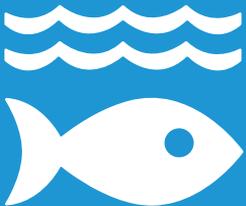




# SDG REPORT 2024-2025

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# SDG 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



- 1** COLLABORATION FOR THE SOUTHERN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT
- 2** CROSS-SECTORAL DIALOGUE ON THE ROLES OF UNIVERSITIES IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE
- 3** INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE
- 4** INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION WITH CENTRAL ASIAN UNIVERSITIES ON SDGs



**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



# STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## NUMBER OF COURSES FULLY ALIGNED WITH THE SDGs

NUMBER OF COURSES RELATED TO SDGs

**2,867**  
(100%)



NUMBER OF SPECIFIC COURSES ON SUSTAINABILITY



**29**

## NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



**130**

NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKING ON SDGs

**115**



## NUMBER OF NEW MOUs AND MOAs

NUMBER OF NEW MOUs AND MOAs

**36**



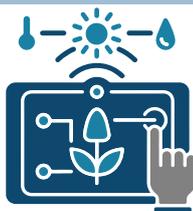
PERCENTAGE GROWTH IN MOU PARTNERS



**56.77%**

## OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE



SMART FARMING PRACTICES

SDG EDUCATION TO DISPLACED PEOPLE



DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL MEDIA ON THE SDGs



## COLLABORATION FOR THE SOUTHERN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT

Walailak University (WU) has established a collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation to develop the Southern Economic Corridor (SEC), a special economic zone located in the upper south of Thailand. The corridor encompasses four provinces: Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani, and Nakhon Si Thammarat.



In this partnership, WU researchers will work closely with the ministry and national government organizations to develop strategies and policies, identify key issues, and address challenges associated with the development of the Southern Economic Corridor. This includes modeling likely futures with or without interventions across various aspects such as the economy, environment, society, and others. The aim is to create comprehensive and sustainable development plans that will drive

economic growth while preserving the region's natural resources and cultural heritage.



Furthermore, WU researchers are encouraged to undertake additional studies focused on the corridor's development. These studies will provide valuable insights and data to support informed decision-making and policy formulation.

Additionally, WU is set to become the Regional Science Park in the upper south region, serving as a hub for research and innovation. This facility will support cutting-edge research across multiple disciplines and foster collaboration between academia, industry, and government. The Science Park will offer state-of-the-art laboratories, incubation centers for startups, and resources for technology transfer and commercialization. It aims to attract talent and investment, driving regional development and contributing to Thailand's broader economic and scientific advancements.

# CROSS-SECTORAL DIALOGUE ON THE ROLES OF UNIVERSITIES IN ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE



In 2024, WU hosted a cross-sectoral dialogue as part of the annual Walailak Research Convention, celebrating the university's 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. Held under the theme "Roles of Higher Education in a Turbulent World,". The convention, WRC2024, was dedicated to serving as a public forum for the presentation of academic research and the facilitation of knowledge exchange among a diverse array of participants, including researchers, local operational agencies, entrepreneurs, the general public, and students. The objective was to foster the advancement of research, catalyze innovation and technological development, and encourage the establishment of research networks both nationally and internationally.



The convention attracted participants from academia, government, NGOs, and the private sector, representing Thailand, the USA, Japan, New Zealand, Finland, Poland, Russia, Palestine, Malaysia, and South Korea. Conducted in a hybrid format, attendees had the flexibility to join either in person or online.

Distinguished keynote speakers included:

- Professor Chris Rudd OBE, Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of Campus, James Cook University Singapore.
- Associate Professor Dr. Patamawadee Pochanukul, Director of Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI).
- Associate Professor Dr. Pongpan Kaewtatip, Vice Director of TSRI.
- Mr. Sarin KC, Technical Advisor at the Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP).
- Dr. Surachai Sathitkunararat, Vice President of the National Higher Education Science Research and Innovation Policy Council (NXPO).



During the discussions, Associate Professor Dr. Patamawadee Pochanukul highlighted the vital role of transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research in advancing knowledge and equipping universities to develop a highly skilled workforce. She also emphasized the importance of lifelong learning in tackling societal challenges, including an aging population, declining youth enrollment, evolving educational attitudes, and the rise of digital and online learning.

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE



Developing countries always face various obstacles in tackling agriculture due to the lack of access to modern technology, limited financial resources, unpredictable climate conditions, and insufficient infrastructure. These challenges hinder productivity, reduce crop yields, and perpetuate cycles of poverty among farming communities.

The University, in partnership with the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), organized a training workshop titled “Climate Smart Agriculture: Smart Farming Practices.” This workshop aimed to establish a robust platform for international collaboration by gathering or measuring data for best practices and comparative approaches, and enhancing data gathering methods in climate-smart agriculture to tackle SDGs, especially SDG 2: Zero Hunger and SDG 13: Climate Action. The primary objective was to strengthen agricultural training programs to address the pressing challenges of climate change while promoting sustainable agricultural development globally.



The workshop brought together representatives from 20 diverse countries: Zambia, Kenya, Laos, Nigeria, Niger, Indonesia, Nepal, Qatar, Bhutan, Uganda, Mongolia, China, Zimbabwe, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Fiji, Serbia, Vietnam, Panama, and Kenya. This diverse representation highlighted the global commitment to developing resilient agricultural systems capable of withstanding the impacts of climate change. WU played a pivotal role by

sharing its extensive expertise and insights into climate-smart agricultural practices implemented in southern Thailand, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of effective strategies used in the region.

Each international partner was tasked with gathering detailed data specific to their countries, covering key areas such as:

- The general agricultural landscape and climatic conditions,
- Historical development and adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices,
- Existing laws, policies, and related regulatory frameworks,
- Current sector-specific challenges, obstacles and limitations and
- Future plans, projects, and programs aimed at advancing climate-smart agriculture.

The workshop sessions facilitated in-depth discussions and knowledge sharing, enabling participants to collectively identify and analyze best practices. These collaborative exchanges aimed to ensure that proven methodologies and innovative strategies could be adapted and implemented in various national contexts, fostering agricultural resilience and sustainability.

Following the workshop, participants left with a deeper understanding of climate-smart agriculture and practical solutions tailored to their respective countries. These insights are expected to form the basis for future research initiatives, policy development, and the implementation of improved agricultural practices, contributing to global efforts in combating climate change and ensuring food security.



# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION WITH CENTRAL ASIAN UNIVERSITIES ON SDGs

WU expands its international collaborations with leading higher education institutions in Central Asia, including those in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan. Partner institutions from the region include M. Auezov South Kazakhstan State University, Kyrgyz State Technical University, and Tajik National University.



The collaboration will focus on several key areas:

- **Joint Research Initiatives:** Concentrating on projects and research that align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to review comparative approaches and develop international best practices for tackling the SDGs,

- **Student and Staff Mobility Programs:** Facilitating the exchange of students and academic staff to enhance cross-cultural understanding, share knowledge, and improve academic and research skills. This will involve semester-long exchanges, dual degree programs, internships, and collaborative teaching initiatives,

- **Capacity Building:** Offering training and development programs to build the capacities of faculty and administrative staff of WU and those Central Asian universities,

- **Cultural Exchange Programs:** Promoting cultural exchange initiatives to foster mutual understanding and appreciation of diverse cultural heritage. This includes exchange programs focused on cultural immersion, arts and crafts,

language learning, and traditional practices, enhancing the cultural ties between the regions.



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This collaboration marks the beginning of a fruitful and constructive partnership aimed at addressing SDGs through innovative research, knowledge exchange, and cultural understanding. By leveraging the strengths of both regions, this initiative will foster sustainable development, drive global solutions, and create lasting academic and societal impacts.