Corruption situation in Thailand

In 2009, Thailand’s CPI score was 3.4, the same score as India and Panama, and took 84th place, which was considered to be at the lower level.

Corruption in Thailand is varied. Presently, corruption tends to be complex, deceptive and severe. It has evolved more to a policy-based corruption by politicians, officials and businessmen.

Corruption Environment in Thailand

Thailand has much strength that can be used for anti-corruption. For example, the constitution has a concrete audit mechanism on the use of state power. Also, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy for all stakeholders is a key guideline for strategic collaboration and development. In addition, Buddhism, the national religion, has an impact on instilling anti-corruption values if the religious principles can be used correctly and appropriately. Nevertheless, there are weaknesses and threats in the corruption prevention and suppression such as values of patronage system, the lack of political will, and inequalities in income distribution.
The Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NAAC), in cooperation with all stakeholders, has created the National Anti-Corruption Strategy to be used as the directional framework for all stakeholders to apply and administer in an integrated manner.

**Strategy 1** Inculcation of morality and discipline

**Strategy 2** Mobilization of national collective strength

**Strategy 3** Strengthening and enhancing the anti-corruption component in both public and private sectors’ organizations

**Strategy 4** Enhancing anti-corruption awareness and knowledge among personnel from all sectors

In this regard, relevant organizations in various sectors, such as public sector, independent organizations, civil society, and international organizations, have collaborated to prevent and suppress corruption. Nevertheless, challenging issues that obstruct operation in corruption prevention and suppression remain. This includes interference from political factions and weak institution of anti-corruption.

Methods and Programs in Corruption Prevention and Suppression in Thailand

At present, Thailand emphasizes on stakeholders’ participation in the society as well as cooperation from other countries in various levels. In particular, the focus is on providing the national strategic plan for corruption prevention and suppression as an integrated framework for all stakeholders to propel together.

Nevertheless, methods and programs in overall corruption prevention and suppression include six approaches as follows.
1 Method and program on propelling integrated national strategic plan on anti-corruption.

2 Method and program on changing values and cultures to eliminate corruption.

3 Method and program on sustainable development under the “Sufficiency Economy” principle.

4 Method and program on building anti-corruption network at an international level as well as a domestic level.

5 Method and program on reforming politics and bureaucracy to eradicate corruption.

6 Method and program on creating a regulation to make corruption not worthwhile.

Finally, it is of utmost importance to have the cooperation and trust from all parties and from the people - including you.