

Siam University

Sustainability Report 2018

Moving Towards Sustainable University



Date Reported: October 29, 2019



OVERVIEW

Siam University (SU), located in South-West Bangkok, is a fully accredited institution of higher education and is recognized as one of the leading private comprehensive universities in Thailand. It was originally established in 1965 as the first 3-year private engineering school. In 1973, the institution was upgraded to “Siam Technical College” with the authorization to grant degrees. On September 5, 1986, the college became “Siam Technical University”, a full-fledged higher educational institution. Three years later, the name was changed to the present “Siam University” to show its diversity in fields of study. Our first move towards internationalization started in 1995 when the international program was established to offer Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in International Business and International Hotel & Tourism, Service Industry Management.

Siam University (SU) comprises of 13 schools and colleges which offer a broad variety of undergraduate, graduate, and lifelong education programs in the fields of Health Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities including Liberal Arts and Science. The undergraduate schools include Business Administration, Communication Arts, Engineering, Law, Liberal Arts, Pharmacy, Medicine, Nursing, Superstar College and Science and the latest one is Public Health. The Graduate Program offers masters and doctoral degrees in Business Administration, Communication Arts, Engineering, Educational Administration and Leadership, Public Administration and Information Technology.

The main mission of the institution is to respond to the need of the country in providing quality education and producing graduates with academic excellence, high professional skills and sound ethical principles. SU promotes research, extended educational services, networking and cooperation with business and community, locally and globally.

Over five decades of steady growth and development, driven by a devotion to academic excellence, Siam University has contributed more than 80,000 graduates in various fields to Thailand’s national workforce as well as to other parts of the world. In fact, it has become the fifth largest private university with a student body containing over 15,000 students from countries around the world.



Siam University has only one campus setting in an urban area. Total campus area is around 64,000 m². Total area on the campus covered in forest vegetation is 8,000 m² (12.5% of total area) and total area on the campus covered in planted vegetation is 4,500 m² (7.03% of total area). Furthermore, total area on the campus for water sorption besides forest and planted vegetation is approximately 5,500 m² (8.59% of total area).

Table 1 Setting and Infrastructure of Siam University

Parameter	Indicative measure
Total main campus area (m ²)	64,000
Total main campus ground floor area of buildings (m ²)	14,406
Total main campus buildings area (m ²)	14,499.25
Total area on campus covered in forest (m ²)	8,000 (12.5%)
Total area on campus covered in planted vegetation (m ²)	4,500 (7.03%)
Total area on campus for water absorption besides forest and planted vegetation (m ²)	5,500 (8.59%)
The total open space area divided by total campus population (m ²)	4.92
The ratio of open space area towards total area (%)	77.49

VISION and MISSION

Siam University is revising our mission and vision. At present, the vision and mission proposed by the SU Strategy Working Group is as follows:

VISION: “Siam University shapes sustainable future with diversity of innovation”

MISSION:

1. Develop learners who have wisdom, modern professional skills, entrepreneurship.
2. Integrate of the body of knowledge leading to innovation.
3. Nurture learners and faculty members with the capacity to accept differences and use differences to be a creative power for success.
4. Affirm sustainable development as the most important goals in developing the faculty members, learners, and surrounding communities.
5. Utilize resources of the university in efficient manner with consideration of cost-effectiveness.



STRATEGIC PILLARS: The Three Pillars of Siam University

The three pillars; namely, “Employability”, “Diversity” and “Sustainability” has been recognized as the university’s core values.

Employability: Siam University aims to prepare our students for employment opportunities locally and internationally. Our mission is to give our students the best and assist them to attain an education at its peak under the slogan “Think Freely, Work Wisely”. The university has continuously working on creating an environment of practical education with different kind of modern technologies, where the students will know the differences in key concepts and theoretical meanings taught in their various lectures and establish a link between them. In addition, Siam University is one of the leading universities where Cooperative Education or Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is emphasized to ensure that the students will have a direct working experience with our industrial partners.



Diversity: Siam University values diversity. We nurture our learners to accept differences and can use differences to be a creative power for success. The students are exposed to truly multicultural learning experiences since the student bodies comprises of students from over 52 countries while many of our faculty members have been carefully selected among qualified scholars from Europe, North America, and Chinese. Our academic cooperation with 82 leading foreign universities and institutions offers unique possibilities for students and exchange faculties who wish to transfer from or to Siam University, or who wish to undertake research projects. Moreover, Siam University has a long record of recognition and collaboration with national and global bodies such as IAU, AUAP, GUNI, and SUN Thailand. The University is also a co-founder and initiator of Asia Cooperation Dialogue University Network (ACD-UN).



Sustainability: Siam University continuously promotes initiatives in the management system and activities for sustainable development. Under the policy, “Sustainable University, Sustainable District”, not only we give a special attention and concern in our campus but also the wellbeing of surrounding communities mainly in Phasi Charoen district which comprised of 54 communities in 7 sub-districts with approx. 130,000 residents. At present, our social engagement activities have expanded from this district to nearby communities. Our students and staff are encouraged to become change agents for environmental, economic and socio-cultural betterment of communities and society. Recently, we have revised our general education program to ensure that our students will have experiences in the late King Rama IX’s Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and the 17 SDGs. It could be stated that what we are striving for is a university to be a good exemplary of sustainable development.

In order to strengthen this mission, a “Center of Sustainability” was officially set up. With the belief that sustainability is an imperative mission, President of Siam University takes this office under his supervision and has appointed Vice Rector for Academic Development and Head of the Center of Sustainability to manage the office. Our activities are successfully organized with the cooperation of representatives from various faculties and colleges in the university. A working committee for sustainable university was appointed with members from various faculties and colleges. Moreover, it should be recognized that Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the new Director of SEAMEO-SEPS (SEAMEO Regional Centre for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for Sustainability) serve as advisors to the committee.



POLICIES



Sustainability Policy

“Sustainability” is one of the pillars of Siam University. We are moving towards a sustainable university under the policy “Sustainable University, Sustainable District”. According to this policy, our target groups include the 3 Ss – Students, Staff, Surrounding communities. Siam University’s sustainability strategies employ H.M. the late King Rama IX’s “Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)” and “Sustainable Development (SD)” (including 17SDGs) which lead to the following aims:

- To be a model for sustainable university which give a special attention and concern for both within our campus and the wellbeing of the surrounding communities and Thai society at large.
- To promote initiatives and continuous improvement in the management system and activities within the university for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sustainable development (SD).
- To encourage our students and staff to become change agents for the betterment of communities and society.

Academic, Research and Student Activities Policy

Siam University’s Academic Committee has committed to offer courses in SD and SD-related courses. To ensure that this policy is implemented in all faculties and colleges, in their meeting on July 6, 2018, the committee has set forth the policy that all the research projects, coursework, and student activities done by all faculty members, staff, and students of Siam University should identify the SDGs that they aim to work for.

Safety Policy

Siam University aims to become a learning organization for safety management system and implement the safety management system for all staff students, and communities surrounding. Safety policy, safety rule and safety best practice information shall be promoted and distributed to all students, staff and adjunct staff who work for SU.

We are committed to develop:

- Safety management system which comply to national safety standard and Safety Act and implement to all in our university and make them ensure for security, safety and health in workplace with safety audit and continual improvement.
- Hazardous waste treatment or disposal system within SU to use fewer toxic chemicals in all activities
- Decrease on hazardous waste usage to ensure safety for all in SU and communities surrounding.
- Safety in workplace for all staff and students by integrating safety in workplace to all activities.

Waste Management Policy

Siam University is committed to develop waste management system for both municipal solid waste and hazardous waste in standard practices and meet regulations. Students and staffs shall be encouraged to reduce reuse recycle and proper management on treatment and disposal. We are committed that:

- Solid waste and hazardous waste shall be managed according to the waste hierarchy of reduction, reuse, and recycle, treatment and responsible disposal.
- Products that can be reused, or recycled shall be encouraged.
- Efficient use of equipment, materials or chemicals shall be promoted.

“Green and Clean Campus” Policy

“No Plastic and Polystyrene”

Siam University is committed to develop a “Green and Clean Campus”. Safety and healthy space within the university shall be promoted for a better quality of life for all students, faculty members, and staff. Our commitments are:

- No polystyrene containers for food used within all canteens, restaurants, coffee shops, food centers and minimarts in the university.
- Encourage to use biodegradable materials and containers for food usage in all canteens, restaurants, coffee shops, food centers and minimarts in the university.
- Encourage to use personal or reused /recycled food and drink packaging within the university.
- Foam usage reduction in exhibition and in university activities. “Reduction of paper usage within the university” Our commitments are
- Paper usage reduction by using two-sided printer and Electronic Office.
- Encourage to use Electronic meeting with paperless campaign.
- Encourage to use Electronic learning to reduce paper sheets and papers in teaching media.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENT: UI GreenMetric World University Rankings

In 2017, Siam University was ranked 168th in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings. It is our pride that this ranking indicated that we are the 7th among the 28 Thai universities which submitted their reports to be ranked by UI and 1st of the Thai private higher institutions. In 2018, Siam University was ranked as the 162th World's Most Sustainable University in the UI GreenMetric Ranking. Within Asia, SU was ranked 52th out of 306 universities. In Thailand, 32 universities sent their data to UI, SU was ranked 7th in the country.



MOVING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

Siam University firmly believe that sustainability (economic, social, environmental) is our responsibility. Each year we will review our plan and support initiatives that would help us achieve this goal. Some highlights in 2018 are as follows.

ENERGY and CLIMATE CHANGE

Solar Power

Siam University recognize the necessary to use alternative energy source for some time. Last year the initiative in solar power was launched. Solar cell lights were installed in some areas the campus. To continue this project, we provided more solar cell lights in various in other areas and pedestrian paths, including installing solar roof. The study plan indicated that the solar power can produce total electric capacity approximately 24,000 kW-h. We intend to increase our energy saving capacity by planning to install more solar cell lights in other areas in the campus, both indoor and outdoor. According to Siam Energy Annual Report 2018-2019, our electric bills in the year 2018 were 21,832,093.13 baht while the electric bills in the year 2019 were 21,167,594.3 baht. We have thus managed to reduce 3.04% reduction. This reduction was also due to other methods that we used to control the electricity usage of the lecture rooms, elevators, air conditioners replacement and solar lights installation along the pedestrian path within the university.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Healty Space Project

The Research Center for Community Development, Siam University has initiated many activities under their Healthy Space Project. Since November 2018, there were 3 big “Green University” events; namely, “Eat & Pick: Smart Canteen - Green University”, “Big Cleaning Day”, and “Beautiful Alley”. Students, staff, and members in the participated communities have learnt about waste separation, as well as how to reduce, reuse and recycle waste from the canteen, single use plastic, and rubber tires.



Reduce The Use of Paper and Plastic in Campus: Less Paper Project

Dr. Pornchai Mongkonvanit, President of Siam University, has set policy to reduce the use of paper and single-use plastic. All staff and students are encouraged to bring their own bottles, glasses, and cloth-bags. We have promoted “Ecolife” application which was designed to reduce single-use plastic. The latest program this year, “Less Paper Project”, was initiated by the Office of the President to reduce paper in daily workplace. All administrators and faculty members are required to attend “Less Paper” workshop. Since March 2019, these programs have been used in all offices of the campus resulting in the reduction of paper usage to 75% of total usage.



Green Campus Project

At the faculty level, there are also some activities such as those of the Faculty of Pharmacy. The Faculty organized “Green Campus Project”. In this project, there was a campaign to use cloth bag at “Osodsala” – University pharmacy store, which was run by the Faculty. This campaign run not only in Siam University campus but we also sent these cloth bags to our partner hospital – Thonbuti hospital- to make a wider campaign. Moreover, the faculty members and students run a campus cleaning day.



WATER MANAGEMENT

Siam University take a responsible role in managing water in canals and ponds within and around the campus such as Klong Bang Jak and Klong Bang Luang. We work in cooperation with Phasi Chareon Municipal Office on water management activities for natural water resource.



In addition, Siam University, under the leadership of the Faculty of Nursing, has worked continuously on the “Water Conservation Project” in cooperation with Utokapat Foundation under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King for more than 2 years. Students and staff working in this project have experiment alternative solutions to treat garbage in Klong Bang Jak which flows along our campus. A “living” garbage trap was created to use in the canal.



In view of their achievement and the hard work of those involved, Siam University nominated this project to the 2019 annual student contest program of SUN Thailand (Sustainable University Network of Thailand) under the theme “Steps forward for Sustainable and Green University”. Almost 20 projects were sent to the committee. The presentation of our students, “Think Global, Work Local: From Seniors to Freshies”, was awarded consolation prize in the event.



TRANSPORTATION

Siam University is concerned about carbon footprint and supports zero emission vehicles such as bicycle and electric cars. Members of the university are encouraged to use mass communication which is very convenient for we are close to the main road and the newly operated blue-line sky train, which is only two kilometers from the campus. However, many outsiders often use our campus as a short-cut or parking space which increases the air pollution, especially this year when we have the PM 2.5 problem. The university reviewed this problem and decided to add another barrier gate in our car park system with the hope that it will reduce number of cars and motorcycles in the campus.



EDUCATION and LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Siam University has set a policy that courseworks, research projects, student activities, and community engagement should be related to 17 SDGs. Besides the revision of our general education program to add more SD and SD-related courses, we encourage service learning, project-based and community-based learning in all classes. For instance, students in the class of “SEP for SD” and “Community Explorer and Service Learning” participated in the “Healthy Space -Beautiful Alley” project of the Research Center for Community Development. On October 17, 2018, the center organized a project with Thai Military Bank (TMB) has organized a workshop in Lertsuksom community to teach them how to make products from pandan leaves which are their local plant with the hope to help them more sustainable in terms of economic. The participants also learnt about packaging, household accounting, and marketing.



Student Sustainability Activities

Student organizations and student clubs of Siam University have continuously worked on projects related to sustainability, either social, economic or environment. For instance, on July 29, 2019, Siam University and Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand or EGAT bring a group of students to Wat PaiJorakae School, Nakorn Pratom to do their volunteer work.



<https://siam.edu/th/egat-csr-camp-26-29july-2019/>

On September 21, 2019, Siam University staff and students organize a voluntary work relating to the preparation of “compost” in Sri Pradu Community, Phasi Chareon District, near the university.



It is also noteworthy to point out that this year the Student Organization of Siam University has been elected as the leader of the “8 Institutions Student Network”. The network composes of Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Huachiew Chalermprakiet University, King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok, Rajamangala University of Technology Phra Nakhon, Civil Aviation Training Center, Merchant Marine Training Centre, Siam University, and Srisavarindhira Thai Red Cross Institute of Nursing. Members of the network have signed a Minute of Understanding on January 24, 2019.



<https://siam.edu/th/8-student-networks-24jan-2019/>

Many activities related to sustainability have been implemented. For example, the students learn about the late King Rama IX's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy in Chachoengsao during July 20-21, 2019.



The Network also set a plan to implement the “Learning and Caring Society Project 2018-2019”. On July 19, 2019, Siam University Student Organization took a lead to bring the members to the Learning Center of Samut Sakhon to work on conservation of mangrove forest and community service.



<https://siam.edu/th/siamu-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs-july2019/>

Awareness Raising Campaign

Siam University has many initiatives to raise awareness on SDGs. On December 2, 2018, the university invited young Thai superstars to talk to the students and asked them to be presenters of SU cloth bags.



Moreover, SDGs was promoted in another three events of Siam University; namely, Founder Memorial Day (August 15, 2019), Orientation Day (August 18, 2019), and Freshy Sport Day (September 7, 2019)



Community Engagement Activities



Government Savings Bank - Siam University

“Youth for Community Development Plus Project”

Siam University has joined “Youth for Community Development Plus Project” supported by Government Savings Bank (GSB). After initial agreement in late 2018, a MoU was signed by both sides on April 11, 2019. Henceforth, 7 projects were initiated in 5 communities in Phasi Chareon, TalingChan, and Thonburi district which are all near Siam University.





Project participants in “SU-GSB Youth for Community Development Plus Project”

For more information please visit our facebook.

NETWORKING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

IAU HESD Cluster

Siam University takes an active role in national and international sustainability networks. Besides ACD (Asia Cooperation Dialogue) University Network in which Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University, was appointed Secretary-General and SUN Thailand, the President was also appointed by IAU (International Association of Universities) to be Chairperson of Higher Education for Sustainable Development Working Group. The 1st International Workshop IAU HESD Cluster members meet with Unesco country delegates during Monday 28 – Wednesday 30 January 2019. SU President attended IAU Education and Research Clusters on SDGs as the IAU Chair of HESD Committee and leading institution of SDG 11. This session was well attended by Leading Institutions Representatives and UNESCO national Delegates from over 12 countries working together for our shared future.



IAU at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University and Vice President of the IAU (International Association of Universities) attended High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. He also represented IAU in awarding International Green Gown Awards for those who have done outstanding work on sustainable development.



CoNGO Regional Committee in Asia-Pacific

The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CoNGO) convened the third annual meeting of the Regional Committee in Asia-Pacific (RCAP) at Siam University in Bangkok, Thailand from 29 to 30 May. With the theme of “The UN Sustainable Development Goals and Civil Society – National and Local Implementation and Follow-up,” CoNGO invited NGOs in the region to present and discuss substantive on-the-ground experiences in advocating and implementing the six SDGs up for review at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) this year.



The 2nd Conference and Brainstorming on SDGs

Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University and SU faculty members attended the 2nd Conference and Brainstorming on SDGs under the theme “Mobilizing STI for the SDGs : Partnerships for Sustainable Development” at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on November 2, 2018.



Bangwa Charter

Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University, participate in the Initial talk towards a People's Charter of Bangwa on September 20, 2019. This charter aims at sharing ideas among various community members to characterize the transformation of Phasichareon District to become living smart green transportation hub of Bangkok with intersection of BTS, MRT and Water Boat along historical Banglaung Water way. Siam University reconfirmed the commitment to the district by the idea of university as the living lab of the community for sustainable development.



Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting on Teacher Education for ESD

Okayama University and UNESCO Bangkok jointly organized the “Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of Teacher Education on ESD: Towards Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through Education” in Okayama on 27-29 November 2018. The meeting brought together people from the education sector from 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region who are involved in training of teachers and leaders in charge of implementing ESD. The participants worked on the development of “Development of Asia-Pacific Frameworks for Teacher Education Programme on ESD”, which will provide goals for teacher education for ESD. The frameworks as a new direction of ESD will be proposed at the coming “2019 Global Meeting of Teacher Education for ESD” in Okayama on 22-25 November 2019, which is a gateway to the GAP 2030 on ESD. Professor Emerita Dr. Chanita Rukspollmuang, Vice President of Siam University, was invited as a representative from Thailand.



IAU 2018 International Conference

Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University participated in the 2018 International Conference of IAU on the theme “Higher Education Partnerships for Societal Impact” during November 13-15, 2018 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At the same conference Professor Emerita Dr. Chanita Rukspolmuang, Vice President was invited to make a presentation on “Siam University Partnerships and Societal Impact: Living Values for Sustainable Partnerships and Societal Impact” at the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO)’s session at the IAU conference. Presenters in this session included David Lock, Secretary General, Magna Charta Observatory and Mohamed Loutfi, Council member, Magna Charta Observatory & President, The Knowledge Hub, International University Institution on Egypt.



The 16th AUAP General Conference

Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific (AUAP) and International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) co-organized the 1st AUAP and IFCU Joint International Conference, the 16th AUAP General Conference, "Developing the Sustainability of Higher Education Institutions in the Digital Era" during November 18-21, 2018 at Dusit Thani Pattaya Hotel, Pattaya, Thailand. Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University actively participated in this conference. On the second day, Professor Emerita Dr. Chanita Rukspolmuang, Vice President was invited to give a presentation on “Building University-Community Partnership to Promote “Sufficiency Culture” for Sustainable Development”.



The 5th International Workshop on UI GreenMetric World University Rankings

Siam University work on “Nurturing “SEP/SD Mindset” through General Education Program for Sustainable University” was selected to present a poster at the IWGM (International Workshop on GreenMetric World University Rankings) or the 5th International Workshop on UI GreenMetric World University Rankings at University College Cork, Ireland during April 14-16, 2019. In this workshop, Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University, appointed Professor Emerita Dr. Chanita Rukspollmuang, Vice President to present Siam University.



ISCN 2019 Sao Paulo

International Campus Sustainability Network (ISCN) has organized 2019 ISCN conference “Partnerships for Progress” during June 11-14, 2019 at the University of São Paulo (USP) in São Paulo, Brazil. The aim of this conference was to emphasize the power that collaborative partnerships can have in the role Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) play in progressing sustainable development. Through active participation and engagement, ISCN members and guests contributed to the sharing of knowledge, culture, models and methods to further advance our commitment to the development of sustainability. Siam University has played an active role in this conference for a few years. In this 2109 conference, Professor Emerita Dr. Chanita Rukspollmuang, Vice President, was invited as presenter on the topic “Redesigning Education for Sustainable University and District”.



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