Thailand Population

- 0-14 yrs: 17%
- 15-29 yrs: 20%
- 30-44 yrs: 22%
- 45-49 yrs: 22%
- 50-74 yrs: 12%
- 75+ yrs: 7%

Reference: http://stat.dopa.go.th/

Why Youth?

**Powerful Voice**
Given their demographic weight and their role in defining both the present and the future of Thailand, youth need to be listened to, understood and included in all development work.

**Positive Change Agent**
With stronger abilities and capacities, Thai youth are also highly connected and committed to making Thailand’s future better. They can and should therefore be proactively engaged and further empowered to contribute to the development of the country.

**Sustained Impact**
Being more aware, exposed and engaged, Thai youth can become more active citizens and actors of the country's development.
Thailand’s Commitment towards Youth

National Policy Framework that includes youth

- The 20-Year National Strategy (2018-2037)
- The 12th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2017-2021)
- The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security’s Five-Year Strategic Plan (2017-2021)
- The Department of Child and Youth Strategy Strategic Plan No.1 (2017-2021)

National Child and Youth Policies

- The National Child and Youth Development Promotion Act 2007
- The 2nd National Child and Youth Development Promotion Act 2018
- The 2nd National Child and Youth Development Plan 2017-2021 (Integrated with the Implementation Plan)
UNDP Thailand Youth Strategy

Youth Target: 15-30 years old

Civic Engagement
Increasing youth participation for sustainable development through civic engagement. UNDP creates platforms to connect youth with government and other partners to ensure their voices are heard and support their contribution to development.

Example of our work
Thailand Youth Voice for Biodiversity
https://www.facebook.com/ThailandYouthBiodiversityNetwork/

Economic Empowerment
Ensuring sustainable livelihoods for youth through economic empowerment. UNDP strengthens youth capacities on entrepreneurship and innovation through public & private partnership to provide better economic opportunities.

Example of our work
Youth Co:Lab
https://www.youthcolabthailand.org

Change Agent for SDGs
Engaging youth in the achievement of the SDGs. UNDP exposes youth to complex development issues and creates platforms for collaboration with local communities and connects them to global experiences.

Example of our work
Asia Pacific Youth Exchange
https://www.apyethailand.org
How does UNDP engage youth?

**Youth as a Beneficiary**
Youth benefit from UNDP activities as a target group. UNDP includes youth’s views, needs and aspirations in its work to ensure that their rights are protected and fulfilled and that development benefits them.

**Youth as a Contributor**
UNDP activities engage youth to take action on development issues that matter to them so they can directly contribute to the sustainable development of Thailand. UNDP supports with guidance and technical knowledge to ensure the success of the activities.

**Youth as an Initiator**
UNDP creates space for youth to explore how development issues affect their communities. By empowering them through conducive learning environments, UNDP enables youth to exchange knowledge, grow and lead their own initiatives.

**UNDP Approach**

01 **Mobilize**...resources and connect stakeholders to reduce obstacles and increase ability of youth to address issues of common interest.

02 **Engage**...with different youth groups and individuals; promoting inclusive and participatory approaches that leave no one behind.

03 **Empower**...through examples and role models; help them see possibilities and exercise their voice, provide them with skills development so that they become more confident and proud to develop and protect their community.

04 **Sustain**...the momentum of youth development through the establishment of local, national and global networks, linking youth to long-term sustainability goals.
REFERENCES:

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