



Huachiew Chalermprakiet University

The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Integration of SDGs in

- ☐ Institutional governance/strategic level
- ☐ SDGs in research
- ☐ SDGs in campus operations
- ☐ SDGs in curriculum development
- ☒ SDGs in student engagement activities
- ☐ SDGs into community activities
- ☒ SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- ☒ Goal 1 - No poverty
- ☐ Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- ☒ Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- ☒ Goal 4 - Quality education
- ☒ Goal 5 - Gender equality
- ☐ Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- ☒ Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- ☐ Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- ☐ Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- ☒ Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- ☒ Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- ☐ Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- ☒ Goal 13 - Climate action
- ☐ Goal 14 - Life below water
- ☐ Goal 15 - Life on land
- ☒ Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- ☒ Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

International Freshmen Orientation: Bridging Gaps in Education

Huachiew Chalermprakiet University, a leading higher education institution that aims to address the needs of the society through its educational principle, "to pursue knowledge to serve society" and as a contingent measure to prevent the spread of COVID 19 as well as in concord with the long-term goal of the university to address the needs of its networks of higher education institutions in Asia, revised its orientation program for its incoming freshmen in terms of style and delivery, and content.

To promote strong partnerships among our overseas networks, we invite them to join and experience our orientation program (through Zoom) for incoming freshmen, so they become aware of our local practices not only in terms of pedagogy and academic activities but most especially we aimed at

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providing in-depth cultural awareness of local practices as well as how we inculcate SDG-related activities into our daily routines, so when mobility students and professors visit us, they feel more comfortable, convenient, and easily adapt to their new environment. They become aware of some of the SDG activities conducted/facilitated by our local students in close coordination with lecturers/professors and the local community. For instance, the left photo below depicts

As for the content, we presented not only the facilities that they will see and use, but also, we portrayed slices of a students' lives in the university from the first day university life until graduation, trying to depict potential issues, concerns, and challenges they may face and how these can be remedied.

BENEFITS

1. Stronger higher education institution international partnerships that is built on trust and nurtured with peace and camaraderie.
2. More effective student-led activities to achieve our SDG goals.
3. We are able to share our dedication to achieve the different SDGs and inspire our international partners to learn with us and start their own projects, big or small.

CHALLENGES:

1. For our SDG projects, we have chosen partners from countries with lower income, so have to find sources of budget. While some of our local partners are also keen at achieving their SDG goals, we need to find other sources.
2. In some of our projects, we lack experts in the field (e.g. experts to provide specific lectures or seminars on SDGs).

CONCLUSION:

The new international freshmen orientation activity was highly welcomed not only by our local students but most especially by our international higher education institution partners. Through this activity, we were able to inspire a number of our international partners to start their own versions of SDG projects and to connect to the world and be little ambassadors of quality education, peace, equality, sustainable communities, and friendly environment.

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Free white bicycles provided by the university to travel around the campus.



Reduced inequalities by prioritizing persons with disabilities



Posters at the back during the international student orientation presenting student-led activities (from L-R): (1) call to reduce global warming, (2) achieving sound health (well-being) especially during pandemic, (3) community partnership on total ban of alcoholic beverages within the vicinity of the university, (4) SDG16, (5) SDG17, (6) total ban of Styrofoam use, and (7) no-smoking within the university vicinity.