

## SCIENCE &amp; SOCIETY PROGRAM 2021



# FRENCH-HIGHLIGHTS

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# French-Highlights

BRINGS THE BEST OF FRENCH CULTURE TO THAILAND!

In addition to artistic events, the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France in Thailand have been developing **scientific, social and educational cooperation with Thai major stakeholders** since the opening of the Embassy in 1949.

Main focuses include **mobility of talents and ideas** between France and Thailand, **support of innovative scientific and social projects**, and **creating conversations between experts, policy-makers, and the general public** through work meetings or general admission events.

Both **digital and physical** in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, these events especially focus on **environmental stakes and women's condition in ASEAN**. Specific themes are **plastic waste management, air and marine pollution, economic empowerment of women** and the **reflexion on gender recognition and equality**. An exciting program of learnings and talks that invite the public to join the debate on these crucial questions for tomorrow.



# OUR PARTNERS

Our key strength relies on a **strong network of research institutes and partners in Thailand**, whom we work tightly with and which provides **high-level expertise in many scientific and societal fields**. Ongoing Franco-Thai partnerships include:

## INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



### UN ESCAP

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations' regional hub promoting cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development.



### UN Women

UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.



### Embassy of Japan to Thailand

We collaborate with our Japanese counterparts on organizing events targeting policy-makers to implement concrete environmental action.



### Embassy of Mexico to Thailand

We collaborate with our Mexican counterparts on organizing events targeting the general public to raise awareness on environmental and social current stakes.

## RESEARCH INSTITUTES



### Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC)

IRASEC aims to develop French research on contemporary Southeast Asia, with political, social, economic and environmental processes, as well as regional integration dynamics among the region's 11 countries.



### Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)

A French public research institution, IRD supports an original model of equitable scientific partnership and interdisciplinary, citizen, sustainability science committed to the achievement of the SDGs.



### CIRAD

The French agricultural research and international cooperation organization working for the sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions.



### Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Agency (GITSDA)

The Thai space agency and space research organisation with expertise in remote sensing and technology development satellites.



### French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)

The French National Centre for Scientific Research is among the world's leading research institutions. Its scientists explore the living world, matter, the Universe, and the functioning of human societies in order to meet the major challenges of today and tomorrow.

## UNIVERSITIES



Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)



Chiang Mai University



Chulalongkorn University



École Française d'Extrême Orient (EFO)



Kasetsart University



Mahidol University

Our main objective is to **foster fruitful cooperation** on scientific and societal topics, reuniting the **Thai and French expertises to raise awareness of the general public** on these stakes, and to **address policy-makers to take concrete action** on the ground.





# NIGHT OF IDEAS

**Date :** 28 January 2021

**Time :** 5.30 PM

**Venue :** Alliance Française Bangkok

Every year, the Night of Ideas celebrates the flow of ideas between countries and cultures, disciplines and generations. This year, with the theme of "Close", it will bring together personalities from all walks of life – research, art, journalism, activism – invited to debate in the event's partner venues on five continents.

All places of culture and knowledge are invited to submit their projects for the Night of Ideas:

bookshops, associations, universities, NGOs, schools, museums, cinemas, libraries and many others.

## WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE DAY

**Date :** 11 February 2021

**Venue:** Asian Institute of Technology and online

This online event gives students and young people in Thailand and the region an opportunity to listen to inspirational success stories by women scientists from around the world. Participants will also be able to exchange questions and insights with the panellists and other female scientists during two thematic break-out sessions.

This is part of a series of events organized in the lead up to the Generation Equality Forum, a civil society-centred, global gathering hosted in Mexico City and Paris in 2021 to foster a global public conversation for urgent action and accountability for gender equality.

*In partnership with UN Women and the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand*



# SWAMPED

**Date :** 21 February – 21 April 2021

**Venue:** Warin Lab Contemporary

The first art installation “SWAMPED” reflects on waste accumulation and humankind’s lack of discipline in managing waste while introducing the idea of continual use of the same resources.

Based on the notion of a Circular Economy, it emphasizes the significance of minimizing the requirements for new resources. Old materials can be used longer through recycling, upcycling, repairing, and refurbishment in order to create a closed-loop system. “SWAMPED” intends to project the critical idea that the devil is not in the innovation of plastic but in the human’s habit of convenience first. The Embassy of France was pleased to support the project and donate the materials used to create the exhibition.



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS DAY

**Women leaders changing social norms:**  
A conversation on building a more equal world  
MONDAY MARCH 8 | 7 – 8.20 PM (GMT+7) @ Alliance Française BANGKOK

**HOST**  
Shannon Kalayanamitr  
CEO, Venture Capitalist & activist

**SPEAKERS**  
Cindy Bishop  
Actress, supermodel & activist  
Magos Herrera  
Jazz composer & singer  
Delphyne Besse  
Co-founder Collectif 50/50

Starts at 7.15 pm

Logos: Generation Equality, Alliance Française Bangkok, UN Women, and others.

**Date :** 8 March 2021

**Venue:** Alliance Française Bangkok

Women leaders changing social norms: A conversation on building a more equal world is a talk hosted by CEO and Venture

Capitalist Shannon Kalayanamitr (Thailand) where actress and supermodel Cindy Bishop (Thailand), Jazz composer and singer Magos Herrera (Mexico) and co-founder of Collectif 50/50 Delphyne Besse (France) will share how they are actively changing social norms for an equal future in a COVID-19 world.

*In partnership with UN Women and the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand*

# ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SIDE-EVENTS



**Date :** 22-24 April 2021

**Venue :** Online events

As one of the regions who handled best the COVID-19 pandemic so far, Asia and the Pacific have proven their will to take decisive global policies when it comes to public health and regulation of our international trades. Factoring in the environmental cause

is the next big step towards a brighter future for individuals, for companies, and for political union of the region to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDG). Which is why from 22 to 24 March, high-level researchers from Thailand, France and Japan will gather for an enlightening online program of talks, conversations and online courses to raise awareness on crucial environmental stakes, and discuss how to build a better future and more sustainable cities for our children and ourselves to live in.

*In partnership with UN ESCAP and the Embassy of Japan to Thailand*

## WOMEN EMPOWER: AN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT DIALOGUE

**Women Empower: An Economic Empowerment Dialogue**  
Engaging Multiple Stakeholders on COVID-19 Challenges and Best Practices

Thursday May 6 at 10AM (GMT+7) on Zoom and Facebook Live

**Speakers:**

- Arrada Mahamitra  
Secretariat of ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network
- Magali Du Park  
ED, Baan Dek Foundation
- Nunnaree Luangmoi  
ED, Center For Girls Foundation
- Sharon Fisher  
President of Soroptimist International
- Moderator  
Siriporn Rathie  
Country Program Manager, WeEmpower Asia at UN Women
- Thais Malave  
COO, Yo Quiero Yo Puedo Institute

Opening remarks by Ambassador of Mexico Mr. Bernardo Córdova  
Closing remarks by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Development and UN Women

Logos: GENERATION EQUALITY, UN WOMEN, RELACIONES EXTERIORES, MÉXICO, etc.

**Date :** 6 May 2021

**Venue:** Online event

Economic empowerment of women around the world is one of the most crucial stakes in improving women's condition today. Shifting from the service industry to political advocacy, including women in top management positions or reconsidering our conceptions of femininity in the workplace, this event will give voice to six speakers from various backgrounds for an online event of talks, testimonies and inspiration for tomorrow.

*In partnership with UN Women and the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand*



# MY BODY IS MY OWN: Bodily Autonomy as a Cornerstone of Gender Equality



**Date :** 20 May 2021

**Venue :** Facebook and Youtube

A special online launch of My Body Is My Own, UNFPA's State Of World Population Report, followed by a UN Women-moderated panel discussion titled Mothers Too Young, on how Thailand has been addressing the significant challenge of adolescent pregnancy in recent years, through landmark legislation and the involvement of multiple stakeholders.

*In partnership with the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women*

## AFTER THE NIGHT

**Date:** June 2021 (TBC)

**Venue:** Alliance Française Bangkok

Following on the Night of Ideas in January 2021, After the Night is an opportunity, at the Alliance Française Bangkok, to follow up on themes around environment, engagement and women throughout various activities: film screenings, video games, exhibition, urban visits, small group discussions with activists engaged for the environment.

*In partnership with Alliance Française Bangkok, the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand, IRASEC, IRD, UDDC, BMA and UN Women.*







## FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE

**Date :** 19 June 2021 (TBC)

**Venue :** TBC

Live and recorded performances by Thai, French and Mexican artists will recreate the Fête de la Musique event in 2021. Inviting politically and socially engaged bands, this event will be an occasion to celebrate music, but also to highlight social issues such as gender normativity in songs.

*In partnership with UN Women and the Embassy of Mexico to Thailand*

## SMART CITIES

**Date :** 24-25 June 2021

**Venue :** TBC

Organized by Business France and supported by the Embassy of France, this regional event will invite companies to discuss the topic of Smart Cities, under the title *Urban Connectivity: Waste management & Smart buildings*.

Main focuses of the event will be Big Data, Waste Management and Sustainable Buildings.

*In partnership with CIRAD, IRASEC and UDDC*





## URBAN BIODIVERSITY REGIONAL DEBATE

**Date :** October 2021

**Venue :** Chiang Mai University

This regional event will gather experts in urban studies, geography and the environment to discuss two urban areas:

- The urban area of **Chiang Mai** (architecture, urban planning and handling air pollution in urban development)
- **Singapore**, a particularly interesting study case in urbanism and a long-time partner of the event.

*In partnership with Chiang Mai University, CIRAD, IRASEC, UDDC*

## INNOVATION IN PLASTIC WASTE COMPETITION

**Date :** 2022 (Date TBC)

**Venues :** Online and TBC

Catalyzing innovation and partnerships to inspire future generation in plastic waste Management, the French Embassy would like to open a competition on Innovation in plastic waste for bright Thai students.

The winning project will be awarded with a few months stay in France, all expenses-paid trip, to develop the winning prototype in a French Lab. Then back in Thailand, we will research private funding to implement the solution in France and in Thailand, in discussion with researchers and policy-makers from both countries.





# MODERNIZING THE FRANCO-THAI INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY PROGRAM

Each year, the International Student Mobility Program finances the mobility of 20 Thai nationals to go study in France, so as to kickstart their career back in Thailand with a French know-how and an international network.

As the program grows, its tools need to be modernized. We are currently interested in unlocking private funding to modernize the current application website, in order to reflect the quality of the program on its digital platforms.

In addition, if you are interested in sponsoring the mobility and studies of one of the top Thai Talents we are sending to France, please feel free to reach out to get our Graduate Program brochure.





# FRENCH-HIGHLIGHTS

## 2021 - SCIENCE & SOCIETY EVENTS CALENDAR

### JANUARY

#### THE NIGHT OF IDEAS

JANUARY 28

Alliance Française Bangkok

### FEBRUARY

#### WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCES DAY

FEBRUARY 11

Asian Institute of Technology and online  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UN WOMEN AND THE  
EMBASSY OF MEXICO TO THAILAND

#### SWAMPED

FEBRUARY 24

Warin Lab Contemporary

### MARCH

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS DAY

MARCH 8

Alliance Française Bangkok

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UN WOMEN AND THE  
EMBASSY OF MEXICO TO THAILAND

#### ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SIDE-EVENTS

**March 22** | Carbon neutrality: The  
Future of South-East Asia

**March 22** | Black Carbon: The Dark  
Side of Human Activity

**March 23** | Leaking Cities in South-  
East Asia: Marine Plastic Pollution

**March 24** | eLearning: Integrated  
action on Biodiversity / Ecosystems,  
Health and Climate

ONLINE EVENTS - IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UN ESCAP  
AND THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN TO THAILAND

### MAY

#### WOMEN EMPOWER: AN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT DIALOGUE

MAY 6

ONLINE EVENT - IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UN WOMEN  
AND THE EMBASSY OF MEXICO TO THAILAND

#### SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS CONFERENCE AND MOVIE SCREENING

MAY (DATE TBC)

Alliance Française Bangkok

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF MEXICO TO  
THAILAND, UNFPA AND UN WOMEN

### JUNE

#### AFTER THE NIGHT

JUNE 5 (TBC Date)

Alliance Française Bangkok

#### FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE

JUNE (Date & Venue TBC)

#### SMART CITIES

JUNE 24-25 (TBC Venue)

### OCTOBER

#### URBAN BIODIVERSITY REGIONAL DEBATE

OCTOBER (DATE TBC)

Chiang Mai University

### 2022

#### INNOVATION IN PLASTIC WASTE COMPETITION

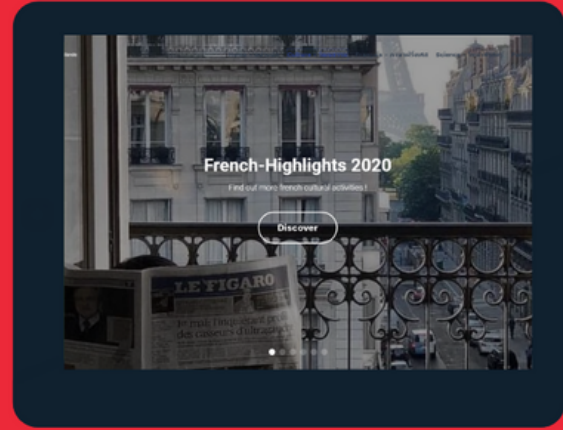
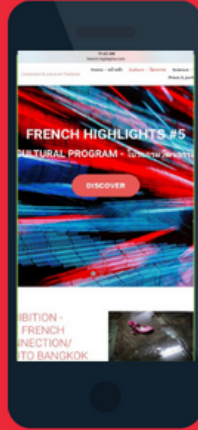
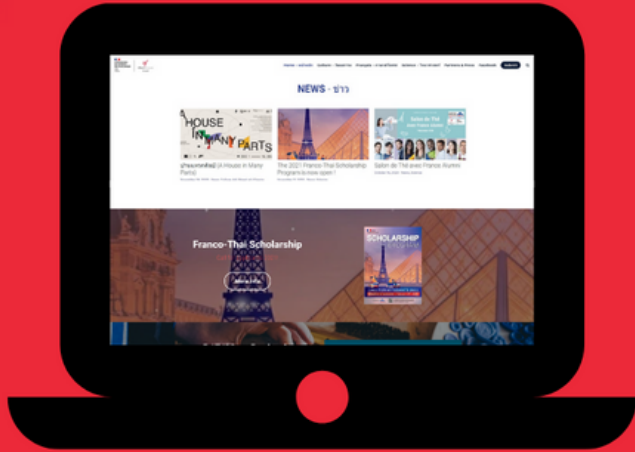
(Date & Venue TBC)

### TRANSVERSAL PROJECTS

#### MODERNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY PROGRAM

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