



INNOVATIVE JUSTICE



ADVANCING
COLLABORATIVE
AND INNOVATIVE
JUSTICE FOR ALL

Collaborative Justice

At the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development rests the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The rule of law, enshrined in SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, does not only create a solid foundation that interlinks all of the 17 Goals and 169 Targets, but is also a means to an end to the full realization of equitable, sustained, and resilient development. This comprehensive architecture with the rule of law as its cornerstone ultimately contributes to equality and gender empowerment, ensuring that the most vulnerable and marginalized are not left behind.

With the rule of law as its core principle, the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), as a promoter for transformative change, works to translate international standards on social and criminal justice policies into local practices. Its utmost goal is to see the fruition of people-centered justice system and legal services that promise equal and equitable access to justice for all in Thailand and beyond.

Recognizing that this goal could only be achieved through collaboration across all sectors of the society, TIJ has been invested in fostering networks of allies who are passionate about the promotion of rule of law for development, which comprise of leading Thai change makers. As a result, its efforts culminated in the establishment of the Rule of Law and Development Program (RoLD Program) in 2017, which is exemplified in the partnership between TIJ and the Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) at Harvard Law School, bringing together emerging leaders to learn from like-minded peers domestically and internationally about the intricacies of the rule of law in contemporary contexts. Currently, the RoLD Program has entered into its fourth successive year with over 260 fellows drawn from more than 170 organizations, ranging from leading multi-national corporations to academic institutions, established media companies and raising social start-ups.



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Since its core goal is to “make justice everyone’s matter”, the RoLD Program aims to familiarize its fellows with the concept of the rule of law, urging them to creatively incorporate it into work on the ground in their respective fields. To date, the RoLD fellows have initiated over ten local projects that seek to leverage and enhance the rule of law in various dimensions in Thailand, focusing on:

- Sustainable living with the forest: a case study of Naan Province
- Unfair indebtedness and social inequality in Thailand: informal debts
- Rule of law framework for disruptive technology and Regulatory Sandbox
- Financial accessibility in the future economy
- Cultural transition for rehabilitation and social reintegration of ex-prisoners
- Promoting the culture of lawfulness
- Inclusive Opportunity through Digital employability
- Domestic Violence
- Participatory and Good Governance in School

This experience has confirmed our belief in collaborative and innovative approaches to enhancing the rule of law. Now, the rule of law could truly thrive when justice is everyone’s matter.



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Innovation and Justice

With its vision to be the ‘promoter of change’, the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) embraces this unique role in acting as a trusted bridge to connect the justice sector with key stakeholders by leveraging on the Rule of Law and Development (RoLD) networks of allies. Since 2018, the TIJ has been establishing a conducive multi-stakeholder environment for transformative change where innovation and justice sectors can fuse and collaborate together to find creative solutions to address the concerns outlined above. The ultimate aim is to construct people-centered justice system and legal services that are equitable, easily accessible, participatory, accountable and collaborative. After two years of experimenting, in early 2021 the TIJ has officially launched the TIJ Justice Innovation Unit with the following key functions:

- To create tools for a justice-enabled mindset
- To facilitate a platform for experiments to solve emerging justice issues
- To disseminate up-to-date content on justice and innovation
- To foster networks of justice innovator

The current projects under this Unit includes:

1) MySis: Chatbot for Women Victims of Violence

Violence against women and girls (VAWG), especially domestic violence and intimate partner violence has been a pressing issue in Thailand. However, oftentimes only a small proportion of these cases are reported due to threats from the abusers, social pressure or lack of information on how to seek help formally through legal means, which would have exposed survivors of violence to further risks. MySis, an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot, was developed to provide both mental support and practical guidance on how to seek professional help and/or effectively take legal actions.

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Through online conversation, MySis provides information and advice related to the legal matters, judicial procedures, and self-protection measures at hand. Mysis also connects users with support provided by government agencies and social organizations and helps with the search for emergency shelters and hotlines. The latest development resulted from a collaborative partnership with the Cyber Police of Thailand, which allows users to directly report and file violence cases with the Royal Thai Police online through MySis chatbot.

2) Yak Data: AI for Accident Reduction



Yak Data was developed to consolidate and analyze data from an array of open data sources in order to produce information and insights for communities to tackle local problems such as road accidents, corruption and petty crime. Yak, means giant in Thai, is used as a symbol for mapping incidents in the system, indicating locations where local problems have occurred. Yak Data serves as a platform for collating historical road accidents, mapping out where and when they occurred, along with the number of casualties and resulting conditions of injuries. Historical data and trends are populated to find the correlation of accidents and key factors to forecast the occurrence of future accidents. Community level collaborations are formed to identify risk factors and to implement



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Thailand Institute of Justice
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3) Datathon

Datathon was organized in early 2019 as an initiative to create the first open data set in Thailand to improve governance and accountability in the public sector. The first event focused on the collection, organization and digitization of data to fight corruption. More than 60 participants worked together to collate existing data on preset digital forms with an analytical system developed in parallel to visualize information and extract insights from this dataset.

Participants were divided into two groups, one responsible for data input and another for analytical system development. Data input were extracted from the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) and court rulings. Then analyses were conducted on many levels such as the frequency of breach of certain sections in the legal codes, geographical distribution, as well as the relations between individuals and institutions across different datasets.

Justice Innovation Unit is a work in progress. The systemic, structural and contextual nature of justice problems present us with various complexities and challenges as we explore the way to nurture impactful solutions. An ecosystem for justice innovation is essential to instill collaborative and participatory values in the justice sector. Based on our previous experiences working for justice innovation in Thailand, the key stakeholders in the justice innovation ecosystem include: Issue champions, Social innovators, and Funders. The TIJ Justice Innovation Unit positions itself as a hub to groom, connect and foster the interactions between all stakeholders to create a resilient infrastructure for the justice system.