

Proposal for reform 4: Applied research and knowledge transfer: engaging with society, industry, and business

Generic guidance

The group facilitator and participants are invited to spend 5 minutes reading and noting the following generic questions that should inform discussions during each workshop break-out session

- With reference to the strategic priority area **Applied research and knowledge transfer: engaging with society, industry, and business**, what problems or challenges need to be addressed, and what is in need of reform?
- What are the pointers to reform in terms of actions that might need to be taken, or changes made?
- What institutions, bodies, or systems, are or might be required to deliver reforms or changes?
- Do any existing arrangements at institutional, regional, or system/national level need to be rationalised and are any reconfigurations required?

Questions for discussion

1. In the Thailand context, what are the chief imperatives for increasing the level of university engagement with society, business, and industry? In which areas of university endeavour (eg. Teaching, Research, Knowledge Transfer, Creative Work) are the drivers of engagement and potential benefits the greatest?
2. What current policy initiatives are driving the engagement agenda for Thai universities? What would 'more effective engagement' look like?
3. In the Thai university system, how is 'engagement' currently differentiated between the different types of university? How would an enhanced policy landscape for engagement treat the different types of universities?
4. What key barriers to enhanced engagement currently exist in Thai universities and society? For example:
 - Attitudes and understanding
 - Academic mindset
 - Employment law and contracts
 - Intellectual property issues
 - Incentives

How would each of the issues identified be best addressed: (a) At the national policy level, (b) At the level of individual universities?

5. As faculty members become more entrepreneurial, what quality control measures are required to ensure the benefits of appropriate engagement on both sides: Institutional and Societal?
6. How would successful engagement be measured in the Thai context? What should universities be required to report publically in this area?