



Overview of Thailand's Accession Process to the OECD

Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council

21 JAN 2026

Why OECD Accession Matters?

- **Strategic move to become a high-income country**
- **Aligns with global standards and best practices**
- **Boosts investor confidence and international credibility**
- **Enhances policy-making and governance**

What will Thailand's accession mean for the OECD?

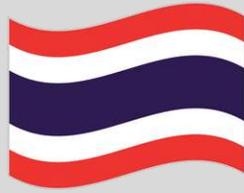
Thailand will **increase the impact of OECD standards and best practices**

Thailand will bring a valuable **new perspective to the OECD's policy discussions** based on its own experience, challenges, and successes



Thailand has provided important **regional leadership**, including through the SEARP, ASEAN, and APEC

The OECD will be a **stronger, better, and more diverse organisation** with Thailand as a member



Accession Timeline and Key Events



16 April 2024
Letter of Intent

Thailand submitted the Letter of Intent Requesting OECD Membership.



17 June 2024 - 10 July 2024
Accession Discussions & Roadmap

The OECD Council decided to open accession discussions with Thailand and adopted Thailand's Accession Roadmap



30 October 2024
Accession Kick-off

Accession process officially launched.



8 July 2025
Thailand's Goal

The Cabinet approved Thailand's goal of becoming an OECD member by 2030.



4 December 2025
Appointment of the Steering Committee

PM chairs the OECD Steering Committee, supported by the NESDC, the MFA, and the OCS as the Secretariat.



8 December 2025
the Initial Memorandum

Thailand submitted the Initial Memorandum, taking a key step forward in the Technical Review.



Thailand's Accession Process

Thailand officially becomes an OECD member, with the date of submission of the Agreement to the French government serving as the date of full membership.

2028

The OECD Council unanimously decides to accept Thailand as an OECD member and sends an official letter of invitation to Thailand.

OECD Committees adopt a formal opinion, while Thailand submits a Final Statement to the OECD Council.

Thailand submits an Initial Memorandum, which is a self-assessment of Thai legislation, policies, and practices to align with OECD standards.

2025

The OECD Council makes a decision by consensus to open accession discussions with Thailand. Then, an Accession Roadmap is developed by the Secretariat and adopted by Council.

2024

Prior to the submission of the Accession Request (1 - 4)

The OECD Council considers whether to open the accession discussions with Thailand.

2024

Thailand and the OECD sign an accession agreement, marking Thailand's acceptance of legal obligations.

In-depth reviews with 25 - 30 technical committees. (25 committees for Thailand) take place, during which the committees provide recommendations for aligning Thai legislation, policies, and practices with OECD standards.

2026

Accession Process (5 - 10)

The timeline of the accession process depends on the applicant country's efforts to align its legislation, policies, and practices with OECD standards.

The OECD Secretary-General prepares information on Thailand's readiness according to the OECD Framework for the Consideration of Prospective Members.

2024

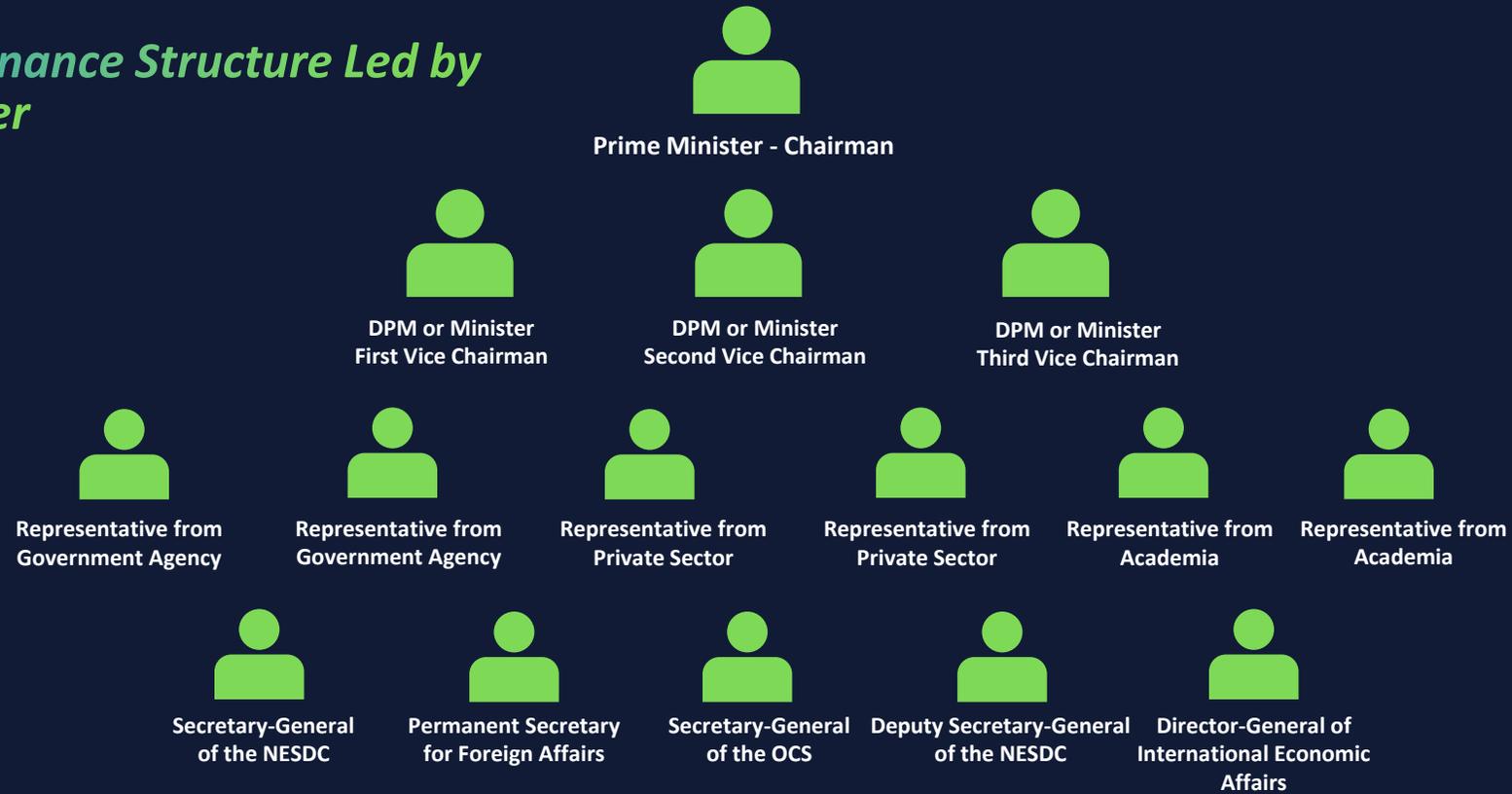
Thailand submits a Letter of Intent, which the OECD Secretary-General presents to the OECD Council (comprising 38 member countries).

2024

WE ARE HERE

Supervisory Committee on Thailand's Accession to the OECD

High-Level Governance Structure Led by the Prime Minister



Three Subcommittees with Clear Mandates



(draft) Subcommittee on Steering Domestic Operations of OECD Accession



(draft) Subcommittee on Promoting Relations with the OECD



(draft) Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform and Alignment with OECD Standard

List of 25 Committees Conducting Accession Reviews

- 1  Investment Committee and the WP on Responsible Business Conduct
- 2  WG on Bribery in International Business Transactions
- 3  Corporate Governance Committee
- 4  Committee on Financial Markets
- 5  Competition Committee
- 6  Committee on Fiscal Affairs
- 7  Environment Policy Committee
- 8  Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee
- 9  Public Governance Committee
- 10  Committee of Senior Budget Officials
- 11  Regulatory Policy Committee
- 12  Regional Development Policy Committee
- 13  Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy
- 14  Economic and Development Review Committee
- 15  Education Policy Committee
- 16  Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee
- 17  Health Committee
- 18  Trade Committee and the WP on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees
- 19  Committee for Agriculture
- 20  Fisheries Committee
- 21  Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy
- 22  Digital Policy Committee
- 23  Committee on Consumer Policy
- 24  Steel Committee
- 25  Shipbuilding Committee

Source: Roadmap for the OECD Accession Process of Thailand, page 4-5

Note: There were 26 Committees under the Roadmap. Recently, the Insurance and Private Pension Committee was integrated into the Committee on Financial Markets in 2024.

List of Thai Agencies to Collaborate with the OECD Committee

	OECD Committee	Thai Agencies		OECD Committee	Thai Agencies
1	Investment Committee and the Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct	BOI	13	Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy	NSO
		RLPD	14	Economic and Development Review Committee	NESDC
2	Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions	NACC	15	Education Policy Committee	ONEC
					MOE
3	Corporate Governance Committee	SEPO	16	Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee	MOL
		SEC			FAD MSDHS
4	Committee on Financial Markets	FPO	17	Health Committee	MOPH
5	Competition Committee	TCCT	18	Trade Committee and the Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees	DTN
6	Committee on Fiscal Affairs	Revenue Department			Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees
7	Environment Policy Committee	MNRE	19	Committee for Agriculture	OAE
8	Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee	DMSC	20	Fisheries Committee	DOF
		DIW	21	Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy	MHESI
		TISI			NXPO
9	Public Governance Committee	OPDC	22	Digital Policy Committee	MDES
		PACC			ONDE
10	Committee of Senior Budget Officials	Budget Bureau	23	Committee on Consumer Policy	OCPB
11	Regulatory Policy Committee	OCS	24	Steel Committee	OIE
12	Regional Development Policy Committee	MOI	25	Shipbuilding Committee	Marine Department
					OIE

Source: On 8 July 2025, the Cabinet approved the designation of 34 agencies to work with 25 OECD Committees.

Current & Next Step of Thailand's Accession Process



Initial Memorandum (IM) 2025

It is the step to identify gaps between Thailand's current standards and OECD standards. This self-assessment evaluates Thailand's recent policies, legislation, and practices before entering the Technical Review.

***Thailand submitted
the Initial Memorandum
on 8 December 2025***



Technical Review 2026 - 2028

It is the step that requires Thailand to implement the OECD committee's recommendations to ensure alignment with OECD legal instruments, policies, and best practices.

The Committees will evaluate



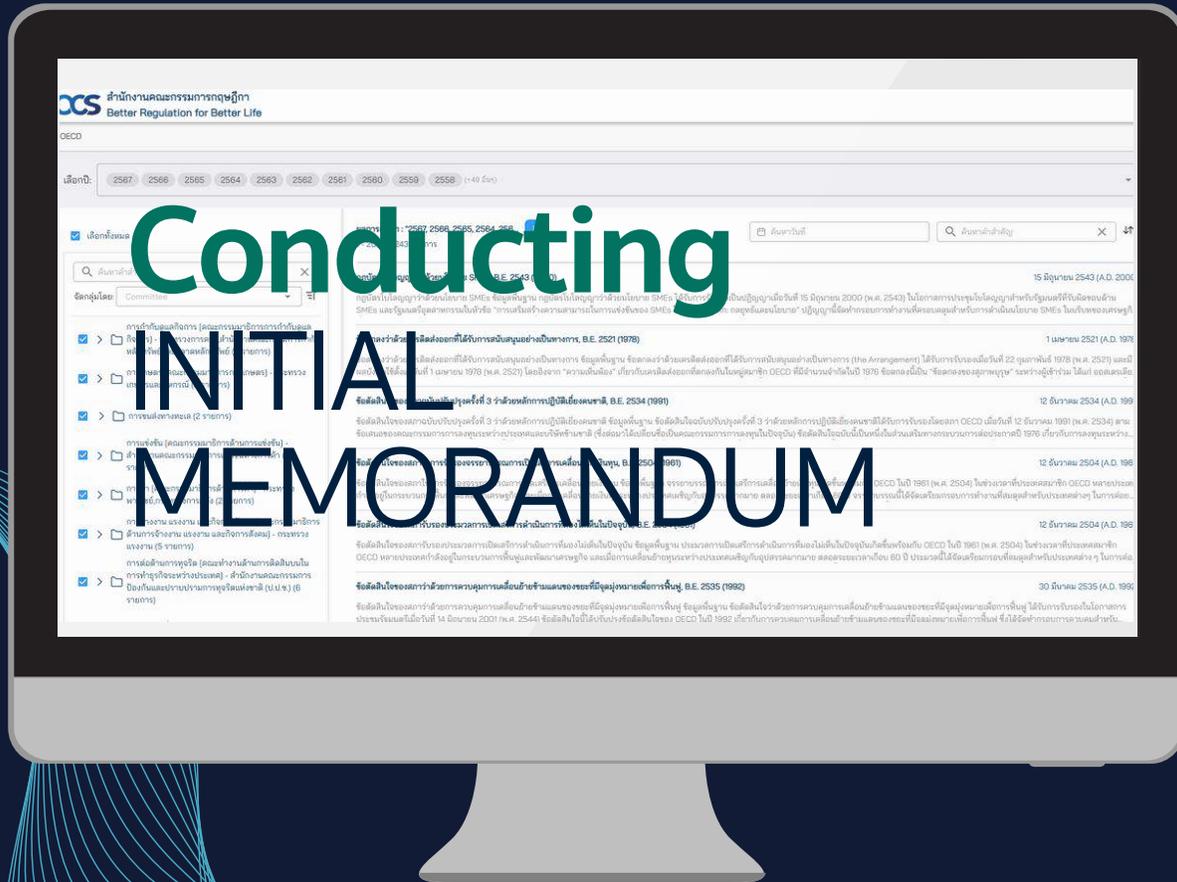
Willingness and Ability of Thailand to adhere to the OECD Legal Instruments.



Policies and Practices of Thailand compared with the OECD best policies and practices.

There is no time limit; progress depends on Thailand's readiness. Once Thailand passes the assessment and gains membership, it must maintain the standards set by the OECD.

TH2OECD Digital Platform: A Key Innovation 2025



The OCS has developed the TH2OECD digital platform using AI to translate OECD legal instruments into Thai and matching the keywords in each instrument with Thai laws and regulations



The system allows line agencies to correct AI-generated information and add missing details, especially regarding policies and practices.



The system has significantly reduced time and resource preparation, enabling Thailand to complete the IM within one year and be ready to submit it on 8 December 2025 in Bangkok.

<https://th2oecd.ocs.go.th/login>

TH2OECD Digital Platform: A Key Innovation 2026 - 2030



After submitting the IM, Thailand plans to upgrade the system to track and monitor progress during the Technical Review.



The upgraded system will:

- (1) Tracks all progress across 25 committees and OECD legal instruments
- (2) Stores technical reviews, activity reports, and relevant documentation
- (3) Provides dashboards for line agencies
- (4) Supports quarterly reporting to leadership
- (5) Identifies bottlenecks and delayed agencies.

“This platform enhances transparency, efficiency, and accountability across government.”

The Thai government is committed to becoming an OECD member within the next 3 years

2025

Initial
Memorandum

2026 - 2028

Conducting
Technical Review

2028

Becoming an OECD
Member



Technical Review

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Cornerstones of the Accession Process



Accession involves an **in-depth 360° dialogue and analysis** between Thailand and the **25 technical committees** covering almost every area of government policy

01

OECD accession has proven to be a **transformative process** and **catalyst for reform**, providing powerful leverage for the adoption of major legislative and policy changes

02

The accession process of each country is independent, and the **domestic context and priorities of each country** are considered in the discussions

03

There is no timetable or set end-date for accession: it depends on the country's pace in providing information and responding to recommendations

04



Source: OECD Directorate for Legal Affairs

Timeline for Technical Reviews



Source: OECD Directorate for Legal Affairs

01

Accession reviews by the OECD committees will be **phased in**, subject to discussion with Thailand



02

There is **no set timeline or end date** for the technical phase on the OECD's side



03

Most OECD Committees only meet **twice a year** (spring and autumn)



04

Accession review discussions are **carried out in parallel**. The Council will not decide on a country's accession until all committees have completed their reviews



05

The Secretariat **reports regularly to the Council on the accession process**



OECD Secretariat's role and support in the process



Going Forward: Practical Tips for Accession Reviews

Factor in the time and resources needed for **translation into English** (all documents must be submitted in English or French)

01



Ensure **regular and active participation in committee meetings**, especially those which are also conducting accession reviews – even if online



02

Ensure the **appropriate level of participation in accession review discussions** – Ministers or Deputy Ministers accompanied by the technical experts

03



In general, **liaise closely with the Secretariat**, who act as “honest brokers” and will guide you through the process (substance and procedure)



04

Ensure **engagement of citizens, the business sector, and the legislature** in the process from an early stage

05



Ensure **multi-partisan support** for the process



06

Stakeholder Engagement

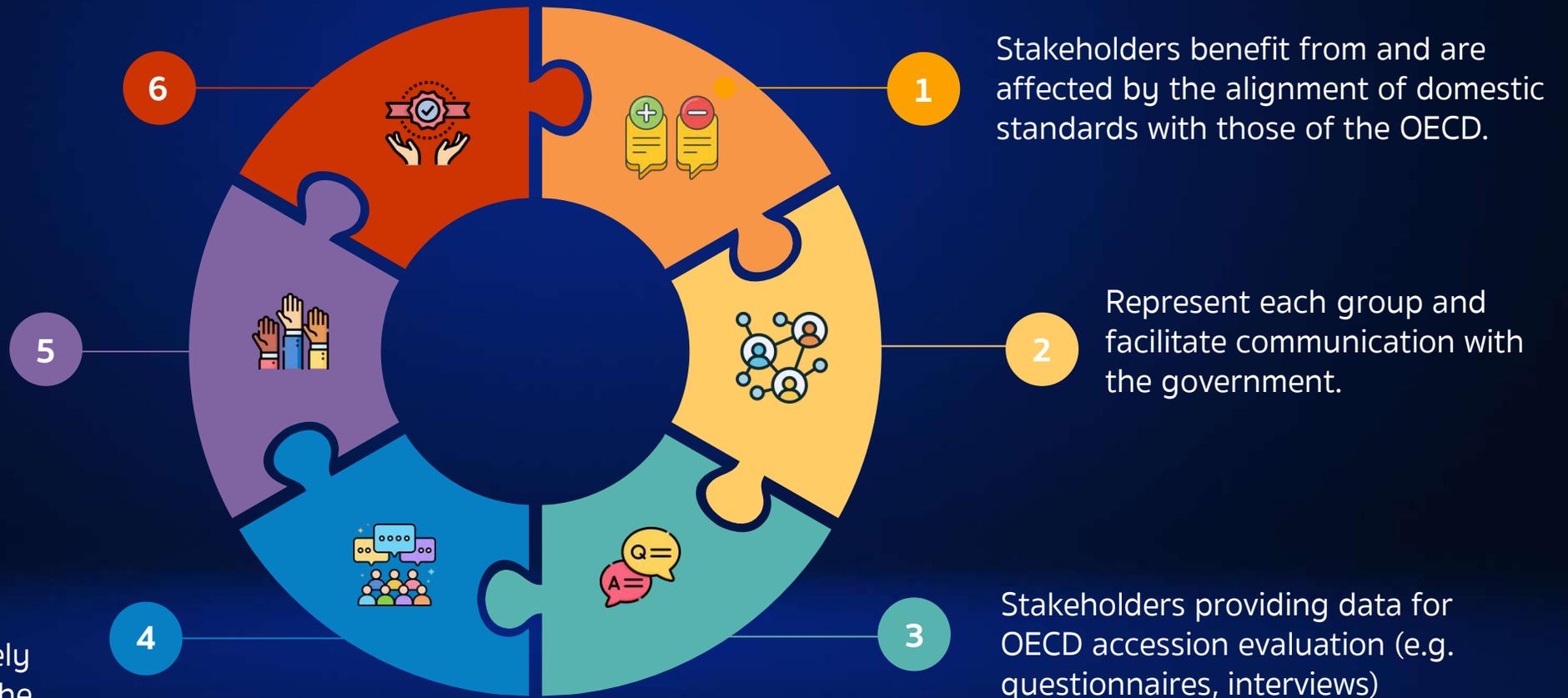
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Stakeholders' Roles in Thailand's OECD Accession Process

Stakeholders play a role in advancing Thailand's recommendations in the development of global standards

To express their opinions through public and private sector mechanisms to ensure that Thailand's OECD membership brings the greatest possible benefits.

Show the OECD that stakeholders are actively engaged throughout the accession process — a key factor in Thailand's membership approval.



Note: NESDC Analysis

Stakeholder Engagement in Thailand's Accession to the OECD

OECD's Mechanism

OECD Council/Committees/Secretariat



BUSINESSatOECD

**OECD Global
Parliamentary
Network**

Trade Union
Advisory Committee
to the OECD



Commission syndicale
consultative
auprès de l'OCDE

Public consultation



Government

Business

Legislative

Trade Union

**Civil Society and
Academia**

Thailand's Mechanism



RAs

DOs



Parliament



Role of stakeholders: parliament, BIAC, TUAC and civil society organisations



The OECD has two institutional stakeholders: Business at the OECD (BIAC) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC)



Thailand's Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking is an observer to BIAC



BIAC and TUAC contribute to the accession process by **sharing perspectives** from their member organisations regarding the **business and labour market environment in accession countries**. This information feeds into accession review discussions



OECD GLOBAL
PARLIAMETARY
NETWORK

The Secretariat **engages with a broad range of stakeholders** in accession candidate countries during fact-finding missions



Source: OECD Directorate for Legal Affairs

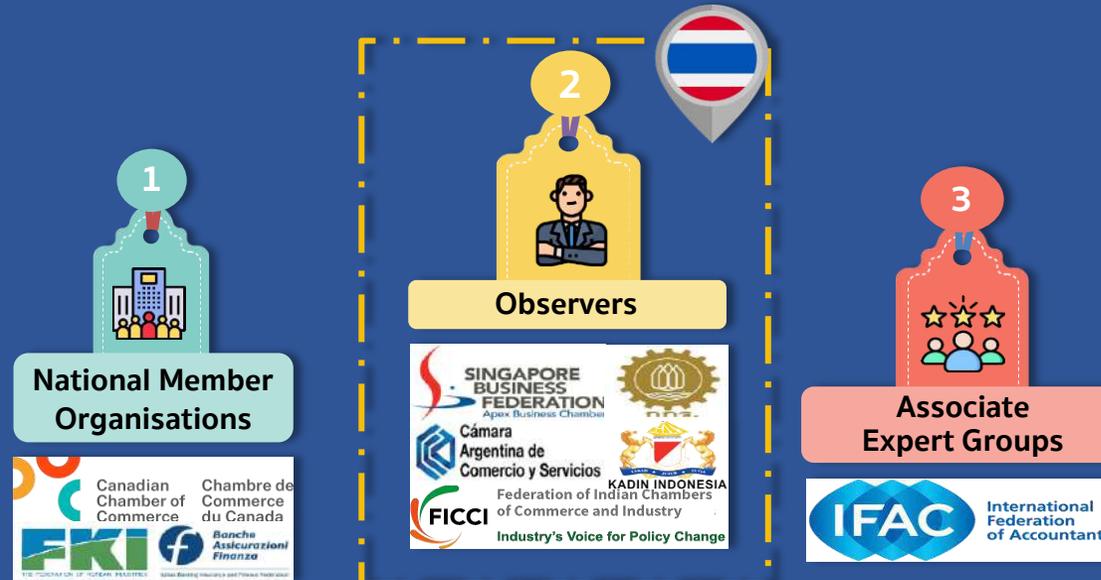
Business at OECD (BIAC)

What is BIAC?

- An official business network of OECD countries and a **key policy-shaping platform** within the OECD ecosystem.
- Brings together representatives from **government, business, labour, civil society, and academia.**
- Engages with the **OECD Secretariat** to exchange views and deliver policy recommendations.



Structure of BIAC



The **Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking (JSCCIB)** represents the Thai private sector and holds **Observer** status in BIAC.

Thailand's Engagement



On 17 February 2025, the **JSCCIB President and delegation** participated in the **BIAC General Assembly**.

- Promotion of **economic and trade cooperation**
- Discussion of key issues affecting **Thai businesses** and the **global economy**

Global Parliamentary Network (GPN)

What is GPN?

- An open global network for legislative knowledge exchange among parliamentarians and parliamentary officials from all political backgrounds worldwide.
- Plays a key role in strengthening public policies through year-round workshops and promoting the practical implementation of international standards.
- Members gain access to OECD analysis and policy recommendations, with opportunities to exchange perspectives with experts and representatives from across countries.



Parliamentary Permanent Mechanism



In December 2025, Thailand's Parliament officially established **Advisory Council of the Parliament of Thailand on the Accession of Thailand to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (ACP-OECD)** as a permanent parliamentary mechanism to support OECD accession and formally presented it to the OECD Deputy Secretary-General.

Thailand's Engagement



- **16 May 2025:** The Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs visited the French Senate and the OECD Headquarters.



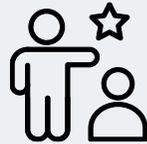
- **19 May 2025:** The House Standing Committee on Economic Development visited the OECD Headquarters.

International Organisations and Thailand's Accession to the OECD

➤ International Organisations may assist Thailand by...



- **Sharing knowledge, experience, and technical expertise in cooperation on the alignment to OECD instruments.**



- **Providing capacity building session to foster sustained and high-quality reforms in accordance with the accession process.**

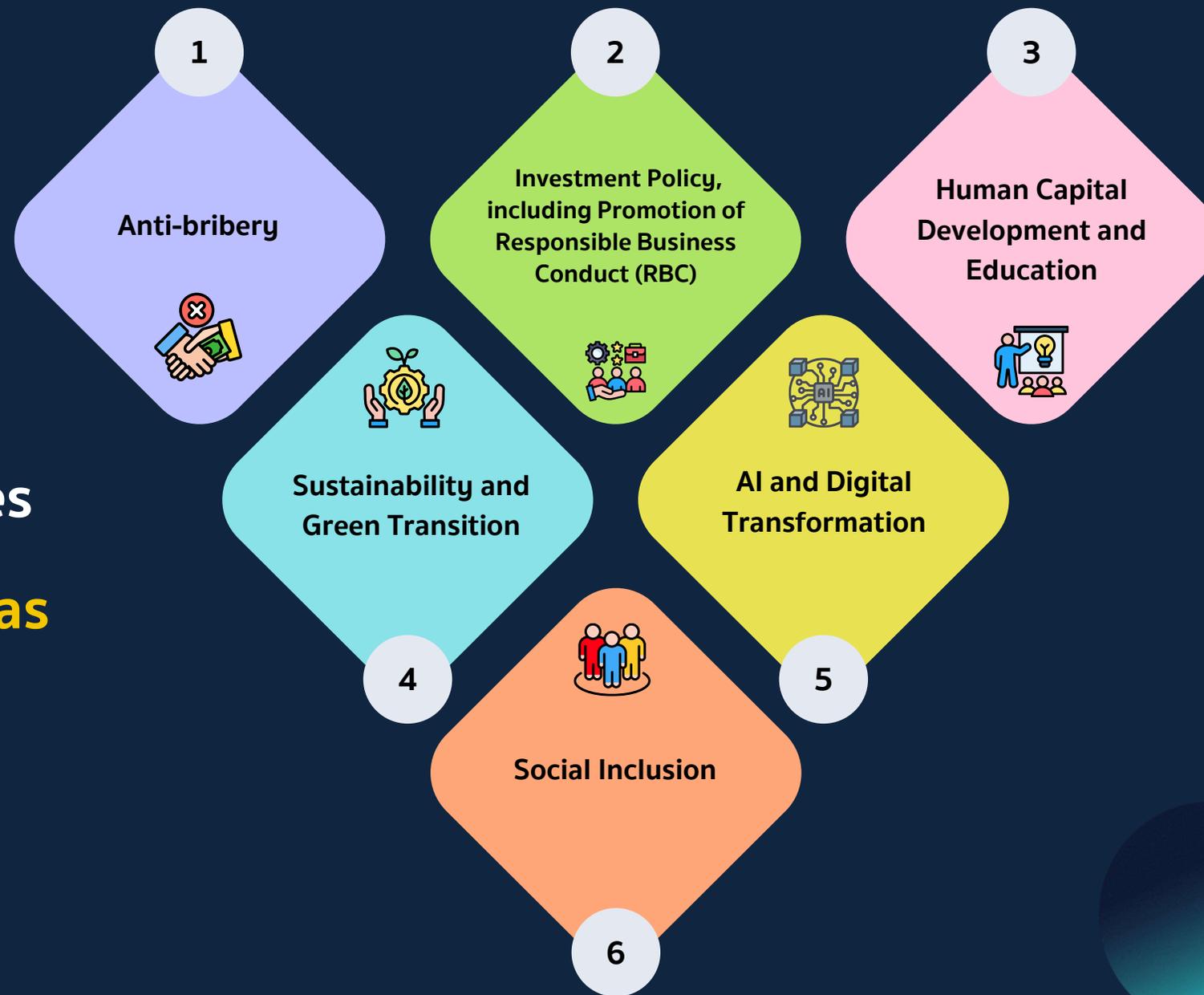
Example of activities include:

- **policy discussions**
- **seminars**
- **workshops**
- **training activities**

Note: MFA Analysis

Thailand's OECD Accession Priorities

Focus on 6 key areas



Note: MFA Analysis

Current NESDC Public Relations Materials regarding Thailand's OECD Accession



TH2OECD Website

Details on website:
(inter.nesdc.go.th/th2oecd/)

- News and updates
- Background of Thailand's OECD Accession
- Factsheet
- Accession Roadmap
- Related Documents



Podcast

Plan+ - Let's Get Global



Shorts / TikTok

Plan+ (@planplus_nesdc)



Media

The Standard



The Matter



Infographic





OECD Accession Process



“It is a **marathon**, not a sprint”

“Accession can be as fast as possible, **but takes as long as necessary**”

“Benefits are materialised **already in the process**”



Mathias Cormann,
Secretary-General of the OECD

International Strategy and Coordination Division, NESDC, Thailand



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Plan+



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