Annual Report

SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Partnerships to Advance SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

1. Introduction

Thaksin University works with university units, communities, public agencies, businesses, and international partners to develop workforce skills and economic opportunities. Through teaching, research, technology transfer, and entrepreneurship support, these partnerships connect academic knowledge with community livelihoods and employers' needs.

2. Partnership Objectives

The partnerships aim to broaden access to education and work experience, strengthen community enterprises, turn research into useful products and services, and expand cooperation for inclusive economic development.

3. Collaboration within the University

3.1 Participating University Units

Internal cooperation links student support, digital learning, research, and business education. Participating units include Student Affairs at both campuses, the Institute of Learning Resources and Digital Technology (LeRT), the Centre for Creative Economy and Social Innovation, and the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (ECBA). Their work supports professional preparation, knowledge transfer, and opportunities for students facing financial constraints.

3.2 Joint Projects and Activities

Scholarships and work-study

In the first semester of Academic Year 2025, more than THB 2.44 million supported 340 students: 160 received non-repayable scholarships and 180 received work-study awards,

combining financial assistance with practical experience. The awards comprised THB 1 million in non-repayable scholarships and THB 1.44 million for work-study placements within university units.



Digital university development

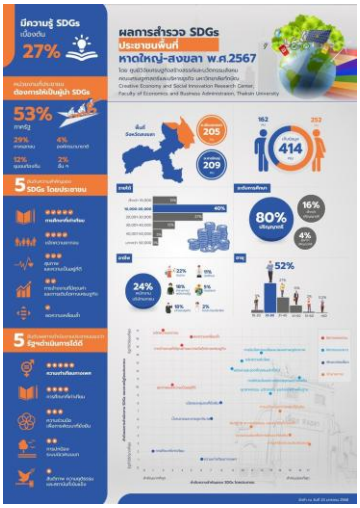
Improved information systems support flexible learning and access to knowledge for students and staff.



Public views on sustainable development

A 2024 survey of 414 residents in Hat Yai and Mueang Songkhla identified education, poverty, health, decent work, and inequality as leading development priorities. Respondents also

assessed government performance, rating gender equality, education, partnerships, terrestrial ecosystems, and strong institutions most highly.



Marketing knowledge for community producers

Marketing Innovation students shared photography and content creation skills to improve community products' online visibility and presentation.



Storytelling Canvas in Ko Taew

Marketing students worked with occupational groups at the Ko Taew elderly livelihood centre to communicate local product stories and develop practical creative marketing skills.



3.3 Outputs Outcomes and Impact

Scholarships and work-study opportunities help students continue their education and gain workplace experience. Digital learning expands access to knowledge, while community-based marketing activities develop practical student skills and create opportunities to improve local products and services. Longer-term effects on employment and income require follow-up.

3.4 Supporting Evidence

Scholarships and work-study opportunities supporting educational access [Source]

Digital university development with investment of more than THB 75 million [Source]

Public views on the SDGs in Hat Yai and Mueang Songkhla in 2024 [Source 1]

Marketing Innovation field seminar and community knowledge transfer [Source 1]

Storytelling Canvas for Ko Taew community products [Source 1]

4. Community and Local Partnerships

4.1 Community and Local Partners

The university works with provincial development and agricultural offices, local authorities, the Phatthalung Red Cross, community enterprises, and occupational groups, especially in

Phatthalung and Songkhla. Partners include Samnak Kham and Ko Taew municipalities, Ban Klang Pak Phayun, Ban Wang Tong weaving enterprises, and herbal producer groups. Financial learning also involves the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) and Bank of Thailand (BOT).

4.2 Joint Projects Activities and Research

4.2.1 Research Projects

Glass catfish aquaculture

Researchers trained fisheries professionals and farm operators in breeding and rearing glass catfish, supporting commercial production and alternatives to wild collection.



4.2.2 Joint Initiatives with Partner Networks

Nineteenth Agricultural Fair

The fair promoted higher-value agriculture through technology, local knowledge, research exhibits, and product sales. Expected attendance of more than 100,000 was a projection.



Pak Phayun Festival

The festival on 3–4 May 2025 brought together local authorities and community networks for public learning, cultural activities, and a community market. Partners included local authorities and conservation networks, with support through the area-based Learning City research framework. [Source 1] [Source 2] [Source 3] [Source 4]



Social innovation support in southern Thailand

The programme covered seven provinces and focused on food, climate, and digital innovation. It targeted at least 10 innovations, with support of up to THB 300,000 per enterprise.



ECBA Social Innovation Pitching Camp

Students and Ko Taew community groups explored opportunities to improve local fisheries, food, and craft products through market-oriented innovation. Community learning covered small-scale fisheries, traditional snacks, Thai sweets, and crafts made from local materials.



Health and cultural tourism in Satun

The university and community enterprises developed a tourism route at Ban Wang Tong, linking local culture, well-being, crafts, and herbal products. More than 31 tourists participated. Participating enterprises showcased weaving, batik, and herbal products while sharing tourism management experience.



TSU Go Green workshops

Demonstrations of bags woven from banana-fibre cord encouraged creative resource use and explored livelihood opportunities from reused materials.



BOT Symposium 2025

Economics students learned about safer and more inclusive digital finance, financial risks, and economic policy through the Bank of Thailand's symposium.



4.2.3 Partnership Activities

Phatthalung Model poverty alleviation

Researchers and local partners discussed how to connect development plans and apply research to household needs through targeted poverty alleviation.



Phatthalung Red Cross Fair

University teams and local partners showcased research-based products, including processed foods, recycled materials, rubber products, and skincare, creating opportunities for public engagement and sales.

These product showcases connected university research with local partners and potential customers, supporting opportunities for community enterprise development.



Song Khlong Model for flood recovery

The university and local networks explored housing recovery, livelihood skills, and community preparedness after flooding. Proposed housing numbers and budgets were planning targets. Short-term proposals included around 20 raised prefabricated houses, approximately 3 × 5 metres and THB 60,000 each, developed by Prince of Songkla University's engineering faculty and industry partners. These were plans rather than completed outputs.



Samnak Kham Municipality cooperation

An MoU connected economics, logistics, sports tourism, and environmental development with practical student learning in a border trade area.



SET investment seminar

Economics students learned about securities investment and heard professional perspectives to strengthen financial knowledge and career preparation.



Cooperation with NIDA

ECBA and NIDA's School of Development Economics agreed to cooperate on research, outreach, academic networks, and graduate education.



Financial literacy with the Bank of Thailand

Discussions explored financial education for students and teachers, curriculum development, and community debt counselling.



Padang Municipality cooperation

ECBA developed links with the municipality to connect teaching, research, innovation, outreach, and cultural activities with community needs.



4.3 Outputs Outcomes and Impact

4.3.1 Research Projects

Glass catfish research and training provide a foundation for cultured production and potential access to ornamental fish markets in Europe and Asia. Intended benefits include reduced reliance on wild collection and more production opportunities for local businesses; conservation and income effects require monitoring.

4.3.2 Joint Initiatives with Partner Networks

The initiatives combine livelihood development with financial and investment learning to support community economic opportunities.

Product exhibitions, markets, tourism activities, and technology transfer created platforms for farmers and community enterprises to access knowledge and potential customers. These activities support product development and business skills, with longer-term income benefits requiring further assessment.

ECBA activities also developed entrepreneurial ideas, digital finance knowledge, and awareness of financial risks. Students gained practical learning opportunities, while community producers explored marketing and value creation based on local resources.

4.3.3 Partnership Activities

Meetings and MoUs strengthened connections among university units and external partners. They provide a basis for joint projects, shared resources, and applying research to local livelihoods and services.

4.4 Supporting Evidence

4.4.1 Research Projects

Glass catfish breeding technology for commercial production [Source]

4.4.2 Joint Initiatives with Partner Networks

Additional supporting evidence: Source

Pak Phayun Festival and community learning [Source]

Social innovation support mechanism for Lower Southern Thailand [Source]

ECBA Social Innovation Pitching Camp [Source]

Health and cultural tourism route at Ban Wang Tong Satun [Source]

Banana-fibre cord bag workshop at TSU Go Green Year 2 [Source]

Additional supporting evidence: Source

4.4.3 Partnership Activities

Partnerships for poverty eradication and human development [Source]

Research-based products at the Phatthalung Red Cross Fair 2025 [Source]

Song Khlong Model for post-flood community recovery [Source]

ECBA and Samnak Kham Municipality academic cooperation [Source]

Additional supporting evidence: Source

Additional supporting evidence: Source

Additional supporting evidence: Source

Additional supporting evidence: Source

5. National Partnerships

5.1 National Partners

National cooperation focuses on innovation ecosystems, research showcases, and formal university–enterprise partnerships. These links support workforce skills, professional experience, applied research, and opportunities to commercialise innovations.

Partners include logistics, recruitment, catering, agricultural, and other businesses; YEC networks; business administration faculties at four universities; the Office of the Vocational Education Commission; and hospital and nursing education networks. Their contributions connect educational resources, industry experience, clinical training, and research with workforce needs.

5.2 Joint Projects Activities and Research

5.2.1 Innovation and Workforce Development

Engineering and vocational education

The Faculty of Engineering and Office of the Vocational Education Commission agreed to support educational progression, shared resources, staff development, and engineering workforce skills.



Health workforce cooperation with Krabi Hospital

The partnership focused on medical education and health workforce development in response to regional needs.



Nursing education and hospital networks

The Faculty of Nursing met hospital and university partners to discuss teaching cooperation and clinical placements for nursing students. Discussions included clinical placements and cooperation with hospitals in Phatthalung, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Trang, and Songkhla.



Student entrepreneurship ecosystem

The university supports entrepreneurship learning, technology transfer, incubation, and staff coaching. A student social innovation and entrepreneurship fund was established in 2022.



5.2.2 National Research and Innovation Showcases

Thailand Rice Fest 2025

Researchers and partners showcased Phatthalung's coastal rice and research-based approaches to adding value to local agricultural products.



Fight and Win Poverty forum

The Phatthalung Model shared research and product development approaches, connecting local resources with standards, innovation, and wider markets.



Southern Innovation Fair 2025

The event exhibited more than 500 research and invention outputs and provided national and international platforms for knowledge exchange and research applications.



5.2.3 Developing Cooperation through MoUs

Enterprise linkage with Smile Republic

Discussions explored workplace learning and cooperative education opportunities to connect student knowledge with business practice.



Cooperation with Mawin Transglobal

ECBA explored skills development and systematic coaching to prepare students for logistics careers.



Cooperation with JOB BKK

Discussions focused on practical learning and links with employers to develop skills relevant to modern business needs.



Cooperation with Contrack Catering Thailand

ECBA discussed opportunities for joint teaching, research, outreach, and future workforce skills.



MoU with V-Serve Group

The agreement linked logistics industry expertise with curriculum development, training, research, and student career preparation.



Business administration university network

ECBA and four universities signed an MoU supporting staff development, educational resources, research, and knowledge exchange.



TSU MuSE and four YEC networks

A launch event and MoU linked higher education and young entrepreneurs to strengthen local businesses and economic connections across southern Thailand.



Agricultural technology enterprise partnerships

The Faculty of Technology and Community Development worked with businesses on visits, internships, cooperative education, product development, and student research and entrepreneurial skills.



5.3 Outputs Outcomes and Impact

National partnerships produced cooperation agreements, training and placement opportunities, innovation support, and platforms for presenting research and local products.

These activities connect curricula and professional preparation with employers' needs. They also give researchers and enterprises opportunities to exchange expertise and explore practical applications of technology and innovation.

The partnerships may support workforce productivity, local enterprise development, and employment opportunities. Sustained economic benefits should be assessed through follow-up evidence on participants, businesses, and research applications.

5.4 Supporting Evidence

5.4.1 Innovation and Workforce Development

Engineering education cooperation with vocational institutions [Source]

Health workforce and medical education cooperation with Krabi Hospital [Source]

Nursing education discussions with hospital and university partners [Source]

University innovation ecosystem supporting student entrepreneurship [Source]

5.4.2 National Research and Innovation Showcases

Phatthalung coastal rice at Thailand Rice Fest 2025 [Source]

Phatthalung Model at the Fight and Win Poverty forum [Source]

Southern Innovation Fair 2025 [Source]

5.4.3 Developing Cooperation through MoUs

ECBA and Smile Republic enterprise linkage discussions [Source]

ECBA and Mawin Transglobal academic cooperation discussions [Source]

ECBA and JOB BKK cooperation on practical learning and employment preparation [Source]

Additional supporting evidence: Source

Additional supporting evidence: Source

ECBA and four universities academic cooperation MoU [Source]

TSU MuSE and four YEC networks launch and MoU [Source]

Agricultural technology enterprise partnerships for student entrepreneurship [Source]

6. International Partnerships

6.1 International Partners

International cooperation connects local knowledge and resources with global expertise, technology, and innovation. Partners support academic exchange, entrepreneurship, research applications, and opportunities to bring international experience into local development.

Origgin Ventures Singapore and Y&Archer Republic of Korea

National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (Taiwan Tech)

Universiti Utara Malaysia

Institute of Science Tokyo

University of Kitakyushu

Chiba Institute of Technology

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)

Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP)

Universitas Syiah Kuala

Vocational institutions and universities in China

University partners contribute knowledge exchange and learning opportunities, while innovation companies help connect research with business development. Together, these networks support international perspectives on local enterprise and workforce development.

6.2 Joint Projects Activities and Research

TSU Discover Taiwan Startup Ecosystem

Cooperation with Taiwan Tech and incubation networks introduced students to international startup practice and innovation-based entrepreneurship.



INTELLOG 2025

The seminar on 14 October 2025 connected universities and industries from Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia, with opportunities for students to present business innovations.



Academic and research engagement in Japan

An international visit explored future exchanges, joint research, and cooperation with Japanese universities.



Penang business learning with USM

Students and academics exchanged management and entrepreneurship perspectives with Universiti Sains Malaysia's School of Management.



Modern Trade exchange with UUM

A second exchange under the MoU with Universiti Utara Malaysia supported practical learning and preparation for international employment.



Transnational vocational education dialogue

Meetings with institutions and government representatives from 14 Asian and African countries explored education–enterprise cooperation.



Asian innovation bridge

Cooperation with Origgin Ventures and Y&Archer supported innovation networks, alongside a collaboration and technology licence agreement with a Thai food company. The agreement involved Phitsanumonthon Food Products Co., Ltd., with the aim of applying university research commercially.



Technology startups with the University of Kitakyushu

Cooperation explored technology business incubation, holding-company links, and the development of research-based enterprises.





UniMAP engagement with older adults

Visiting students from Universiti Malaysia Perlis exchanged knowledge with older adults at Ko Taew's quality-of-life and occupational development centre.



Syiah Kuala student health workshop

Students from Universitas Syiah Kuala organised health checks and relaxation and stress-reduction exercises for older adults at Ko Taew Elderly School.

6.3 Outputs Outcomes and Impact

International exchanges, visits, seminars, and workshops strengthened learning networks among universities, businesses, and communities. Students and staff gained exposure to entrepreneurship, trade, innovation, and community engagement. These experiences provide a basis for future cooperation and skills development; their long-term contribution to business growth and employment requires further evidence.

6.4 Supporting Evidence

TSU Discover Taiwan Startup Ecosystem [Source]

INTELLOG 2025 university–industry seminar [Source]

International experience and academic cooperation in Japan [Source]

Penang business learning with Universiti Sains Malaysia [Source]

Second Modern Trade exchange with Universiti Utara Malaysia [Source]

Transnational vocational education dialogue [Source]

Asian innovation bridge and research commercialisation [Source]

UniMAP student engagement with older adults [Source]

Syiah Kuala student health and exercise workshop [Source]

Additional supporting evidence: Source