

# **Good Local Governance and Anti-corruption Through People's Participation: A Case of Thailand**

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# Topics

- **Decentralization and local governance**
- **Development and administrative problems**
- **Mobilizing people's participation**
- **Lessons learned and experiences**
- **Next steps**

# About Thailand and its Government

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
<b>Size:</b>	<b>About 517,000 square km.</b>
<b>Capital:</b>	<b>Bangkok</b>
<b>Admin. Areas:</b>	<b>75 Provinces and BMA 876 Districts and Sub-districts 7,255 Tambons 69,367 Villages</b>
<b>Population:</b>	<b>61,466,178 (30,874,576 females and 30,591,602 males)</b>

# About Thailand and its Government

**Local Gov.: 75 Provincial Administrative  
Organizations, PAO**

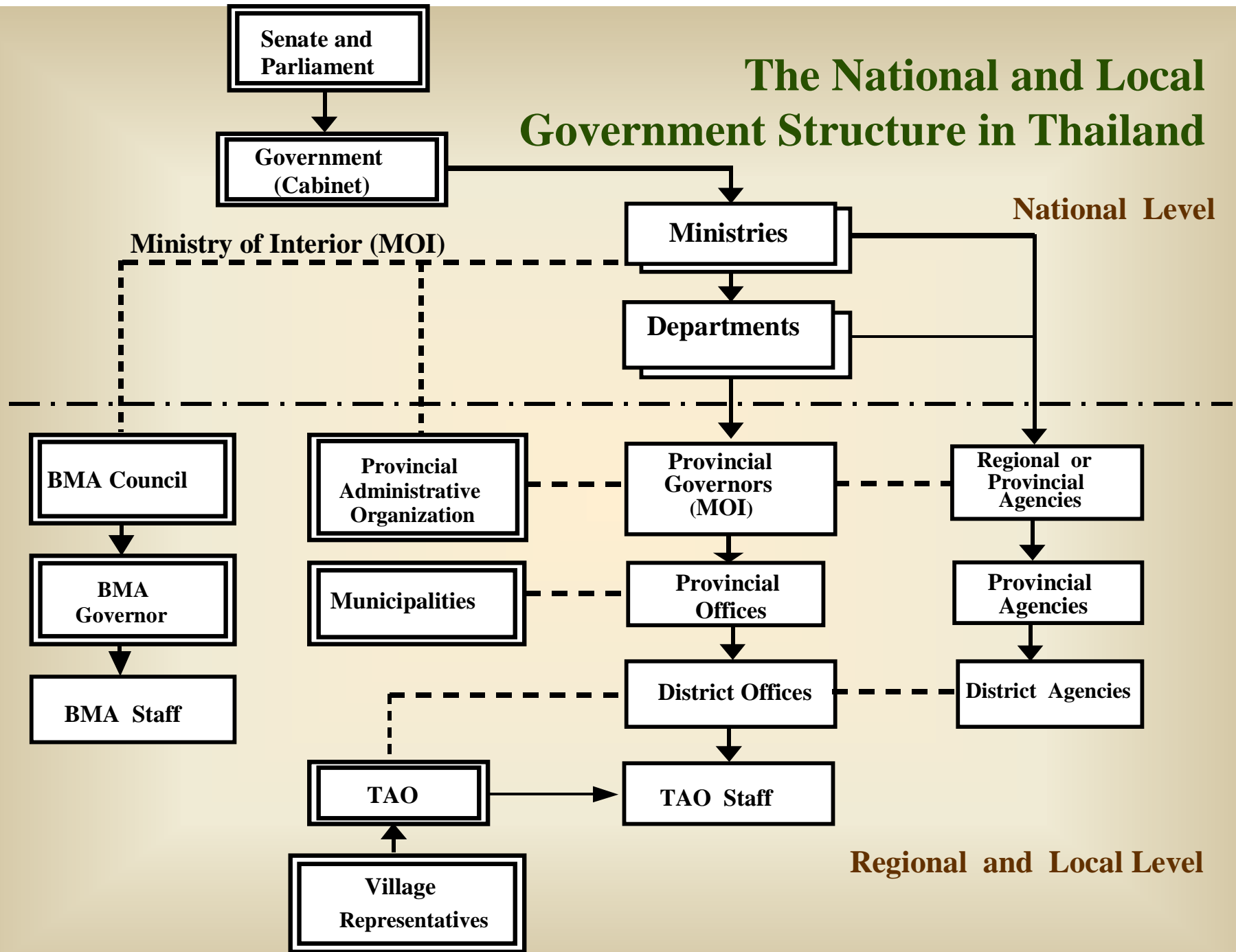
**1,129 municipalities (as of June 1, 1999)**

**2 special forms of Local Government  
(Bangkok Metropolitan  
Administration and Pattaya)**

**6,747 Tambon Administrative  
Organizations (as of March 2000)**

- **The Administrative Law of 1933**
  - **Central administration**
  - **Provincial administration**
  - **Local administration**
- **Establishment of Provincial and Tambon Councils (1953 and 1956)**
- **The 5th Plan (1982) and new rural development**
- **The Tambon Act 1994**

# The National and Local Government Structure in Thailand






# **New concept of local governance**

- **The 8th Plan (1997-2001)**
  - **people centered process/ participation/ enabling and empower local people**
- **The New Constitution 1997**
  - **Good Governance (political and public sector reforms)**
  - **Decentralization**

# **New framework for decentralization**

- **Self-regulated body**
- **Freedom to manage and develop own communities**
- **Elected representatives**
- **Transfer appropriate functions to local authority**
- **People's participation**

# Local Governance at the Tambon Level

<b>TAO Council</b>		<b>policy and development direction</b>
<b>TAO Executive Committee</b>		<b>development plan annual budget manage all affairs</b>
<b>TAO permanent Staff</b>		<b>day to day management and implement development projects</b>

# Problems

- **Unequal partnership**
- **Dominant roles of former community leaders**
- **Limited and unstable resources**
- **Financial and administrative crisis**
- **Lack of people's participation**
- **Rigid and complex rules and regulations**
- **Lack of transparency and corruption**

# Benefits

- **Promote democracy at the grassroots level in Thai society**
- **Stimulate political and public sector reforms**
- **Better development projects (to serve local needs)**

# **Mobilizing People's Participation**

- **Pilot studies at Tambon and villages levels (1990-2000)**
- **Used A-I-C Approach at village level (a focus group technique)**
  - **Share and exchange information and concerns**
  - **Develop vision and plan future**
  - **Transform to actions**
  - **Share responsibility**
- **Involved TAO members**

# **Lessons and Experiences**

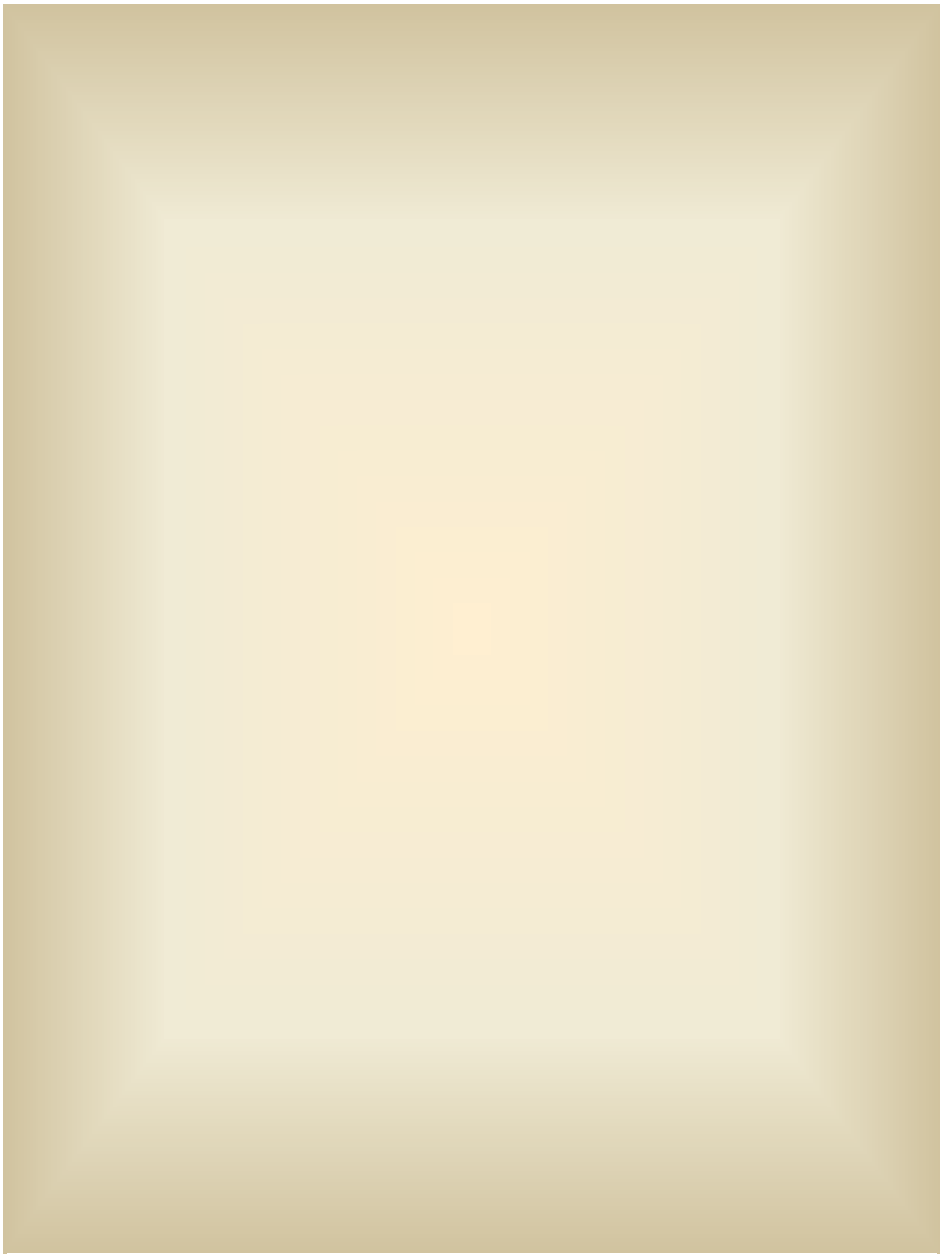
- **Villagers understand and commit to develop own community**
- **TAO members gain confident and development responsibility**
- **Better TAO plan (more social related projects)**

# **Lessons and Experiences**

- **Transparency**
- **Community's watch (monitor progress and performance)**
- **Better election and representatives**

# **Transparent Local Governance**

- **NCCC and EC implement a two-year community-based project to stimulate people's participation in anti-corruption**
- **National agenda and P.M. regulations on good governance (1999)**
- **Ministry of Interior's policy guidelines on good governance**
- **Whistle-blower and witness protection program**



# **Table 1: Date and number of TAOs elected**

<b>Date of TAO Elections</b>	<b>Number of TAOs</b>
<b>1. May 1, 1995</b>	<b>617</b>
<b>2. April 28, 1996</b>	<b>2,143</b>
<b>3. May 11, 1997</b>	<b>3,637</b>
<b>4. July 18, 1998</b>	<b>617</b>
<b>5. January 22, 1999</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>6. June 10, 2000</b>	<b>2,143</b>

**Table 2: Number of TAO members  
by gender**

<b>TAO Elections</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1. May 1, 1995</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>11,919</b>
<b>2. April 28, 1996</b>	<b>39,339</b>	<b>3,390 (7.93%)</b>	<b>42,729</b>
<b>3. May 11, 1997</b>	<b>57,998</b>	<b>5,543 (8.72%)</b>	<b>63,541</b>
<b>4. July 18, 1998</b>	<b>11,398</b>	<b>1,147 (9.41%)</b>	<b>12,545</b>
<b>5. January 22, 1999</b>	<b>4,721</b>	<b>437 (8.47%)</b>	<b>5,158</b>
<b>Total Current Members (2-5)</b>	<b>113,456</b>	<b>10,517 (8.48%)</b>	<b>123,973</b>

**Table 3: Number of registered voters and the number who voted by gender**

Election Year	Number of Registered Voted			Number of People Who Voted		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1995	2,406,090	n.a.	n.a.	1,227,664 (51.02%)	n.a.	n.a.
1996	9,356,154	4,633,164	4,722,990	5,526,306 (59.07%)	2,669,963	2,856,343
1997	11,766,081	5,817,762	5,948,319	7,480,799 (63.58%)	3,610,015	3,870,784
1998	3,733,073	1,833,919	1,899,154	2,317,208 (62.07%)	1,114,354	1,202,854
1999	821,873	408,347	413,526	562,150 (68.04%)	273,097	289,053