

Thailand Institute of Justice



ABOUT THAILAND INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE (TIJ)

Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) is a relatively new player in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. Established in 2011 with funding from the government of Thailand, TIJ supports policymakers and practitioners in Thailand and beyond to ensure a fair and effective response to crime and the proper treatment of offenders. Despite on-going reform efforts by criminal justice systems worldwide, meeting the specific needs of the vulnerable – especially women and children – remains a challenge for many countries.



THE BANGKOK RULES

TIJ, therefore, places a strong emphasis on capacity-building to promote the effective implementation of international standards that specifically address the vulnerabilities faced by women and children in criminal justice settings.

One example is the 2010 United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders or **the Bangkok Rules**. The Bangkok Rules seeks to address the gender-specific needs of women who have been imprisoned or who are subject to non-custodial measures.



International standards and norms like the Bangkok Rules not only provide policy guidance to member states, but also serve as a rich repository of good practices in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. TIJ works closely with member states to collectively enhance capacity and make effective use of these standards and norms.



Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand has long championed for the rights of the vulnerable. Through her early initiatives that provided support to incarcerated mothers with children, Her Royal Highness proceeded to actively participate in the international campaign for gender-responsive criminal justice strategies. Such efforts culminated in the adoption of the Bangkok Rules. To ensure the Bangkok Rules would be put in practice both in Thailand and worldwide, TIJ was established in 2011. Her Royal Highness has served as the chairperson of the Special Advisory Board at TIJ since its inception.

The number of incarcerated women has surged worldwide, prompting the need to promote gender-responsive prisons. In 2016, TIJ hosted a comprehensive course on the Bangkok Rules and provided training to senior correctional officers in Thailand and ASEAN member states. Through case studies and on-site visits to a model prison, the training equipped officers with an enhanced capacity in bridging international standards with local practices. In August 2019, the expansion of TIJ's work was recognized when TIJ signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Directorate General of Prisons of Cambodia for the Model Prison Project to pilot the implementation of the Bangkok Rules in Cambodia.



TIJ'S PROGRAMME

Strategically, most of TIJ's programmes are in alignment with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

In this context, TIJ contributes to, and benefits from, the large pool of knowledge and expertise shared among our international partners within the United Nations Programme. These include the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and regional and national organizations comprising the United Nations Programme Network of Institutes or UN-PNIs.

Currently, TIJ is an active member of the UN-PNIs and the only member in the Southeast Asian region – an honor enjoyed since 2016.

May 2016 marked the beginning of a formal affiliation between TIJ and the United Nations. Dr. Kittipong Kittiyarak, TIJ Executive Director, met with Mr. Yuri Fedetov, UNODC Executive Director, during the 25th Session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in Vienna. On this occasion, a memorandum of understanding between the organizations was signed, officially recognizing TIJ as a UN-PNI and making TIJ the first institute in Southeast Asia to become a member of the PNI.





in the Rule of Law, Justice and Security for the Post-2015 Development Agenda
Bangkok, 15 November 2013



As part of efforts to mainstream justice and the rule of law in line with the Post-2015 Development Agenda, TIJ hosted the Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law on 15 November 2013. The forum sought to generate discussions among global leaders and experts on the importance of the rule of law and justice in achieving sustainable development, and to further establish clear goals and targets.

TIJ welcomes the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and remains committed to making concrete efforts to realize Goal 16 on justice and the rule of law.

Five years after the adoption of the Bangkok Rules came another milestone that characterizes the trajectory of TIJ as we fulfill our mandates.

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 represents such a pivotal moment.

Underlying the new framework is a realization that all sectors responsible for sustainable development of society are deeply interrelated.

In this sense, our justice systems cannot operate in isolation. We need to pursue multi-sectoral cooperation and cross-sectoral linkages. When justice works with public health, education, poverty reduction, or job creation, for instance, we stand a better chance of succeeding as a society.

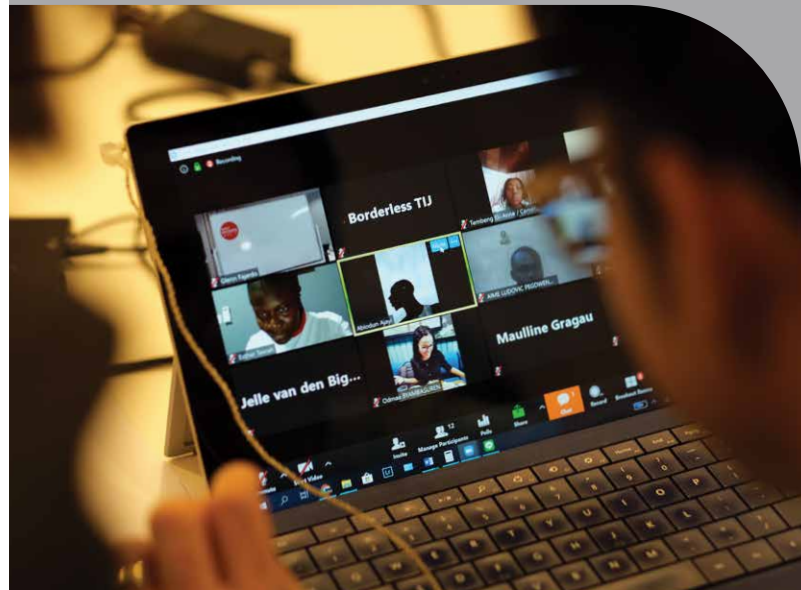
OUR PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

TIJ, therefore, has begun to expand our work beyond traditional areas of justice and the rule of law. Our partnership network now includes more players such as private enterprises, civil society, academia and youth. We invite and encourage our partners to seek 'justice' in everyday life themselves.

The new direction rests on the premise that diversity is essential for finding the best solutions to societal problems.



TIJ strongly believes in the limitless potential of youth. TIJ partnered with UNODC to launch the Borderless Youth Forum, a new frontier of engaging and empowering youth through technology with the aim of promoting innovative justice. The Forum adopted a Design Across Borders technique pioneered by the d.school, Stanford University. TIJ and UNODC are now advancing our joint vision by building a Borderless Youth Network for Justice Innovation.





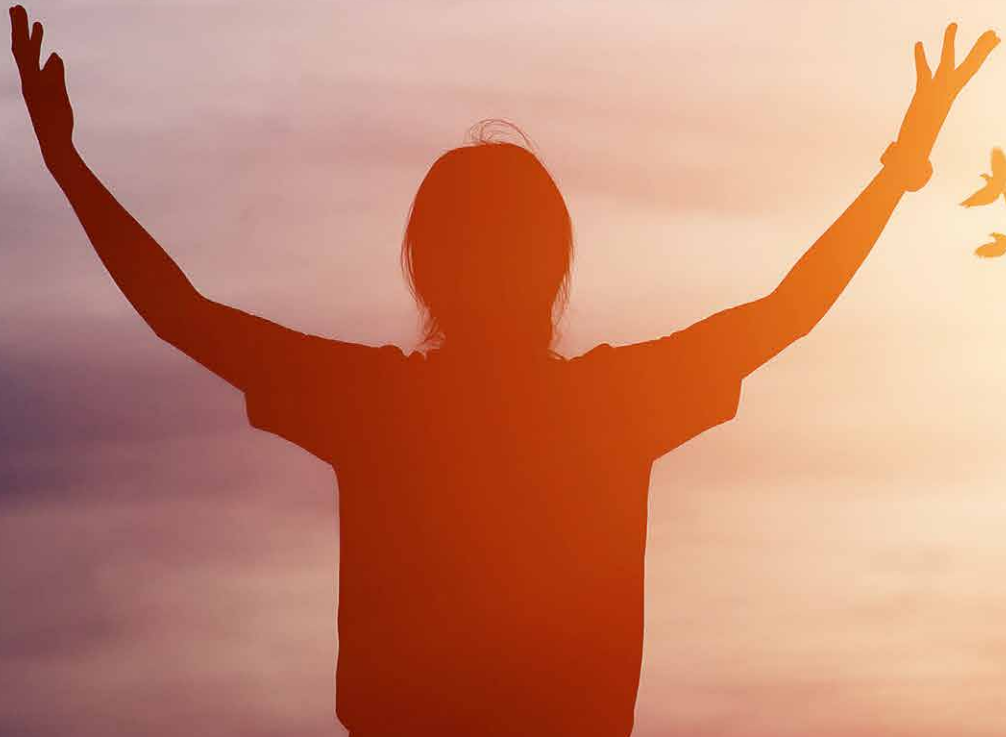
A villager from Nongsra, Buriram Province in Thailand, speaks with participants in the Rule of Law and Development Program (RoLD Program) about the challenges encountered by villagers. The RoLD Program represents TIJ's collaborative efforts in bringing together leaders from different professions to tackle old issues through innovative problem solving.

We hope to bring together criminal justice practitioners and those working in other fields so that - as a whole - we benefit from distinct yet complementary perspectives.

The aim is to ensure that justice and the justice sector remain relevant in the contemporary era of technological disruption. Under the new agenda, TIJ strives to create, nurture, and expand the 'justice-minded networks' in society. We believe these networks are the key to securing a sustainable and inclusive path towards a more innovative and people-centered solution to persisting criminal justice challenges.

The new chapter for TIJ is upon us. We commit ourselves to the principles and values of justice but remain open to new possibilities. We embark upon a journey where we embrace change and translate new ideas into actions and impactful solutions.

JUSTICE IS EVER



A large flock of birds is silhouetted against a bright, hazy sunset sky. The birds are scattered across the frame, with a particularly large bird in the upper center. The overall atmosphere is warm and hopeful. The text 'YONE'S MATTER' is prominently displayed in the upper left quadrant.

YONE'S MATTER



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