

WALAILAK UNIVERSITY

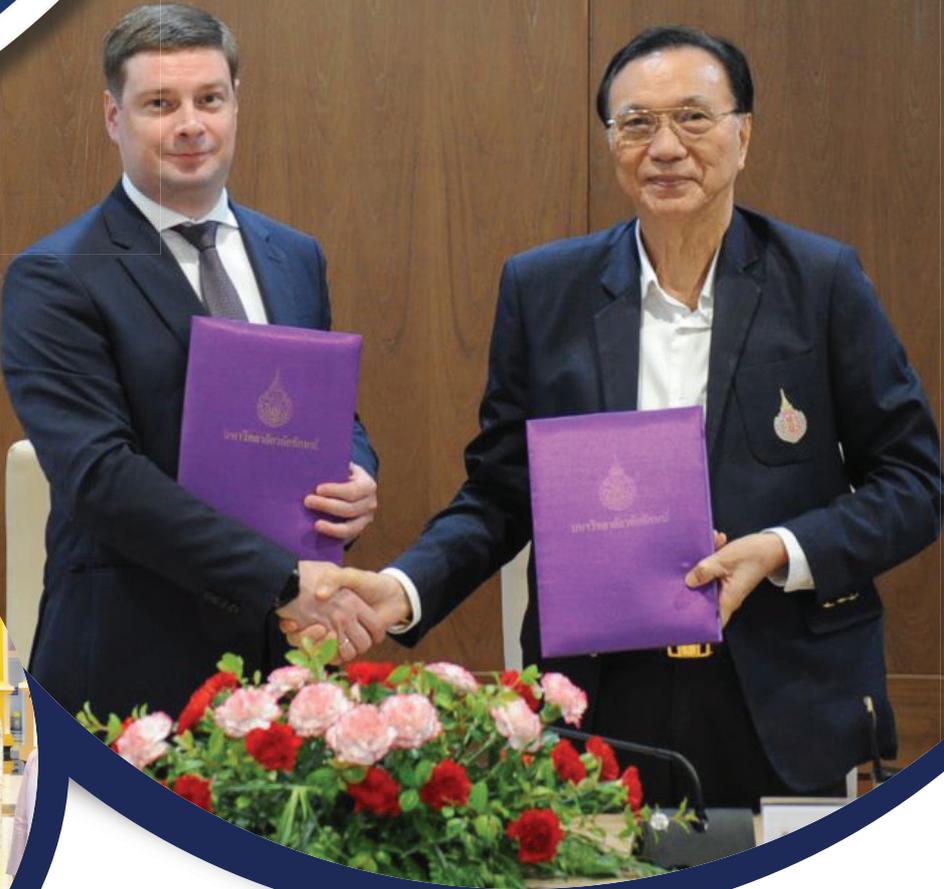


SDG

REPORT 2023-2024



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

# 17

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# WU Establishing Local and Regional Collaborations to Promote SDG 3



WALAILAK UNIVERSITY  
SDGs MOVE



In 2023, Walailak University (WU) signed a significant Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Nakhon Si Thammarat Provincial Administrative Organization and three Subdistrict Health Promotion Hospitals in Tha Sala District. This collaboration is a crucial step toward enhancing public health services, particularly in the area surrounding the university. The primary objective of the MOA is to foster cooperation that enables local residents to access a high-quality health service system more conveniently.



Aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3) – which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages – this initiative represents a proactive effort to establish a prototype of the primary health care network, known as the CUP Model, in Thailand. The model is designed to integrate services across different levels of healthcare, ensuring that the local population benefits from comprehensive and continuous care. This network, managed collaboratively by the Nakhon Si Thammarat Provincial Administrative Organization, Walailak University Hospital, and sub-district health promotion hospitals, aspires to create a sustainable and strong foundation for public health services.

Under this MOA, more than 10,000 residents utilizing the universal health insurance scheme in the Thai Buri and Hua Taphan Subdistricts have gained enhanced access to medical services. The collaboration has not

only improved the accessibility of healthcare but also elevated the quality of medical treatments provided in the region. This initiative is a testament to WU’s commitment to academic service with a strong community identity, striving to contribute meaningfully to the well-being of the people in a sustainable manner.

By addressing local health challenges and contributing to the global agenda of SDG 3, this partnership exemplifies how academic institutions can play a pivotal role in advancing public health and ensuring equitable access to healthcare services. Through such initiatives, WU continues to cement its reputation as a leader in academic service, with a focus on the betterment of society.





## Cross-Sectoral Dialogue on UNESCO-Recognized Nora's Preservation

Walailak University (WU), in collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, recently hosted a significant international cross-sectoral dialogue centered on the preservation of Nora Dance and the broader Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeast Asia. This event was organized to celebrate UNESCO's recognition of Nora Dance as a vital component of cultural heritage and to stimulate discussions on its conservation and future research opportunities.

The conference attracted a diverse group of experts and enthusiasts dedicated to cultural preservation. Among the distinguished speakers were Mr. Anant Narkkong, a lecturer from the Faculty of Music at Silpakorn University, Thailand; Dr. Patricia Hardwick from the Department of Music and Performing Arts at Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia; Dr. Kanit Sripaoraya from the Faculty of Creative Technology and Heritage at Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia; and Mr. Kriangdej Khamnarong, the head of the Nora Kriangdej Naon Rahong Group. These experts provided in-depth analyses of Nora Dance through a series of engaging talks and discussions.



The dialogue explored Nora Dance's cultural significance, the challenges faced in its preservation, and its evolving role in contemporary society. The participants discussed various cross-disciplinary studies, shedding light on the intricate dynamics of Nora Dance and its place within the larger context of Southeast Asian cultural traditions.

One of the key highlights of the event was a dedicated session aimed at promoting the conservation of Nora Dance among younger generations. This session emphasized the importance of cultural sustainability and outlined strategies to engage youth in preserving this traditional art form. The focus was on ensuring that Nora Dance remains a vibrant and integral part of cultural heritage for future generations.

Additionally, the conference provided a valuable platform for exploring potential research collaborations. Participants engaged in discussions about collaborative projects that could further contribute to the preservation of Nora Dance and other intangible cultural heritages in the region. The event underscored the necessity of cross-sectoral cooperation, involving academia, cultural institutions, and local communities, to safeguard these invaluable cultural treasures.

Overall, the international dialogue was a resounding success, highlighting the importance of collaborative efforts in the ongoing preservation and celebration of Southeast Asia's rich cultural heritage.





## The Dengue and Zika Prevention Campaign 2023: International Collaboration for Data Gathering of Mosquito Larvae



Addressing dengue and Zika is crucial due to their severe health risks and economic impacts. Dengue can be fatal, and Zika causes birth defects and neurological issues. Both strain healthcare systems and economies, requiring vector control, public education, and vaccine research.

Controlling these diseases is also essential for global health security, as international travel increases the risk of spread. Collaborative efforts are vital to enhance surveillance and implement effective strategies, protecting vulnerable populations and promoting a healthier world.

Thus, Walailak University (WU) led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krisanadej Jaroensutasinee, Head of the Center of Excellence for Ecoinformatics, and his team established an international collaboration to organize a workshop on dengue and zika prevention campaign. This workshop focused on training and pushing the communities in developing countries to be the driving forces of dengue and zika control and prevention in their own countries. There were 61 participants from 11 countries attending this workshop: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cook Islands, Ecuador, India, Moldova, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uzbekistan who were trained to utilize the GLOBE Observer App: Mosquito Habitat Mapper (MHM) App to gather data on mosquito larvae in their countries.

This App allows participants to identify disease-carrying mosquitoes, eliminate their breeding sites, and prevent future dengue and Zika outbreaks. Their mosquito data can be visualized in real-time online with an overlaid mapping function of other relevant parameters such as the GPS location of mosquito breeding sites, the amount of rainfall, air temperature, and relative humidity. This real-time visualization system would help participants to fully understand when and where their dengue and Zika control and prevention should take place.



## WU Establishing International Academic Partnerships with SPbU

In 2023, WU and Saint Petersburg State University (SPbU) established a strategic partnership to advance academic collaboration and support the UN's SDGs. This alliance was marked by the opening of an SPbU representative office at WU, highlighting their mutual dedication to sustainable development through global partnerships.

The collaboration seeks to strengthen the means of implementation and rejuvenate global partnerships for sustainable development. By pooling their academic and cultural resources, WU and SPbU aim to tackle global challenges more effectively. The initiative includes organizing joint academic events such as conferences, seminars, and public lectures, providing platforms for scholars, students, and practitioners to exchange ideas on critical global issues. Beyond academics, the partnership also emphasizes cultural and intercultural activities, fostering mutual understanding and respect between diverse cultures. By promoting language learning and cultural exchanges, WU and SPbU contribute to building inclusive and peaceful societies. These activities also enhance awareness of the educational programs and research at both institutions, extending their global influence.

Aligned with SDG 17's focus on multi-stakeholder partnerships, the WU-SPbU collaboration underscores the importance of international cooperation and capacity building. Through this partnership, WU and SPbU make significant progress toward achieving the SDGs by fostering academic collaboration, cultural exchange, and global engagement.

