

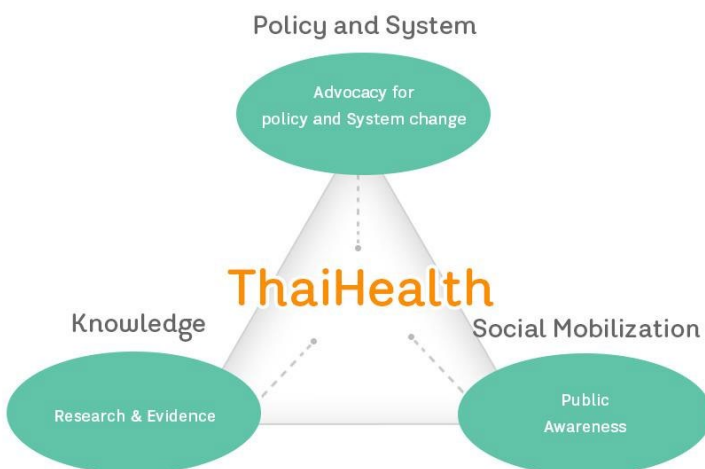
Profiles of the Three Field Study Venues

Thailand Health Promotion Foundation - THPF

THPF is an autonomous government agency established in 2001 with its vision of “All people in Thailand capable of living in society and with the environment conducive to good health.” To fulfill its vision, the organization not only promotes individual’s capacity to adopt healthy lifestyles, but rather to enhance their ability to improve society and the environment, thereby increasing public health.

THPF’s mission

“To inspire, motivate, coordinate, and empower individuals and organizations in all sectors for the enhancement of health- promoting capabilities as well as a healthy society and environment in Thailand.” THPF positions itself as a catalyst which allows for a more efficient/effective utilization of its limited resources. The “Tri-Power Strategy” employed by THPF is based on Dr. Prawase Wasi’s ‘Triangle that Moves the Mountain’. The immovable ‘Mountain’ symbolizes the extreme difficulty in bringing about social change. This strategy indicates that strengthening three interconnected angles of the triangle or sectors is necessary to address the multi-pronged public health issues. The three angles of Tri-power Strategy are: 1) Creation of knowledge; 2) Social mobilization; 3) Policy advocacy.



THPF is governed by a Board of Governance as well as an Evaluation Board. The Board of Governance has a multi-sectoral structure. Chaired by the Prime Minister,

with the Minister of Public Health as the first Vice-Chairman, the board members comprise representatives from nine ministries and eight independent experts from various disciplines. Under the policy direction of the Board of Governance, health promotion implementation is executed by the Health Promotion Office, through a wide variety of networks and partners who develop and carry out a range of programs and projects, to achieve the health targets. Meanwhile, the Board of Evaluation has seven members who are selected from experts in health promotion, finance and evaluation. The overall performance evaluation of the office helps improve transparency and efficiency.

THPF provides financial support to projects, submitted by government agencies, NGOs, people's organizations, and other sectors to fulfill various targets on tobacco and alcohol and substance abuse control, road safety and disaster management, health risk control, health promotion for vulnerable populations, strengthening healthy community, health promotion for children, youth and family, organizations, improvement of health service systems etc.

THPF's annual revenue of about 120 million USD is derived from a 2 percent excise tax on tobacco and alcohol collected directly from tobacco and alcohol producers and importers. Several thousands of projects are financed by THPF annually.

In 2021 WHO awarded the 'Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion 2021' to THPF for its outstanding service in health promotion.



National Health Security Office -NHSO

NHSO was established in 2002 as a public organization to support a good public management system to ensure and create health security for everyone. Its vision is “Everyone who lives in Thailand (including those without health insurance) is subject to universal health coverage (UHC) and has access to health care when needed”. Thailand’s public servants receive free health care from the government and private sector employees also receive health service through the Social Security Office.

NHSO is responsible for developing a service system which is easily accessible, effectively provides information, delivers evidence-based health care, and enables effective beneficiary registration, monitoring and evaluation.

NHSO works closely with the Ministry of Public Health which owns and manages health infrastructures and personnel. However, the budget for medicine and health services are paid by NHSO based on average medical costs per head and extra costs for those who need extra treatment. Types and amounts of budget allocation for diseases, and service cares are updated annually. The NHSO office will review these updates, assess needs and submit its evaluation to the government for budget allocation. On the other hand, the NHSO will negotiate standard service prices with health service providers at all levels (primary, secondary and tertiary), both public and private, to ensure that all sick people will receive good quality and standard services. The service providers include health centers, local, provincial, and regional hospitals, university-owned hospitals, community clinics, pharmacy shops etc.

Following NHSO regulations, people’s participation is compulsory. Several groups of patients, communities and other representatives from civil society organizations including NGOs take part on different levels in the NHSO’s structure.

NHSO's budget in 2021 was 5.56 billion US dollars.

NHSO is governed by a Board of Governance as well as a Quality and Standard Control Board. It also uses a series of expert advisory committees. The Board of Governance includes stakeholders from different sectors. It is chaired by the Minister of Public Health and includes 7 ministerial permanent secretaries, Director General of the Budget Bureau, 4 representatives from different forms of local governments, 5 representatives from NGOs/CSO's, 5 health related professional associations, and 7 independent experts from various disciplines. Under the policy direction of the Board of Governance, the health care system implementation is executed by the NHSO Office, through a wide variety of networks and partners in 13 regions across Thailand.

The Quality and Standard Control Board has 38 members who are selected from health care service professionals in government agencies as well as professional associations, NGOs/CSOs and independent experts.

Recent outstanding projects were the handling of the COVID 19 crisis, improving services coverage and opening new channels regularly for patients to get access to medicine while reducing service bottlenecks.

NHSO has received national level awards from the Government in almost every year since 2015, i.e., Digital Government Awards, Good Governance Awards, High management performance award, and the Development and Growth award. It has been recognized as the best health care and COVID-19 handling system in Asia and Number 6 in the world.

Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI)

CODI is one of Thailand's public organizations established in 2000, whose mission is to support communities and their organizations in both urban and rural areas – as key agents of change and as central actors in development . It facilitates change by people at scale.

Besides an annual budget from the government which supports many of its ongoing programs, CODI's chief financial tool is the CODI revolving fund, which provides soft loans to community cooperatives and community networks to undertake a variety of development initiatives they plan and implement themselves. These initiatives include housing, land purchase, livelihood development, community enterprise and many others.

To fulfill its vision – “to build a strong societal base using the collective power of civil groups and community organizations” - CODI creates platforms to strengthen communities and networks to support their collaboration with other stakeholders, in order to bring about change. On the other hand, CODI works with other government agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations, activists, architects, academic institutions etc. in order to support the communities and networks.

In addition, CODI helps sustain communities' initiatives by translating best practices on the community level into government policies at local and national levels.

CODI is administered by a governance board which brings together representatives from different sectors: government agencies, civil society, NGOs, academic institutions and communities in rural and urban areas.

In addition, there are issue-based joint subcommittees which are appointed by the board and bring together representatives from all the relevant stakeholders and sectors, including relevant government agencies, civil society, academia and communities . Each subcommittee oversees the management of CODI programs

on that particular issue, at the national level. The joint subcommittees could be permanent (like the ongoing *Baan Mankong* housing programs), or set up temporarily to oversee specific time-bound projects (such as a particular disaster rehabilitation project).

CODI has 5 regional offices which are looked after by mixed regional boards appointed by the CODI board. The regional CODI offices are administrative units tasked with facilitating the developmental direction set by the regional boards, on various issues.

CODI's model projects

- 1) *Baan Mankong* program (stable housing and community) which supports residents in need of land and housing to group together, saving money together, tapping cheap group loans from CODI to purchase land and build houses together. They form a strong sense of community (physically and socially) and try to find occupations that can help them pay back their loan.
- 2) *Baan Porpiang* program (sufficient housing) for those who lack adequate housing due to poverty or lack of capacity. The community helps in improving or constructing new houses with subsidies from the government as well as from other community funds.
- 3) A canal upgrading project aiming to move people who have been living on canals illegally so that the canals can be used for flood prevention, transportation and/or tourism attractions. The area on canal banks are allocated for new housing projects for formerly illegal settlers.
- 4) Community based welfare fund – The fund is established by the initiative of local leaders by mobilizing small daily donations from local people. The fund is used to help the needy in various ways such as for schooling, food subsidy, funeral compensation, allowance for the aged, etc. The scheme has become famous and CODI has helped to expand it nationwide. There are approx. 6,000 local funds in all provinces. In the latter phase, the government provides occasional subsidies to the fund.