Foreword

These research reports showcase the many ways in which we at Thammasat Business School support work related to ageing population issues in Thailand. Thailand is an ASEAN member state with the most aged population.

Thailand is currently ranked the third most rapidly ageing population in the world. The number of people aged 60 and over in Thailand now stands at about 13 million, accounting for 20% of the population. Population ageing is a relatively new occurrence for Thailand; it was just in 2001 that Thailand became an ageing population with more than 7% of the population over 65. By 2050, Thailand’s ageing population is expected to increase to 20 million, accounting for 35.8% of the population. This means that out of every three Thais, one will be a senior citizen. In practical terms, this demographic transition translates to challenges with care and support of older people.

Even though the Thai Government has enacted policies in line with the Second National Plan for Older Person (2002-2021) much more is needed to address the challenges. These research reports conducted by the Ageing Business and Care Development Centre (ABCD) at Thammasat Business School, with the financial support of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The research report consists of five studies on social and business approaches to population ageing in Thailand:

2. Informal Workers’ Preparedness for Active Ageing: A Case Study of Motorcycle Taxi Drivers in Bangkok
5. Market for Products and Services Targeting Older People in Thailand

1 https://ageingasia.org/ageing-population-thailand/#:~:text=Situation%20of%20older%20people,-The%20number%20of&text=By%202050%2C%20Thailand%20aging%20population%20will%20be%20senior%20citizen.&text=This%20lowers%20the%20ratio%20of%20thousands%20of%20people%20in%20the%20family. (accessed May 19, 2021)
These studies showcase the main issues affecting Thailand’s ageing population with specific policy recommendations that will need to be considered by the Thai Government in their forthcoming Third National Plan for Older Person.

This work would not have been completed without the intense collaborative team effort led by Professor Duangjai Lorthanavanich (PhD), the research team leader. We wish to acknowledge the efforts of all research team members in pursuing this national agenda.

Ruth Banomyong

Dean, Thammasat Business School
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