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Thailand and the Netherlands

Together towards a water secure tomorrow!

Foreword

On behalf of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Thailand

Together towards a water secure tomorrow!

ร่วมกันขับเคลื่อนสู่อนาคตที่มั่นคงด้านน้ำ

In an era of pressing global developments and the growing impacts of climate change, water plays a crucial role in tackling the challenges that lie ahead. Both Thailand and the Netherlands are located in vulnerable river deltas, and we have no choice but to adapt to rapidly changing conditions. To protect our countries and people from water-related risks and to ensure sustainable and strategic water resource management, global collaboration is essential. We therefore share a responsibility and strong interest in working together – across all levels of government and with all parts of society.

The Netherlands and Thailand not only have long-standing trade relations, but also a historic water connection that dates back over four centuries. More recently, we reaffirmed this partnership with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Water Cooperation in 2021. Since then, we have continued to strengthen our water dialogue among public, private, academic and community actors to further deepen collaboration. The 2023 Netherlands water trade mission to Thailand led to successful Water as Leverage Academy workshops, made possible with support from key Thai partners such as the Office of National Water Resources, the Royal Irrigation Department and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. Multiple bilateral visits and exchanges in recent years underscore the growing importance of our water cooperation.

I am confident that the Partners for International Business (PIB) program we launched this year will be a powerful platform to jointly explore innovative solutions to shared water challenges. The Dutch companies participating in the program bring a diverse range of expertise – from water engineering and proven technologies for water management, to delta resilience, decision-support tools, and satellite applications for smart agricultural water use.

I look forward to the exchange of ideas, new partnerships, and concrete results that this multi-year collaboration will generate. I am confident it will lead to even more meaningful and lasting cooperation on water between our countries.



Remco van Wijngaarden

Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Thailand

Thailand and the Netherlands: a forward-looking partnership in water

The partnership between Thailand and the Netherlands in the water sector represents a significant step towards resilience, innovation, and sustainable development. Anchored in the Partners for International Business (PIB) Greater Bangkok programme, this collaboration unites Thailand's ambition to tackle pressing water challenges, such as flood resilience, water scarcity, and inclusive, adaptive water management, with the globally recognised expertise of the Dutch water sector.

The PIB programme offers Thailand a structured, long-term opportunity to engage with a full consortium of Dutch companies operating under a joint Netherlands branding, supported by the Dutch government and Embassy. In addition, Thai stakeholders benefit from direct access to Dutch academic institutions and relevant public-sector organisations, fostering a holistic and impactful approach to shared water-related goals.





Strengthening Thailand's water resilience together

Thailand is actively addressing its interconnected water priorities. Rapid urbanisation, climate change, and rising demands on water resources are increasing the urgency to reduce flood risks, tackle water scarcity, and improve water governance, both in urban areas and at the catchment scale. The Greater Bangkok area, in particular, must address flood protection, inclusive water infrastructure, and smart planning to remain liveable and climate-resilient.

The Netherlands brings a unique combination of innovation, practical expertise, and adaptive thinking to support these efforts. With centuries of experience in living with water, the Dutch are recognised globally for their integrated, sustainable, and community-focused approaches to water challenges.

Thailand, too, has long lived with water. For centuries, canals played a vital role in Bangkok's identity, shaping daily life, trade, and mobility. While many of these waterways have since fallen into environmental pressures, there is real potential to revive this water-based culture. The Dutch experience shows what's possible: in Utrecht, a canal once buried beneath a motorway was recently restored, bringing back water, livability, and a renewed sense of place to the city's heart.

A shared vision for a water-secure future

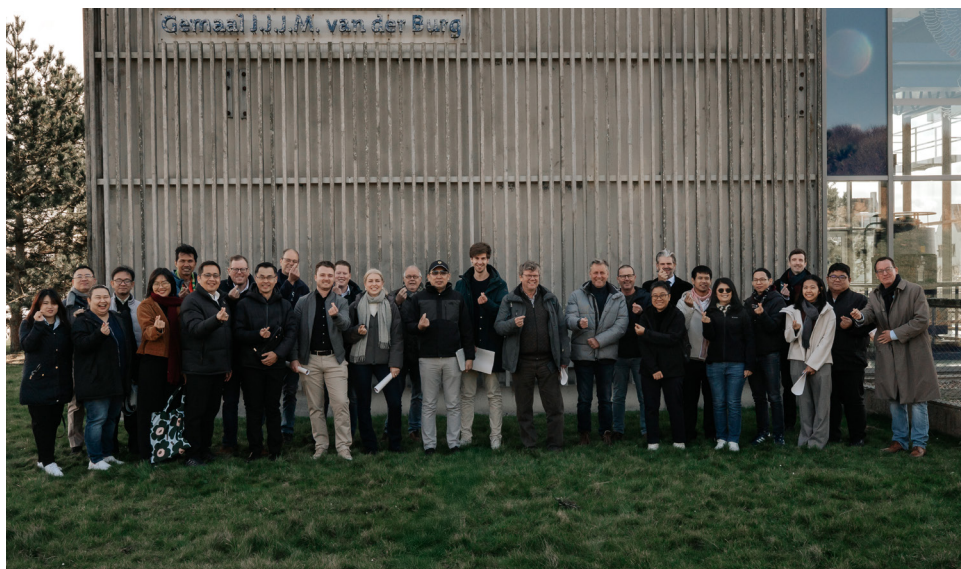
At the heart of this partnership is a shared belief: that water challenges are best addressed through collaboration, integration, and innovation. By combining Dutch experience with Thailand's local knowledge and ambitions, the PIB Greater Bangkok programme supports tangible, lasting progress on water-related goals, while fostering strong relationships between institutions, experts, and communities.

A vital part of this collaboration is the resilience and adaptability of the Thai people. The major flood in 2011, and the recurring floods each year since, have shaped communities that are not only highly adaptive, but deeply collaborative. While the challenges remain real and pressing, Thai communities have found new ways to live with water, support one another, and embrace innovation in the face of uncertainty. Their spirit brings invaluable strength to this partnership, offering lessons in resilience and community-driven approaches that the Dutch, too, can learn from.

Together, Thailand and the Netherlands are shaping a future where cities and regions are better prepared for climate extremes, where water resources support both people and ecosystems, and where infrastructure supports both people and nature.

This partnership is not just about solving today's problems, it's about designing tomorrow's solutions. Through open exchange, long-term collaboration, and a shared commitment to sustainability, Thailand and the Netherlands are building a resilient, inclusive water future together.

Together towards a water secure tomorrow!



Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The Dutch cluster for Greater Bangkok programme as part of the Partners for International Business (PIB) contributes to the achievement of the following sustainable development goals:



SDG2 | Zero hunger:

By improving water availability and efficient irrigation through Dutch-Thai cooperation, this partnership enhances sustainable agriculture and food security in Thailand. Innovative water management supports crop resilience amid climate change, ensuring reliable harvests and better livelihoods for farmers, thus contributing directly to ending hunger and promoting sustainable food systems.



SDG6 | Clean water and sanitation:

The collaboration advances integrated water management to reduce flood risks, improve water quality, and increase water access in urban and rural areas. Through shared expertise and adaptive planning, the partnership ensures inclusive, sustainable water governance, securing safe, clean water for all and fostering climate-resilient water systems.



SDG9 | Industry, innovation, and infrastructure:

inging together Dutch innovation and Thai local knowledge, the partnership co-creates smart, climate-proof water infrastructure and technologies. This collaboration promotes resilient industries and adaptive urban planning, enabling sustainable economic growth and strengthening the capacity for infrastructure development through knowledge exchange and cutting-edge solutions.



SDG11 | Sustainable cities and communities:

By integrating flood protection, inclusive water infrastructure, and nature-based solutions, the partnership helps make Greater Bangkok and other cities safer, greener, and more resilient. It supports liveable urban environments that adapt to climate change while preserving cultural heritage, fostering inclusive communities that thrive alongside water.



SDG12 | Responsible consumption and production

The partnership fosters sustainable water use through efficient irrigation, water reuse, and data-driven decision-making. It encourages circular approaches and responsible management of water resources, supporting Thailand's commitment to sustainable consumption patterns while reducing environmental impacts across water and related sectors.

Coordinator



The Netherlands-Thai Chamber of Commerce (NTCC), established in 1991, is a self-funded organisation representing Dutch business interests in Thailand. It facilitates trade, fosters partnerships, and promotes knowledge exchange between Dutch and Thai companies to strengthen bilateral commercial relations and cooperation.

www.ntccthailand.org

Consultancy to solutions and equipment providers



Haskoning is an independent international consultancy specialising in engineering, design, and technology. A global leader in water, they address climate change and water scarcity, working with utilities, governments, and industries worldwide through a team of 6,800 experts across 25+ countries.

www.haskoning.com



Delta Context B.V. is an independent Dutch consultancy specialising in resilient water management across deltas, coasts, and rivers. With over 30 years' expertise, it delivers integrated climate adaptation, flood risk management, and nature-based solutions, focusing on South and Southeast Asia, working with governments, development banks, and the private sector.

www.deltacontext.com



Defacto Urbanism is an award-winning Dutch landscape architecture and urban design firm specialising in climate-adaptive, integrated urban planning. Combining research with innovative design, they deliver nature-based solutions and flood risk strategies globally, working closely with diverse stakeholders to create resilient, liveable cities and landscapes in rapidly urbanising regions.

www.defactourbanism.com



MetaMeta, established in 2004, is a global private enterprise delivering socially impactful and commercially viable water and land management solutions. With expertise in irrigation, agro-ecology, and climate resilience, MetaMeta operates across Asia and Africa, focusing on sustainable, scalable approaches to water and natural resource challenges.

www.metameta.nl



Hydrosat

Hydrosat is a space and data analytics company developing an Earth observation constellation and software to provide unique high-resolution thermal infrared imagery. Their mission is to deliver valuable insights for environmental monitoring, food and water security, and other vital applications worldwide.

www.hydrosat.com



Technimex is a Dutch supplier of high-quality mechanical products for urban water, wastewater, and gas infrastructure. With all products manufactured in Europe to stringent standards, Technimex ensures reliable performance in municipal networks, treatment facilities, and industrial settings worldwide. Their made-to-order valves and fittings, backed by full certification, are trusted across Europe, the Middle East, and the USA for tailored engineering and consistent quality.

www.technimex.com



WaveSave B.V. is a Dutch leader in innovative flood protection and water management. Their WaveDam solution offers rapid deployment flood defence while capturing water as a resource, promoting sustainable, scalable technologies that enhance climate resilience, especially for vulnerable regions facing growing water challenges.

www.wavesave.com



Bosman Watermanagement B.V., founded in 1929, specialises in customised water management solutions, including pumping stations and wastewater systems. With nearly a century of expertise, Bosman has supported major projects in Thailand, delivering high-performance pumps and comprehensive services to enhance surface water and flood control infrastructure.

www.bosmanwater.nl



ROwat Water Control supplies durable penstocks, valves, and weirs for precise water management in wastewater treatment, pumping stations, and surface water systems. Using high-quality HDPE and low carbon stainless steel, ROwat ensures sustainable performance in demanding environments, including tropical marine and sewage treatment applications.

www.rowat-watercontrol.com

Let's team up for the future of water!

By working together, we can create a water secure tomorrow!

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