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Opening Remarks
By
Mr. Pakorn Nilprapunt
Secretary General of the Office of the Public Sector Development Commission
At A Workshop on National Evaluation Capacity Development
Launching Activity of UNICEF – OPDC Cooperation

Monday, 27th August 2018
at the Sukosol, Bangkok

Good Morning,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to welcome you all to the launching activity of UNICEF-OPDC cooperation under the topic: National Evaluation Capacity Development today. I am, on behalf of OPDC, so delighted to co-host of this special event. Our friends from UNICEF, Davin, Christina and their colleges, are very enthusiastic and energetic in organizing this activity. That is very much appreciated. So, before I am going on, please give a big applause to our UNICEF friends for their outstanding task. *(Applause)*

Ladies and Gentlemen. It is generally accepted that human is the center for development at all level and all dimensions. Every country therefore dedicates the best effort to human capacity building and development. As for Thailand, this notion is embedded in many provisions of the 2017 Constitution and it is transformed to be core element of both National Strategic Plan and National Reform Plan in which all State agencies are bound to comply with. In the 12th National Economic and Social Development Plan, Human Capacity Development is also classified as the 1st Strategy of the plan as well. Therefore, the allocation of all State's resources shall be aiming at the accomplishment of this purpose.

However, human capacity building and development takes time. It may take 10 or 20 years or longer, or may be generation, to produce the target output and outcome. This unique characteristic is quite different from economic investment which is able to produce output and outcome in shorter period. Therefore, in term of State's resources allocation, regard shall be had to appropriate balancing between economic and social investment.

In term of evaluation of such social investment as human capacity building and development, the difficult question is what should be the proper KPI thereof and what should be criteria for evaluation thereto. This is because the achievement of human capacity development bases upon unforeseeable and uncontrollable factors. So, how to set up proper KPI on such complexity? I am quite sure that all Governments around the globe are now facing with the same problem in developing this sort of KPI since the societal context of each country nowadays has changed rapidly as a result of disruptive technology, ageing society and climate change.

OPDC however recognized that UNICEF is an invaluable source of knowledge and experience on this matter. Even we develop social indicator for years, the global threats as mentioned above propel us to develop social KPI in accordance with international standard. We do therefore seek cooperation from UNICEF so as to give advice and recommendation to develop the "fit and proper KPI" for Human Capacity Development for Thailand and to strengthen evaluation capacity of all line Ministries and central agencies in collaboration with international standard so as to fulfill the target of the National Strategic Plan, the National Reform Plan and the National Economic and Social Development Plan and to meet with SDGs goal.

I do strongly believe that the results of UNICEF-OPDC mutual efforts to promote National Evaluation Capacity Development would be beneficial for Thai public agencies in reviewing and adjusting our social indicators by mapping out good practices and in developing outstanding and sound social indicators for “Better Life” of the people.

Finally, I would like to thank the UNICEF once again for the kind cooperation in sharing invaluable knowledge and experience to the participants from all line Ministries and central agencies and I am looking forward to strengthening the ties of our cooperation further.

Thank you.
