community relations | Moderate | Moderate to low | Project team to work closely with RCO to constantly review situation; and closely follow RTG protocols, and maintain close contact with the RTG, and partners on the ground. | UN RCO/ UNODC/ UNDP |
| COVID related travel restriction, including in selected areas, causes delays in establishing or organizing activities as planned | Moderate | Moderate to High (bot falling through the duration of the project) | Virtual format of the activities will be prepared as an alternative method. The project team will also work closely with the RCO to constantly review the situation. In addition, the activities are designed to be flexible and should be revised based on achievements in the first few months. | UNODC/UNDP |
| Targeted areas might be affected by the unpredictable environmental disasters. Not only cost lives and physically destruction but could swing public attitudes or change political realities. | Moderate | Low | The project will interact with many actors in many areas which will not be heavily dependent on one single partner. The activity can continue even if political realities on the ground change. | UNODC/UNDP |
| Coordination between UN entities, and with other partners, and potential delays due to procurement or administrative procedures, among other issues. | Moderate | Low | Regular monthly coordination meetings to ensure synergies and unblock obstacles | UN RCO/ UNODC/ UNDP |

Note: Impact and probability should be indicated as high, medium or low.

**6.2 Scale-up, replication and sustainability**

The project will make technical assistance available to mainstream Human Security analysis and approach, strengthening capacities of officials and civil society actors to design, implement and monitor initiatives aimed at PVE in Thailand. The Human Security approach will also be disseminated and promoted as best practices via the online knowledge management platform to be established by the overarching EU-UNDP regional PVE project.

In terms of sustainability, it is anticipated that the NAP will incorporate and scale-up Output 2 for work with local communities, and that the NAP will be fully costed with a budget for its implementation integrated into the Government’s medium-term expenditure framework.

Human Security approaches will be institutionalized within the research methodology of the Monitoring Centre on violence and conflict, supported under the EU-UNDP PVE Project, that UNDP will establish in partnership with Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, and Prince of Songkhla University. UNODC will integrate Human Security approaches into work with law enforcement officers through Border Liaison Offices on the Thai borders.

The Human Security guidelines will be shared with the Thai government ‘Policy Lab’ innovation team that UNDP is supporting. The project activities will be able to demonstrate the application of a Human Security approach to be applied at the country public policy level.

1. **Dissemination, public information and communications**

Internet penetration is high in Thailand at 78% in 2021, as more and more Thais move onto social media platforms, a phenomenon accelerated under COVID[[16]](#footnote-16). In acknowledgement of this, and that manipulative messages on social media have achieved considerable success in luring people, this project sees valuable opportunities to focus heavily on product dissemination of the outcomes of the project through online media platforms, generating debate in highly popular platforms such as Twitter and Facebook. Since the topic and issues are quite abstract, it is intended to adopt a highly visual graphics to disseminating the Human Security approach, with more visual than text. People increasingly tend to watch short VDO, particularly the younger generation, with less than 3-5 mins and only one visual with catchy text to consume information. Such products can also be adapted as a cartoon for school and university teachers if they wish to do so. All resources will be made available online, with hard copy only as required, and more for intra-Government use.

The VDO content will revolve around recordings taken in the dialogues, forum and workshop from both outputs with Government, a multi-stakeholder platform, and engaging in selected areas, as appropriate, and over the full 18 months duration of the project. The project will produce one professionally made short video focused on Human Security, contextualised to Thailand that features the efforts from Output 2 activities. If possible, the VDO will also features the how the community applied Human Security analysis and SDGs framework for their intervention project. Story lines will be consulted from the initial stage together with the communication strategy in the Advisory Board meeting. In parallel, the Human Security guideline from output 1.1 will be produced in a digital user-friendly format, combined with visual data tools. The report will be translated into an infographic version that can be easily disseminated via online platform and minimal printing materials.

The UN will ensure synergies with the communication strategic plan of the EU-UNDP PVE Phase II project, with Human Security media products channelled through those platforms such as UNDP Thailand website, Twitter account, and UNDP Regional PVE website (an online knowledge management platform) – if successful, the approach will be presented and best practices shared, in the SDG Road Map under development by the Royal Thai Government. Other channels include the UNODC communication platform with law enforcement officials, and UNODC RBAP Website and Twitter account.

1. **Evaluation**

Describe and budget the evaluation plan using the format below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluation title** | **Type** | **Time** | **Budget in US$** |
| Mid-term evaluation | Internal or external | 8th month (Nov 2021) | USD 15,000 |
| Final evaluation | External | 11th month (August 2022) | USD 15,000 |

1. **Budget**

[*see separately*]

1. Other important frameworks include the Women, Peace and Security, and the Youth, Peace and Security. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/democracy-index-2020/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/03/03/thailands-poverty-on-the-rise-amid-slowing-economic-growth> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Thailand’s subnational government expenditure as a share of general government spending (12.8 percent in 2016) and as share of GDP (2.4 percent in 2016) is one of the lowest among Asia-Pacific countries. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://www.dindeng.com/thai-imperialism-and-colonisation/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30355577> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-landrights-women-idUSKCN1MX07W [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2fC%2fTHA%2fCO%2f6-7&Lang=en [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CCPR/Shared%20Documents/THA/INT_CCPR_ICO_THA_23570_E.pdf> The Thai Government does not use the term “indigenous peoples”, instead “ethnic group”, “ethnicity”, and “traditional communities”. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. <https://undp-asia-pacific.shorthandstories.com/---media-matters--for-minorities/index.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. <https://prachatai.com/english/node/7061> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. <https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/thai/deep-south-peace-talks-02032021150146.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Including Ministries of Social Development and Human Security, Interior, Education, Public Health, Culture, Environment. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. The guidelines will contain Human Security guiding principles of Human Security, to address the following considerations, *inter alia*: the identification of emerging risks, threats and opportunities, coordination, respect for human rights and civil liberties, people-centered, interdependence and preventive measures. The form of the guidelines will depend on the results of consultations (Activities 1.2 and 1.3 above). Possible modalities may include Standard Operating Procedures, an Action Plan or a National Strategy. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. The no. of participants per activity will target 50/50 gender balance and include women’s groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/975067/internet-penetration-rate-in-thailand/> [↑](#footnote-ref-16)