



2023 Thai UHC Journey Workshop: Social Participation in Health Decision-Making

November 27- December 1, 2023, 9.00-16.00 Hrs, Bangkok, Thailand

A. Background

The WHO constitution states that health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.¹ An important implication of this definition is that participatory health governance will lead to complete physical, mental and social well-being.

In 2021, WHO has launched the handbook on 'Voice, agency, empowerment – handbook on social participation for universal health coverage' which focus on social participation is an important means for governments to develop responsive health policies and programmes. It is at the heart of the inclusive governance needed for countries to take their individual paths towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) while ensuring that no one is left behind. On the other hand, the participation of people, communities and civil society in health decision-making processes can make policies and programmes more equitable, responsive and efficient, and help to foster trust that can improve service uptake.²

The principle of social participation was endorsed in multiple intergovernmental commitments at regional and global levels including SDG target 16.7, the Astana Declaration on Primary Health Care in 2018 and the Political Declaration of the UN High Level Meeting on UHC in 2019. At the WHO regional level, this includes South East Asia Regional Committee (RC) resolution SEA/RC75/C, the Eastern Mediterranean RC resolution on resilience (2022), and the Pan-American RC resolution CD59.R12 on resilience (2021). However, an implementation, especially participation in decision making level are challenges and requires more experience sharing and capacity building.

To create a platform for experience sharing and networking on social participation, five key health organizations of Thailand, composing of the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), National Health Security Office (NHSO), Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth), National Health Commission Office, Thailand (NHCO) and the International Health Policy Program (IHPP) in collaboration with the Enhancing Leadership on Global Health-Thailand Programme under the WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS-EnLIGHT) will organize an international workshop on **2023 Thai UHC Journey Workshop under the theme Social Participation in Health Decision-Making**, from November 27- December 1, 2023, 9.00-16.00 hrs, in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop aims at building capacity of countries to understand and realize importance of social participation in health decision making. Furthermore, the workshop expects the participants can apply the knowledge gained to make real actions based on their country contexts.

B. Objectives

1. To learn about institutionalizing social participation through sharing experiences between participants and from Thailand.
2. To recognize the global movement on social participation.
3. To build network on social participation movement especially in Asia countries

C. Application Guidelines

¹ <https://www.who.int/about/governance/constitution>

² <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240027794>

C.1 Application:

C.1.1 Application Form : Please complete the application form via this link

<https://en.nationalhealth.or.th/2023-thai-uhc-journey-workshop-social-participation-in-health-decision-making/>

C.1.2 Required Documents for the application:

1) A copy of your passport (JPG/PDF)

2) The approval letter from your organization signed by your supervisor (JPG/PDF)

*Supervisor: the head of the department/division of your organization

** Download the approval letter form by this link <https://en.nationalhealth.or.th/2023-thai-uhc-journey-workshop-social-participation-in-health-decision-making/>

*** All required documents please submit together with the application form shown in C.1.1

C.2 Participants Selection Criteria;

C.2.1 Working in fields of planning, participation, health systems, universal health coverage, health promotion

C.2.2 Working at a national level or a provincial/city level

C.2.3 Having experience on conducting participation such as public hearing, planning, health assembly, citizen jury, citizen dialogue, focus group discussion

C.2.4 Be able to fully participate in whole period of the workshop in Thailand

C.2.5 Sufficient command of spoken, written, and communicated in English

C.2.6 Age not over 45 years old

C.3 Important Dates;

C.3.1 September 22, 2023: Deadline for application submission

C.3.2 October 4, 2023 : Announcement of selected participants on the website and by e-mail

C.3.3 October 30, 2023 : Deadline for attendance confirmation

D. Logistic Information

D.1 Financial Requirement;

D.1.1 The host organizations will be responsible for: The Workshop expenses including meeting package (2 breaks and lunch) for the whole period of workshop.

D.1.2 The participants will responsibility for:

1) An airfare

2) Domestic transportation expense in your country and incurred within Thailand (back and forth to airport)

3) Other expenses incurred by travel preparations such as obtaining a passport, visa, health insurance and medical certificate

4) Hotel accommodation during the workshop period

5) Per-diem during the workshop period

D.2 Workshop Venue;

Best Western Chatuchak Hotel

18 Kamphaeng Phet Road, Chatuchak, 10900 Thailand

Tel: +66 26664695

Website: https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-chatuchak/best-western-chatuchak/propertyCode.99930.html

D.3 Visa

D.3.1 Visa requirement: Please find the visa requirement information from

<https://consular.mfa.go.th/th/index>. If you need to obtain a visa, please submit a paper and apply in a

nearest Royal Thai Embassy or a Royal Thai Consulate General. According to the Immigration Bureau of Thailand, Nationals of the following countries/ regions may enter and stay in Thailand for a maximum period of 30 days without a visa

D.3.2 Visa Exemption and Visa On Arrival to Thailand :

<https://image.mfa.go.th/mfa/0/zE6021nSnu/%E0%B9%80%E0%B8%AD%E0%B8%81%E0%B8%AA%E0%B8%B2%E0%B8%A3/VOA.pdf>)

D.4 Contact persons:

Miss Khanitta Saeiew at khanitta@nationalhealth.or.th;

Miss Oranit Orachai at oranit@nationalhealth.or.th

E. Tentative Workshop Program

Day 1: November 27, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Ceremony • Introduction of the workshop • Overview of health system and health landscape in Thailand • Overview of Social Participation in Thailand and Global
Day 2: November 28, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Framework/Legitimacy to support Social Participation • Regular participatory platforms at all levels
Day 3: November 29, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building for social participation • Financial Resource to support regular social participation • Monitoring and Using Data
Day 4: November 30, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field visit to host organizations
Day 5: December 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report back by participants • Closing Ceremony