



**Comments from Thai youth  
on the Global Child and  
Youth Strategy 2022-2025**

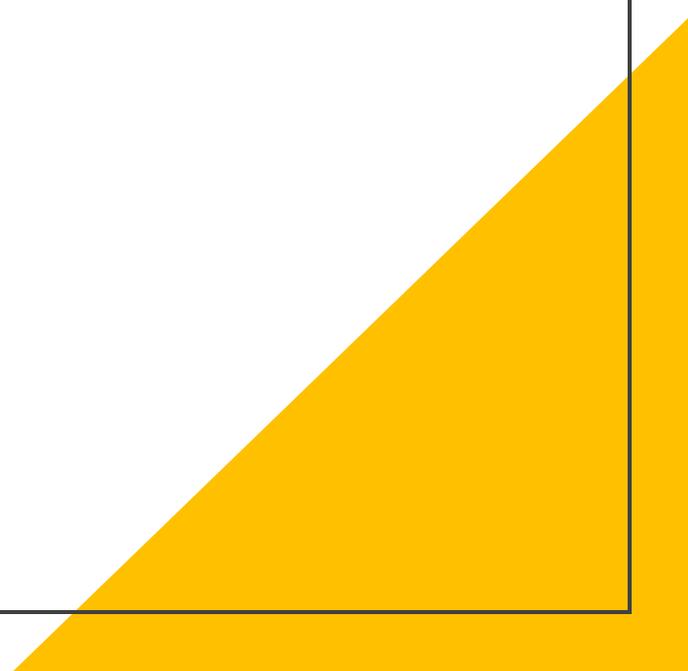
**Amnesty International Thailand**

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## **Definition of Child and Youth Based on Overlapping Age Criteria and by Definition as follows**

- Child: All humans under the age of 18 (including those under 17, but excluding those aged 18).
- Youth: All human between the ages of 15-25 (including those aged 15 and aged 24, but excluding those aged 25).

# Inquiries from Children and Youth Groups

- 29 total participants
  - Children and youth aged 16 – 23 years
  - Both members and non-members
  - 19 children and youth interested in becoming Amnesty members after the activity
  - Activity expectations 4.4/5 points
  - 24 children and youth formed groups after exchanged opinions.
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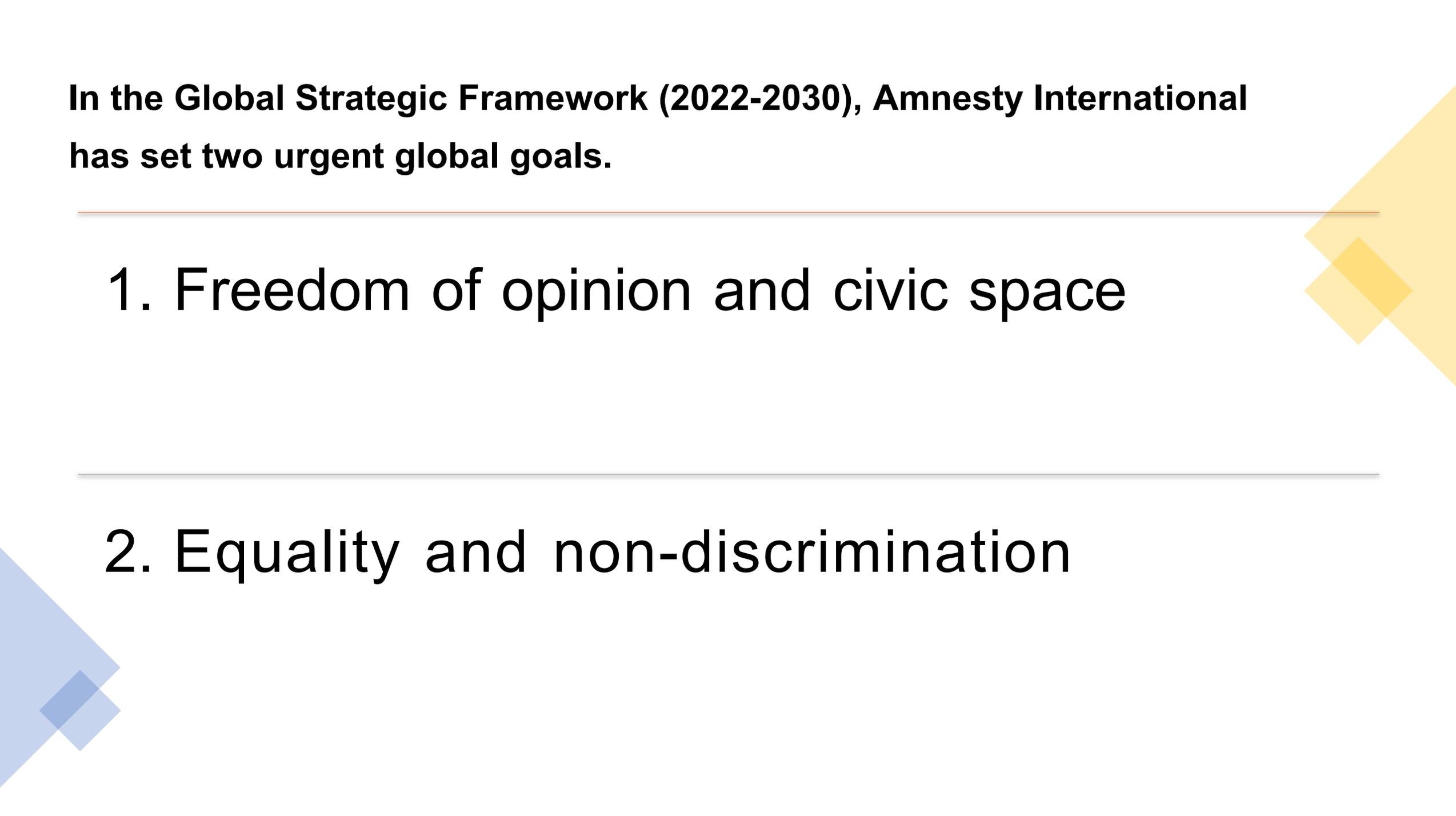
**In the Global Strategic Framework (2022-2030), Amnesty International has set two urgent global goals.**

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**1. Freedom of opinion and civic space**

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**2. Equality and non-discrimination**



**Amnesty International has committed to eight guiding principles to ensure the best operation with consistency and quality in order to achieve goals of the Global Child and Youth Strategy**

**Strengthening diverse work practices and taking into account overlapping conditions.**

**Build respect and trust between ages**

**Protect child and youth rights defenders**

**Invest in child and youth protection**

**Support the participation and leadership of child and youth**

**Invest in working with partners**

**Reduce Carbon Footprint**

**Supporting spaces to build balance of wellness**



# Strategic Goals 2022-2025

## 01

Youth perspective is central to Amnesty International's human rights work in supporting and protecting human rights

## 02

Encourage diverse youth to participate and play an important role in all levels of work with respect and trust

## 03

Children and youth have self-confident skills and link to increased grassroots campaigns in order to achieve impact on human rights

# Goal 1

Youth perspective is central to Amnesty International's human rights work in supporting and protecting human rights



## Children and youth liked strategies 1.1 and 1.2.

- Provide spaces and platforms to support holistic work in the country, region and global levels.
- Develop methods and guidelines to avoid adult-centered perspective.
- Train and build capacity for children and youth to be able to promote human rights.

## Additional Remarks

- Children and youth still lack the tools to deal with crises.

# Goal 2

Encourage diverse youth to participate and play an important role in all levels of work with respect and trust



## Children and youth liked strategy 2.1

- Use guidelines and agreements to **create safe spaces for participation**, promote dialogue and trust between people of all ages.
- In times of crisis, Amnesty will act with special care and **taking into account the needs, perspectives and well-being** of children and youth.

## Additional Remarks

- Apply the principle of equality, organizational culture, and attitudes by reducing discrimination
- Create a safe space by taking into account people of diverse backgrounds
- Organize Youth working group
- Create a platform that allows for good exchanges
- Expand the safety space to cover a wide range of violence, including mental, cyber and family
- Promote better physical, mental, and well-being
- Language and cultural barriers
- Prioritize work
- Increase the ability to exercise decision-making skills in children.

# Goal 3

Children and youth have self-confident skills and link to increased grassroots campaigns in order to achieve impact on human rights



## Children and youth liked strategy 3.1

- Improve work practices by **taking into account the needs** of children and youth with diverse backgrounds
- Create participatory culture and **movement against racism**
- Promote a feeling of **social belonging and well-being** of children and youth activists

## Additional Remarks

- Connections between groups, parties and organizations reinforce confidence in working in human rights (building solidarity)
- Create participatory culture in all areas and at all levels, such as racism in schools, gender identity
- Information is not widely distributed and it is difficult to access
- Create partnerships between student and teacher in school
- Organize online activities on a variety of issues
- Recognition rights from an early age and continuous support are good for personal development
- Grown-up youth should be able to participate, expand their work and continue to support

# Recommendation

## Children and Youth Protection

- Take action and support child safety on behalf of the organization when threat or lawsuit occurs
- Want to have a concrete, continuous and tangible follow-up process
- Make the work to be sustainable and consistent
- Make the work to clearly create value and awareness of rights
- Create a database of children activists and a preliminary understanding in each area.

## Work with Children and Youth

- Take into an account diversity and different backgrounds
- Provide knowledge tools for children and youth
- Introduce channels to access various resources

# Does it meet expectations?

- I want Amnesty Thailand to understand the Thai context more, such as seniority.
- There are still questions about the realities, such as the power of youth and adults or maximizing internal potential
- Broad and abstract. This is a good initiative, but not concrete yet
- Focusing on digital too much. This may limit access to certain groups comparing to the national level
- Interesting because the situation in Thai society is quite restrictive

# What do you think about this strategy which specifies working with children under 18 years of age? And why?

## "Agree" because

- Reduce the age gap problem and expand the clear perspective.
- Involve children in the process as nowadays there are more children who are aware of human rights.
- Children are the rights holders.
- Strengthen the children and youth voices which have always been buried, so that they can be heard more.
- Opening up spaces for children to participate and express themselves more clearly.
- Building a foundation from the age of 18 is likely to have more long-term effects.
- Amnesty will have time to in-depth work with children to increase the potential in developing themselves.
- There are not many active groups working with youth in this age range.
- Appreciation of value and arguments in children and youth will create a new mindset and culture of debate.
- It is sustainable development.

# **Suggestions on how to work with children under 18 years old**

- Create a safe space to exchange ideas and experiences
- The use of popular media platforms among children and youth such as social media (TikTok, Instagram), as well as the use of child-interested subjects such as games to insert content on human rights, can increase children's interest.
- Organize school activities and work with student committees.
- Work with adults, such as working in areas where there are a lot of elderly people, should have an adult who works with children to support the activity. This will get more listening.
- Make it an important issue to him/her
- Create a process to encourage speaking and comment
- Create various learning methods according to the learning age
- Do short and frequent activities daily
- Create a curriculum and efficient policies
- Establish youth forum for children and youth more often and update according to the situation
- Rewarding system such as volunteering

## Should Amnesty adopt the target number of youth supporters? And why? (1/3 of all supporters)

Yes, because:

- It will allow access to various perspectives and to see problems more clearly.
- It reduce thinking on behalf of children from adult members.
- There is a clearer direction of work.



# Designation of the Number of Youth Board Members at International Level

"Should increase the quota" (9)

because

The context of children around the world is diverse and it is the growing problem. Therefore, there should be more children's voices to reflect diverse perspectives, more participation, and youth board member to play the role.



## Examples of human rights violations on freedom of expression and space to express rights and freedoms

### Violation of the right to express political opinions of children and youth

- Abuse by family, such as severance between children and parents
- Violation from school, such as elimination of the right to continue education, funding, bullying from school
- Harassment by government officials using Criminal law such as Section 112



**Children were prosecuted for exercising their rights on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly without weapons**



**Example of  
human rights  
violations that  
impact children  
and youth's  
equality and non-  
discrimination**

- Family Institute due to a lack of understanding about gender identity and basic human rights
- Educational institutions: Sexual harassment in schools
- Public gathering: women still feel threatened by men
- Online space such as Twitter: girls, when sharing or tweeting, were harassed by men or adults
- Language sensitivity / bullying Inclusive with words
- Opportunity to access resources such as the opportunity to access education is reduced. (Accessibility to education)
- Racial discrimination during COVID-19 early in the year effected a project to help local Burmese people and worked with children in the workforce.

## **2.1 Examples of children and youth activism on climate justice**

Chana, harassment of children and families

Wang Saphung, Loei Province

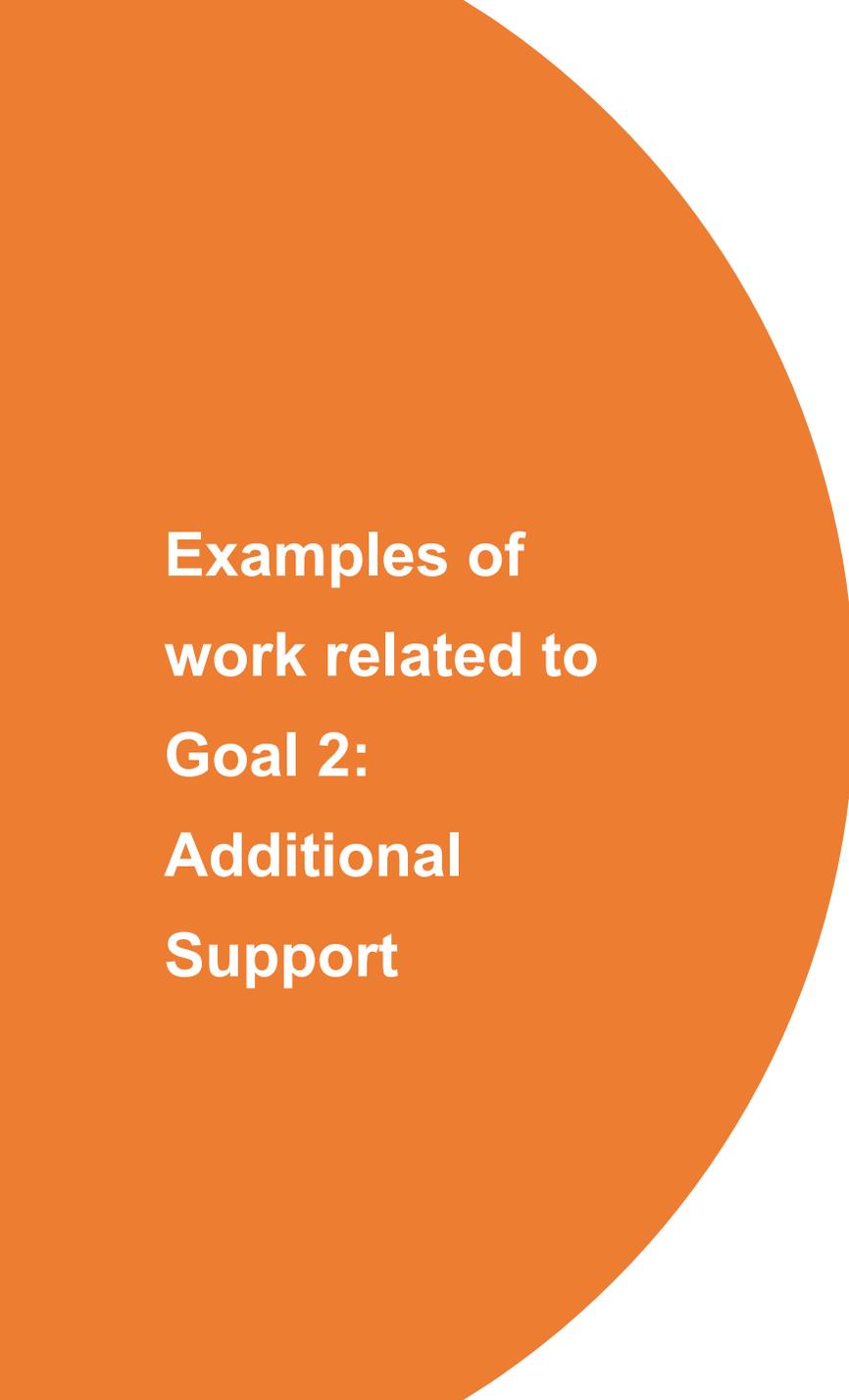
## **2.2 Examples of sexual harassment**

Providing support was difficult because there were more than expected many children and youth who were victims of sexual harassment. Even if in any society demanding fairness, sexual harassment issue has continuously been ignored and allowed to occur until it embedded in the culture. For example, the youth who participated public gathering were threatened to feel insecure by the protesters and on the stage by sexist jokes.

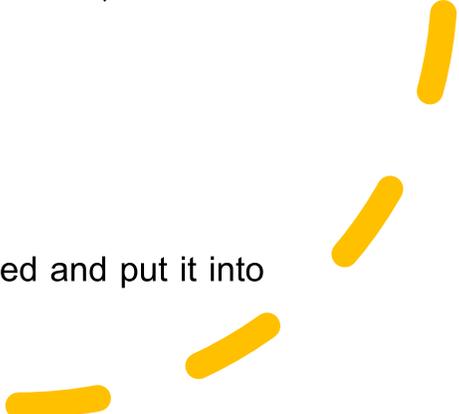
**Example of human rights violations that impact on children and youth's equality and non-discrimination**

**Examples of  
work related to  
Goal 1: Children  
are the center of  
work.**

- Children are able to make decisions that influence the work process, and focus on increasing listening space. Children will have the opportunity to speak their own opinions.
- Establish National Assembly/Community Leaders for children and youth across the country to present problems on the grounds/find solutions/present



## Examples of work related to Goal 2: Additional Support

- Organize activities to instill knowledge and awareness of human rights in schools.
  - Appoint youth representatives or AI representatives at local and regional levels to expand the area of work and monitor safety in the area
  - Increase the media space for children and youth and communication channels such as Tiktok
  - Raise the issue of child rights violations such as the issue of parents choosing religion and sex.
  - Hire specialized lawyers for for children and youth
  - Learning models on rights and respect diversity, innovation for simulation such as board games, card games, learning tools, engage children under 18, and create problem-based learning
  - Data support from Amnesty
  - The process of making children voices meaningful, feel involved and put it into practice
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**Examples of  
work related to  
Goal 3: working  
on local issues**

- Activists or people in the area questioning children activists to exchange interested issues
- Create groups shared common interest such as Bangkok area members or Facebook group, Line to encourage them to do activities together
- Conduct activities through community leaders such as the village headman or subdistrict headman because they can gather people and gain access to some state resources
- Amnesty Club LLB educate and collect information with the villagers in Phatthalung
- Work to educate people in the area and learn about their way of life



**Thank you for your comments**

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