



## **Mission Report**

### **The Launching Event of Thailand –European Union Policy Dialogues Support Facility (PDSF)**

30 October 2013  
Sukhothai Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Prepared by  
Piyapa Su-angavatin, External Relations Officer  
Nelli Nising, Intern

#### **1) SEAMEO Officials and Staff Member on Mission**

1. Ms Piyapa Su-angavatin (External Relations Officer)
2. Ms Nelli Nising (Intern)

#### **2) Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity**

The objective of the event is to introduce the newly established facility called **Thailand – European Union Policy Dialogues Support Facility (PDSF)**, including its draft work programme. Additionally, practical experiences of cooperation in the PDSF were shared by various partners.

#### **3) Participants**

There were approximately 30 participants from Embassies, Governmental Agencies and media.

#### **4) Organizer/s**

European Union

#### **5) Highlight of the Activity/Summary Points**

The Policy Dialogue Support Facility (PDSF) is a programme for further advance of Thailand's cooperation with the EU which is funded by the European Union. The main goals are sustainable economic, social development goals and global integration.

The budget for the PDSF is € 3.75 million (THB 150 million), funded by the European Union

and implemented by a consortium led by GOPA Consultants (in consortium with the Franco Thai Chamber of Commerce). The programme takes place from 15 August 2013 to 15 February 2017.

There are four different areas which are covered by the Thailand- European Union PDSF:

**1) Trade and Investment:**

- Support deepening of bilateral trade relations, including EU- Thailand free trade agreement
- Support to address non-tariff barriers (SPS, TBT, product standards)
- Support strengthening trade facilitation
- Support development of the creative economy

**2) Higher Education and Science and Technology:**

- Internationalization of Higher Education
- Strengthen university management
- Strengthen human resources development
- Science & Technology and Innovation

**3) Environment, Climate Change, and Energy:**

- Support sustainable consumption and production and trade
- Support transition to low carbon economy and climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Support Thailand's involvement in Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs)

**4) Good Governance and Human Rights:**

- Support initiatives to address regional disparities, inequity, migration as well as to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law

The target groups of the programme are policy and decision makers, implementing governmental agencies, experts involved in the development and implementation of policies. Others are from private and public sectors.

The project framework and draft work plan was presented during the launching event on 30 October 2013.

The existing key implementing agencies under the areas of Education and Science & Technology include – Ministry of Education (Bureau of International Cooperation, Bureau of Standard and Evaluation, Office of Higher of Education Commission), Knowledge management Institute of Thailand, National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Ministry of Science and Technology,

The existing key implementing agencies under the areas of Natural Resource, Climate Change and Energy include – Ministry of National Resources, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Transportation.

The next steps of the EU and the implementing partners are to furnish the project work plan and the first bi-annual work plan. A ToR for agreed activities should be finalized.

## **6) Role/Participation of SEAMEO**

1. Attend the meeting

## **7) Side Meeting/s**

n/a

## **8) Follow-up Actions Needed**

1. There is a possibility for the SEAMEO Secretariat and/or SEAMEO Centres to be a partner of the project activities, in particular area no.2 (Higher Education and Science and Technology) and no. 3 (Environment, Climate Change and Energy). SEAMEO Centres can partner as an implementation agency of some activities.
2. Share the information to the SEAMEO Secretariat Directorate for their further advice.

## **9) Appendices/Related Conference Materials and Outputs**

1. PDSF Introduction
2. PDSF work plan
3. What is Thailand- EU PDSF Programme