

**Intervention by
H.E. Mr. Supark Prongthura
Ambassador and deputy-permanent representative of Thailand to the UN
at the Review of SDGs Implementation:
SDG17 – Strengthening the means of implementation
and the global partnership for sustainable development
Friday 13 July 2018, 14.30-16.30 hrs., Conference Room 4, UNHQ**

Madam moderator,

1. Thailand has been continuously strengthening the means of implementation for the SDGs both domestically and internationally.
2. At the national level, **the Government is working towards improving its tax collection capacity** which is indispensable for mobilising necessary public resources for development. In fiscal year 2017, nearly 90 per cent¹ of the development budget came from tax revenue, compared with around 75 per cent² in the previous year. **Efficiency and transparency of taxation and financial transactions are also crucial.** The government has therefore launched a National e-Payment programme to facilitate money transfer, card payments, as well as taxation and electronic documentations.
3. **Science, technology and innovation (STI)** form another important means of SDGs implementation. While the government is working towards **“Thailand 4.0”**, which is a value-based economy driven by innovation, ~~we also aim to increase national R&D expenditures from 0.6 per cent of GDP in 2015 to 1.5 per cent by 2021.~~ **Development projects** are now being implemented and focusing on **applicable, affordable and accessible STI**, for example, in satellite technology for water management and land use, disaster risk preparedness, smart farming and renewable energy, to name a few.

¹ 88.99 per cent

² 75.6 per cent

4. At the international level, **Thailand advocates South-South and Triangular cooperation for sustainable development** where we have been sharing our approach to development, namely, the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy or “SEP” under His Majesty the Late King. We are currently providing capacity building and technical training in 20 countries **through the “SEP for SDG Partnership Program”**. We are also expanding our cooperation in other countries to implement **the Sustainable Community Development Model** based on the application of SEP. Thailand also sees important role of **private sector, academia and youth** in South-South and Triangular cooperation in particular to provide innovative solutions and resources.
5. Last ~~but not least~~, we firmly believe that all sectors of a society must be meaningfully engaged in an inclusive partnership in order to leave no one behind. Therefore, in Thailand, civil societies and Government agencies have together established an **“Open-ended Working Group for SDGs”** to serve as a platform to work in close partnership and advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs from strengthen to strength.

Madam moderator,

6. Thailand sees the follow-up and review process by means of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) highly useful in keeping track of progress made and in identifying areas for further efforts and partnership. Thailand already presented our VNR last year, so this year we have updated the information of our progress. For those interested, you can find all the information in the QR code as display at the entrance of this room.
7. I thank you.

(446 words for 3 minutes with speed 147 words/min)