

THAI-UK EDUCATION COLLABORATION

A 3-YEAR FRAMEWORK (2003-2006) FOR COLLABORATION SUPPORTED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION & THE BRITISH COUNCIL

1. **Introduction.** Thailand and the UK have a long history of mutually beneficial educational collaboration, involving many different organisations, institutions and individuals in both Kingdoms. This document sets out the agreed framework under which the Ministry of Education of the Royal Thai Government and the British Council will support and develop further educational collaboration.

2. **Principles of collaboration.** The two parties agree that Thai-UK educational collaboration within this Framework will be conducted according to the principles of :

- mutual respect for each country's educational traditions, expertise, policies, practice and wisdom
- open exchanges of information, experience and ideas
- win-win partnerships delivering mutual benefits to both countries
- joint resource mobilisation in support of agreed objectives and programmes
- shared ownership of the fruits of collaboration
- pro-active review of agreed priorities, objectives, programmes and activities

3. **Priority areas for collaboration.** The two parties have identified education reform and development priorities that are shared by Thailand and the UK, and accordingly agree that priority areas for educational collaboration under this Framework will include the following:

- Schools leadership (including curricula and programmes for the professional development and certification of school leaders and national/local educational administrators).
- English language teaching (including teacher training and professional development; curriculum development; textbook selection; teaching materials development; and innovative delivery models such as e-learning, supported open learning, and bilingual programmes).
- Information and communications technology (ICT) for effective teaching, learning, professional development and educational networking.

Further areas to be explored include:

- Creative student-centred learning in subjects including science, cultural studies, sports and good citizenship, examining the role of learning and where this take place (e.g. museums , sports etc) to support the development of after-school teaching and learning support programmes to enhance educational attainment.
- Professional networking between educational policymakers, administrators and practitioners in and between Thailand and the UK, to strengthen collaborative initiatives in the above and related areas.

- Schools links (electronic and person-to-person) involving students, teachers and leaders/administrators in and between both countries, to strengthen collaborative initiatives in the above and related areas.

4. Mechanisms of collaboration.

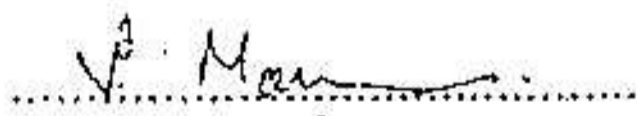
4.1 Planning. The two parties will agree in advance an annual programme of collaborative activities to be jointly implemented in each of the 3 years covered by this Framework. Each year's agreed Annual Programme will be formally incorporated within this Framework, and attached to it as an Appendix. Before the end of each year, the two parties will jointly review the effectiveness of the year's collaboration and in this light agree a further annual programme for the subsequent year.

4.2 Activities. The collaborative activities to be included in each year's Annual Programme will include but not be restricted to :

- exchanges of information
- visits by specialists and experts
- seminars
- workshops
- training courses
- student competitions
- exhibitions
- networking events
- joint reports and publications

5. Validity of this Framework for collaboration. This Framework for collaboration is valid for three years from the date of signature, and may be amended, renewed or extended by mutual agreement between the two parties at any time within that period.

Signed in Bangkok on 15 January, 2003/B.E. 2546 by the representatives of the two parties :

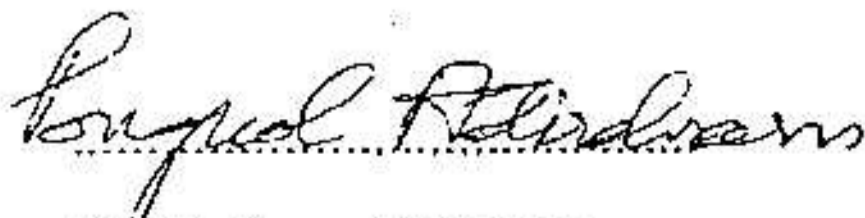


H.E. Dr Sirikom Maneerin
Deputy Minister for Education



Dr Bhaskar Chakravarti
Country Director, Thailand

in the presence of:



H.E. Mr Pongpol Adireksarn
Minister for Education



H.E. Mr Lloyd Barnaby Smith
British Ambassador to Thailand

APPENDIX I

PROPOSED PRIORITY AREAS FOR COLLABORATION IN 2003

Short-term priority areas (January 2003 onwards) :

1. English Language Teaching.

1.1 Joint review of ongoing activities including bilingual schools.

1.2 Advice on the assessment of textbooks and the development of Thai-orientated English textbooks.

1.3 Professional development for English teachers and supervisors.

1.4 English language development for teachers and senior administrators.

1.5 Creating a conducive environment for effective English language learning through student contests (with specific emphasis on the national Reading Skills Development contest in honour of the 40th birthday of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn).

2. Leadership for schools leaders, government administrators and local education district officials

2.1 Translation into English of the programme currently followed in Thailand's Institute for the Development of Educational Administrators (IDEA).

2.2 Consultancy visit (preferably by a senior specialist from the UK's National College of Schools Leadership) to review current programmes and draw up a time-based plan for a collaborative project to raise standards through e.g. curriculum development, trainer training.

2.3 Identification of Pilot Schools and districts for the introduction of innovative approaches to schools leadership, and the provision of agreed support measures to school leaders and administrators.

2.4 Leadership Seminar Series beginning with Strategy and Planning for Effective School Leadership in January 2003.

3. ICT (Information and Communications Technology)

3.1 Support for ICT implementation in the classroom inside mainstream day to day teaching, channelled through MontageTHAILAND.

3.2 Ongoing support for teacher development and training through ICT training workshops to support teachers in the use of web-based teaching techniques to complement mainstream teaching.

3.3 Support for the professional development of ICT officials inside the Ministry through administrative and organisation support for BETT 2004.

Medium-term areas for collaboration (June 2003 onwards)

4. Creative student-centred learning

4.1 Identification of longer term support programmes to establish creative learning mechanism through the involvement of museums and the development of sports and football programmes to complement classroom based learning.

4.2 The development of a pilot project to investigate the role of sports and football in enhancing educational attainment.

4.3 Science and DNA projects through the ATLAS centres.

4.4 MontageTHAILAND projects spanning agreed subject areas.

5. Professional networking

5.1 Ongoing support to Thai teachers of English through @ccessEnglish

5.2 The extension of the professional networking and support into other areas including School Leaders and subject-specific teachers e.g. teachers of arts, science and sports.

5.3 Brokering the exchange of UK and Thai school head visits and exchanges

6. Schools links

6.1 Fostering the development of 25 school links between Thai and UK schools through joint curriculum projects and/or student exchanges through the Thai-UK Teen Network

6.2 Fostering leadership exchanges between linked schools in Thailand and the UK

6.3 Fostering the role of youth links between Thailand and the UK via the Thai-UK Teen Network, through exchange programmes to complement classroom based initiatives

6.4 Fostering professional exchanges in both virtual and real environment between Thai and UK Teachers across a range of priority subject areas.