

**Leadership Roundtable 1:  
Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) for SDGs  
at the 11<sup>th</sup> Global South-South Development Expo 2022 (GSSD Expo 2022)  
12 September 2022  
United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand**

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| <p><b><u>Panelists</u></b></p> <p><b>(1) Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) in Thailand</b></p> <p>Mrs. Kamolinee Suksriwong<br/>Executive Director of the Division of Study and Extension of the<br/>Royal Development Works</p> <p><b>(2) The SEP as the guiding principle and framework of<br/>Thailand's South-South and triangular cooperation</b></p> <p>Mrs. Ureerat Chareontoh<br/>Director-General,<br/>Thailand International Cooperation Agency<br/>Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</p> <p><b>(3) The Sustainable Community Development Model based on<br/>the Application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)<br/>for OGOP villages in Bhutan</b></p> <p>Associate Professor Dr. Watcharapong Wattanakul,<br/>Vice President for Research and International Affairs, Chiangmai Rajabhat<br/>University</p> <p><b>(4) The SDGs Partnership in Action: Bhutan Experience</b></p> <p>Dasho Karma Tenzin<br/>Deputy Chamberlain<br/>Queen's Project Office, Bhutan</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ms. Cataleya Phatoomros<br/>Director, Development Affairs Division<br/>Department of International Organizations<br/>Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand</p> | ESCAP hall |
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## Concept Note



### Context

Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) was introduced in 1974 by His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej. SEP is an approach for sustainable development which espouses moderation, reasonableness and prudence as development framework based on knowledge and virtue. The Philosophy attaches great importance to human development at all levels and emphasizes the need to strengthen community's capacity to ensure a balanced way of life and resilience, with full respect for the environment.

SEP shares ultimate common principles and objectives with SDGs, seeking to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality as a means to achieve sustainable development, and strike the right mindset towards the balance among three dimensions of sustainable development.

The concept of SEP aligns with many goals and targets across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, some of the more prominent applications of the SEP in our sustainable development endeavor include poverty eradication, food security, sustainable economic growth, sustainable industrialization and sustainable consumption and production. As an approach and mindset framework, SEP can be applied with all 17 SDGs and therefore could support and complement the successful implementation and realization of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

Since the early 2000s, Thailand has applied the SEP as the guiding principle and framework of our international development cooperation with partners throughout the world. The SEP was also endorsed by the United Nations as an alternative approach towards the achievement of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Over the recent years, Thailand has been able to share with international community the application of SEP, our home-grown approach to sustainable development. A number of bilateral and trilateral "SEP for SDGs" partnership programmes has been fostered especially with developing countries. One of the notable partnership programme is the one with Bhutan.

To support Bhutan in its efforts to tackle the development issues – poverty reduction, self-reliance, enhancement of rural income and employment – reflected in the Bhutan 2020: A vision for peace, prosperity and happiness, Thailand, through the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), proposed two models: the Resource-based Market Promotion Model, which was mutually agreed and became the basis of the One Gewog One Product (OGOP) Model I Project (2016–2019); and the Tourism Attraction-based Market Promotion Model, which was later developed and called the 'Sustainable Community Development Model based on the Application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) for OGOP villages in Bhutan', or the OGOP Model II Project (2019–2022). Built on Thailand's best practices and tried solutions, the Project under the Queen's Project Office's leadership was deliberately studied by both sides and hence tailored to meet specificities required by the Bhutanese context.

The OGOP Model Projects are implemented with the overall goal to improve the livelihoods and increase the incomes of Bhutanese rural communities, and its purpose was to develop quality,

local productions for the local and international market, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 (No poverty) and SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth).

**Objectives:** The panel discussion will facilitate an exchange of views on the concept of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs. The panel will discuss and share concrete experiences on the application of SEP in developing countries in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation.

**Topics:**

- Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) in Thailand.
- The SEP as the guiding principle and framework of Thailand's South-South and triangular cooperation.
- The Sustainable Community Development Model based on the Application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) for OGOP villages in Bhutan.
- The SDGs Partnership in Action: Bhutan Experience.

**Format:** The duration of the panel discussion will be limited to two hours. Interpretation will be provided in the six United Nations official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and Thai.

**Expected outcomes and output:**

The panel discussion will enable participants to

- Develop a better understanding of the concept of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and its relationship with Sustainable Development Goal.
- Learn from shared examples of the implementation of the SEP in the context of South – South cooperation partnership programme.
- Reflect on the ways in which technical cooperation and capacity-building can meaningfully contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national level.

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## **Topic: Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) for SDGs**

### Panel Members



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Chiangmai Rajabhat University



**Dasho Karma Tenzin**

Deputy Chamberlain of Queen's Project Office (QPO), Bhutan



### **Moderator**

**Ms. Cataleya Phathomros**

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