



11 Indicators on Thai Health
and the Sustainable Development Goals

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The Post -2015 Development Agenda began upon completion of the monitoring and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). A new paradigm has emerged known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This began to be used as the important framework under the leadership of the United Nations at their consultation meeting with heads of state around the world. Working together with organizational representatives and numerous working groups resulted in determining the SDGs that consist of 17 goals on development as well as targets and indicators to monitor the progress, results and desired achievements by the year 2030 of 230 indicators.

All of the 17 Goals of the SDG are inter-related in the areas of social, economic and environmental development, which include also the aspect of management process in dealing with the issue. They cover various development agenda - that were seen as important gaps during the period of the MDGs - under the 5Ps principle of People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership. The SDGs place increased importance in participation and promoting cooperation of all stakeholders at all levels from the national to the global level. It emphasizes long term results and sustainable development through distribution of equality and justice to all groups of the population.



- SDG1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for sustainable development

For Thailand, a reference of data that reflects the baseline status that can be used to monitor the progress in achieving success according to the SDG framework of sustainable development is of vital importance. This Thai Health 2017 Report, thus, presents 11 indicators on Thai Health and the Sustainable Development Goals that focus mainly on the area of health in various dimensions, mostly under the SDG3. “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. Other health indicators presented in this report fall into other SDG targets as well.

In the area of maternal and child health, children under 5 years and maternal mortality in Thailand in general has already met the SDG targets. The challenging task however, is the inequality in health of mothers and children that exists between various population groups. Data collection and its reliability, especially on source of death statistics are still of varying quality and needs to be improved. In the area of HIV/AIDS, the situation has improved with a continuing trend of lower numbers of transmission. Similarly, Malaria shows a reduction in incidence while in Tuberculosis there still remains difficulty in accessing to treatment of people with the disease.

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), however, has become a major health problem that shows no significant improvement. Economic and social losses occur as a result of premature deaths and illness from NCDs which results in a high cost to the country. The same can be said for substance abuse including drug addiction and dangerous levels of alcohol consumption. Data show that Thailand has a lot of work to be done on various fronts, especially working to prevent and promote better access to treatment, care and therapy services.

Injuries and deaths from road and traffic accidents have been reported as one of the highest in the world. To overcome this, major challenge depends on the success of raising awareness on road safety and reducing risky behaviors of people, as well as higher and more appropriate investment in the development of rail transport so that all

people have access to this as an alternative and safer option.

Sexual and reproductive health as part of health development is another agenda item under the SDG3. For Thailand, the main population group of focus is adolescents and youth, especially in managing the challenge of unwanted pregnancies, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases. The impact on health from water contamination and pollution has also increased globally and Thailand is not exempted. This occurs partly as a consequence of development of a country and partly due to a lack of standards for management and appropriate controls. The promotion of access to clean water and safe sanitation services for all the people is necessary to counter this.

Thailand can be considered as a success story in achieving Universal Health Coverage (the UHC) where all Thais have rights to access needed health services and necessary medicines with the financial protection from major health care expenses. However, achieving sufficient sustainability, fairness and efficiency of the management process and system of the UHC, especially in health financing, is still an important goal to strive for. The same can be said for the distribution of health personnel that has continued to improve. However, there still exist inequities and large differences between regions and areas of the country. Efforts need to be undertaken to appropriately distribute human resources in health in both numbers and its quality.

In the last section, there is a discussion on the overall picture of the SDGs on health. Though some of Thailand’s indicators are better or meet the SDGs’ global targets, there are still many areas that the indicators, including those not under SDG3, such as the impact on health from disasters, unclean source of drinking water and interpersonal violence remain a problem and are far from the global target. It is the duty of all stakeholders and the people in general that must be aware of this challenge and work together to overcome it.



SDG 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Health targets to be achieved by 2030	Indicators
3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births) 3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.	3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations 3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 1,000 population. 3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population 3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population 3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases
3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease 3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.	3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders 3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol
3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.	3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries
3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs.	3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods 3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group
3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, quality, and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population) 3.8.2 Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health scheme per 1,000 population

Health targets to be achieved by 2030	Indicators
3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemical and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination.	3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services) 3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning
3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older
3.b Support research and development of vaccines and other drugs including health technology on communicable and non-communicable diseases that have an effect on health of the population in developing countries to enable greater access to essential medicines and vaccines at affordable prices according to the DOHA Declaration of TRIPS Agreement and Public Health.	3.b.1 Proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis 3.b.2 Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors
3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.	3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution
3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.	3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness

Source: The United Nations' Website: Official List of SDG Indicators

In addition to the health indicators under SDG3, there are also other goals of the SDGs that contain indicators related-to-health such as the prevalence of undernourishment, stunting, wasting and overweight among children (SDG2), violence against women and children (SDG5), access to clean and safe drinking water and sanitation services (SDG6), occupational and health disabilities (SDG8), deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster (SDG11 and 13) and death rates due to various categories of violence (SDG16).

This Thai Health 2017 Report attempt to present all the main indicators under SDG3 (where these indicators will be presented in the background color). However, due to the limitations of data, available source of information and definition used; some indicators are not presented in this report and some presented might be defined differently from the SDG indicator's official definition.

