



Peace, justice and strong institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

LAND CO-OPERATIVES

To ease the problem of landlessness which aggravates deforestation, the King endorses sustainable use of land through co-operatives so that the villagers can earn a living and preserve the forest at the same time. To solve longstanding land rights conflicts between forest dwellers and state authorities, the King also support the idea of giving the villagers the right to till the land in controversial forest areas, but without giving them individual legal ownership.

Royal Quote

*The law is meant to sustain peace,
not to compel the people. If the law is used
to compel people, that is dictatorship.
It then becomes a tool for the minority
to control the majority."*

– 27 June 1973

Throughout his reign, HM the King has been using royal speeches to sensitise public officials about the need to respect the true spirit of the law and to provide access to justice for all, particularly marginalised groups.

The royal messages do not only aim at personnel in the judiciary system, but also officials in different state agencies such as the military and forest authorities to remind them of their true missions and to foster respect for human rights and human dignity, which is essential for sustainable development.



Royal Speeches

For lawyers:

*"If the laws are applied according to their true intention,
they will remain sacred and efficient.
But if they are used against original intentions
or purposes, by contorting or bending to
a different purpose through ignorance,
bias or misguidance, or other dishonest reasons,
those laws will lose their sanctity, and even become
a huge danger and a threat to the people."*

– 19 July 1977

For forest officials:

*"The government earmarked the forests despite the fact
that there are already people living in them.
We employ the forest reserve law on the people
who live in the originally unreserved forests.
We just mark the maps and suddenly the forests become
reserved areas. That's rather odd."*

*"Legally speaking, these villagers are violating the law.
But in reality, who are the violators of the law?
It is those who marked the maps."*



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"The forest-dwelling people were there before the designation. They have human rights. It's the case of the government violating the people, not the people violating the law."

- 27 June 1973

For government officials:
"Governing is not oppression. Governing is to manage in a way that everybody lives without disturbing others but supporting one another instead. This requires proper governing."

- 26 August 1976

For military and police:
"The important thing is to gain trust of local people by offering help. Let them know that people in uniform are not bad guys, not the persons who oppress them, but are humans who understand the people's living conditions... Let them see that policemen and other officials are nice people and do not have any privileges; they are not the people's masters but the people's friends."

- 24 December 1970

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On inclusive development:

"Development must be carried out in accordance with both geographical and sociological landscapes. The sociological landscape is the people's thinking which cannot be forced to change. We should give advice instead of trying to alter their thoughts to suit our own."

- 13 June 1969

On democracy:

"I don't wish to see anybody succumb to anybody else. I am for democracy. But we must create genuine and appropriate democracy. Democracy without wisdom will turn into chaos. And that chaos will develop into anarchy. We must respect human dignity, the dignity of individuals. We should think of how to promote people's dignity."

- 15 December 1970



Partnerships for the goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development



HM the King's belief in teamwork and humility through his willingness to seek advice and assistance from others is evident in all projects he undertakes to serve the country. The King does not only encourage government officials to work as a team, he also shows by doing by seeking and fostering expertise from overseas to improve food security and public health in Thailand.

LIVING MUSEUMS

One of the biggest obstacles to sustainable development is the absence of shared goals and collaboration among state agencies.

When HM the King set up research and study development centres or so-called "living museums", he overcame this obstacle by using the venues as a laboratory for officials from different state agencies to work together as a team. Their shared reverence for the beloved monarch also helped them to willingly join forces to rehabilitate degraded environments, serve local communities and promote sustainable development.



Royal Quote

*"Nobody can do everything single-handedly...
All activities are inter-dependent;
they are all inter-related.
Therefore, everyone must be conscious of the
duties of others and assist one another."*

- 4 December 1990

HUB KAPONG CO-OPERATIVE

Hub Kapong is a village in Phetchaburi province where HM the King pioneered his rural development work in 1964. The landless farmers were not only given a plot of land to till, they were also provided with water supply, occupational training and organisational support through a co-operative set-up.

The government of Israel took part in the royal initiative by offering farming technology and training for Hub Kapong farmers. The collaboration showed HM the King's foresight and willingness to forge partnership with foreign countries and expert in order to work toward sustainable development and improve the livelihoods of the poor and landless.





TILAPIA BREEDING

HM the King used the Chitralada Palace to carry out many pilot projects to help farming communities. Among them is the breeding of Tilapia Nilotica or Nil fish. The breeding project started after His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, then Crown Prince Akihito, had presented the Japanese species of Pla Nil to HM the King in 1965. Thanks to HM the King's success in the Pla Nil breeding project, the fish has become a widely available source of protein for the whole country.

THE PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD

HM the King graciously allowed the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, to establish the Prince Mahidol Award in 1992 to commemorate the centenary of the birthday of Prince Mahidol of Songkla, the King's father and a dedicated medical doctor.

The award honours public health experts with outstanding contribution to the betterment of society. The annual Prince Mahidol Award conference also brings leading public leaders from around the world to Thailand to share their knowledge, experience, and recommendations with their Thai counterparts.

Awards presented to His Majesty the King in recognition for his work in the field of sustainable development



1. IAUP Peace Award, in recognition of His Majesty's dedication to higher education and promotion of peace in Southeast Asia presented by the International Association of University Presidents, Seoul, Korea, on 8 September 1986.
2. Gold Medal award for His Majesty's outstanding leadership in rural development presented by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) on 21 July 1987.
3. Philae Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's devotion to rural development and people's well-being, presented by UNESCO, Paris on 2 December 1991.
4. UNEP Gold Medal of Distinction, in recognition of long, dedicated, exemplary and eminent contributions to the improvement of the environment and nature conservation, presented by UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya on 4 November 1992.
5. Health-for-All Gold Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's outstanding contributions to achievement of the social goal of health for all by the year 2000, presented by WHO, Geneva on 24 November 1992.
6. Natura Pro Futura Medal for the conservation of biodiversity, presented by the International Society of Chemical Ecology (ISCE) on 26 January 1993.
7. International Merit Award, in recognition of His Majesty's contribution to the use of vetiver for soil conservation and environmental improvement, presented by the International Erosion Control Association on 25 February 1993.
8. Award of Recognition of technical and development accomplishment in the promotion of the vetiver technology international, presented by World Bank on 30 October 1993.
9. Award of appreciation, in recognition of His Majesty's outstanding contributions to drug control efforts in Thailand, presented by United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) on 12 December 1994.
10. Agricola Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's devotion to the well-being and happiness of all people in Thailand, particularly those who till the soil, tend the waters and nurture the forests, presented by FAO on 6 December 1995.
11. International Rice Award Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's passionate and personal interest in and devotion to the well-being of rice farmers and consumers, presented by International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) on 5 June 1996.
12. Partnering for World Health Award, in recognition of His Majesty's efforts to promote the prevention and cure of chest diseases in Thailand, presented by American College of Chest Physicians, on 13 November 1996.
13. Award of recognition of His Majesty's strong support for meteorology and operational hydrology, presented by World Meteorological Organization on 18 February 1997.
14. ICCIDD Gold Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's leadership, guidance and direction to the National IDD Control Project, presented by International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) on 25 June 1997.



15. Gold Medal Award, in recognition of His Majesty's long, invaluable contributions to global lung health, presented by the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) on 24 November 1998.
16. Lions Humanitarian Award, in recognition of His Majesty's passionate and personal interest in, and devotion to, improving the quality of life and well-being of the Thai people, especially in the areas of health and education, presented by the International Association of Lions Clubs on 3 March 1999.
17. Telefood Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's dedication to Thailand's agricultural development, with the aim of raising the farmers' standard of living and establishing food security, presented by FAO on 8 December 1999.
18. WHO Plaque, in recognition of His Majesty's unstinting and powerful moral leadership and example in public health, presented by WHO on 31 May 2000.
19. Merite de l'Invention, in recognition of His Majesty's outstanding services to the course of progress and His Majesty's assistance to the inventions, presented by the Belgian Chamber of Inventors on 5 June 2000.
20. The Berkeley Medal, in recognition of His Majesty's remarkable devotion to the people of Thailand and for the great contributions toward the political stability and economic vitality of the country, presented by the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A. on 2 November 2000.
21. 49th World Exhibition of Innovation, Research and New Technology presented by Organizing Committee of Brussels Eureka 2000, on 16 February 2001.
22. UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award (special citation) in recognition of His Majesty's outstanding contribution to sustaining habitats and improving the quality of the Thai people's lives, presented by United Nations Human Settlements Programme on 25 February 2004.
23. Golden Ear of Paddy, commemorating the outstanding leadership in Rural Development of His Majesty the King, presented by Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural, Credit Association Bangkok on 23 May 2005.
24. UNDP Human Development Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the global relevance of his call for a sufficiency approach to development, presented by United Nations Development Programme on 26 May 2006.
25. The first Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Medallion in recognition of His Majesty's outstanding humanitarian service in alleviating starvation and poverty, presented by the World Food Prize Foundation on 23 July 2007.

