

14th ATRANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Transportation for a Better Life:

Future Potential of Transportation and Urban Model Post COVID Era”

ATrans YOUNG RESEARCHER'S FORUM 2021 SPECIAL SESSION



The Strengths and Weaknesses of NGOs' Roles in Promoting the SDGs for Road Safety and Sustainable Transport Systems: A Case of Bangkok

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Organized by

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International Association of
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Introduction

In Bangkok municipality, there are 10 NGOs involved in promoting road safety and sustainable transport systems at the public level. They adopted the Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs in their works to create a better transport system for all. Even though the SDGs are not legally binding for all UN member states, the importance of the SDGs is the global agenda that all UN member states are supposed to apply the SDGs in national development plans or public policies. Researcher specifically chose the target number 11.2 (affordable and sustainable transport systems) of the SDGs as an example target for analyzing how NGOs based in Bangkok applied the target number 11.2 of the SDGs in their frameworks and project implementation.



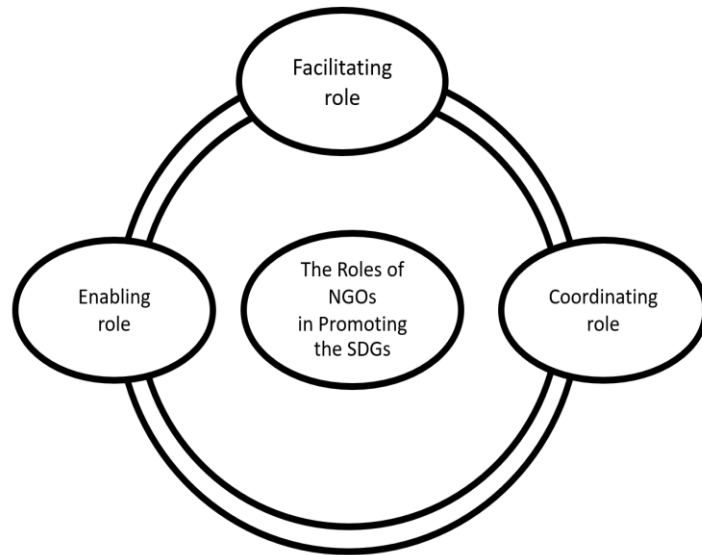
Objective

1. To analyze the roles of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) based in Bangkok in promoting road safety and sustainable transport systems by applying the target number 11.2 of the SDGs
2. To study the project implementation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) based in Bangkok in assisting public sector

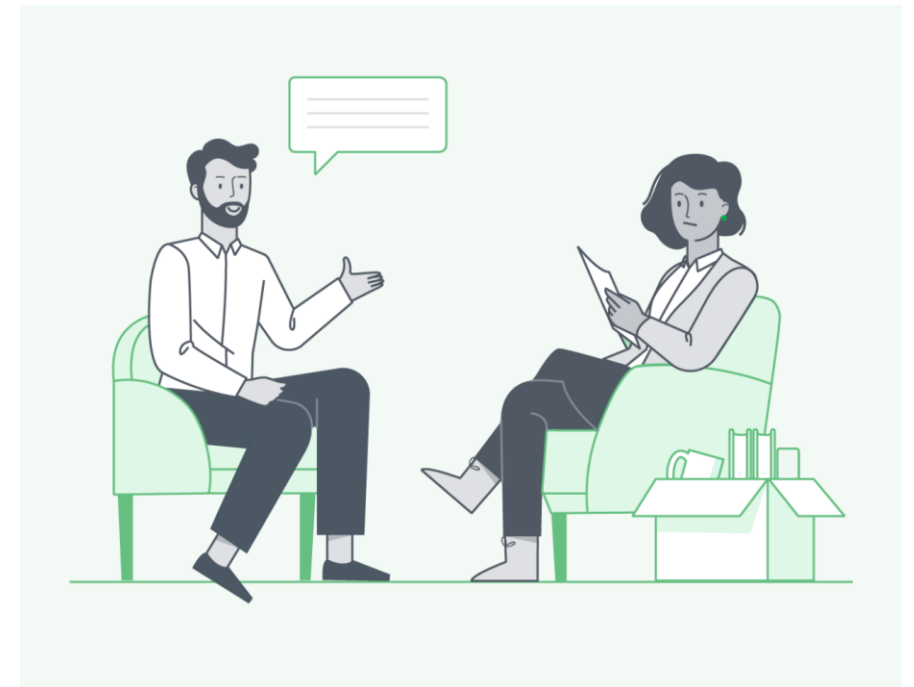


Methodology

1. Creating an analytical framework



2. Providing In-Depth Interviews



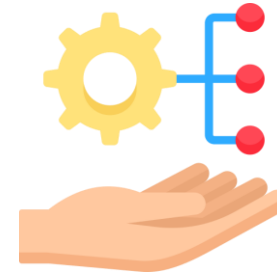
Result

1. Road Safety Policy Foundation (RSPF)
2. Thai Society for Transportation and Traffic Studies (TSTS)
3. Thailand Walking and Cycling Institute (TWCI)
4. Asian Transport Research Society (ATRANS)
5. People's Safety Foundation
6. Thai Roads Foundation
7. Foundation for Consumers
8. Thai Intelligent Transport System Association (ITS)
9. Thai Road Safety Center (Thai RSC)
10. Intelligent Traffic Information Center (iTIC)

There are 3 main factors are related to the number of NGOs that implement their roles in promoting road safety promotion and sustainable transport systems



Policy Continuity



Implementation Period



Acheivement

The Strengths of NGOs in Promoting the SDGs

Flexibility



NGOs based in Bangkok lie in higher flexibility in adapting operational protocols and higher efficiency of implementation due to less burden of internal bureaucratic procedures compared to government agencies.

Mediator

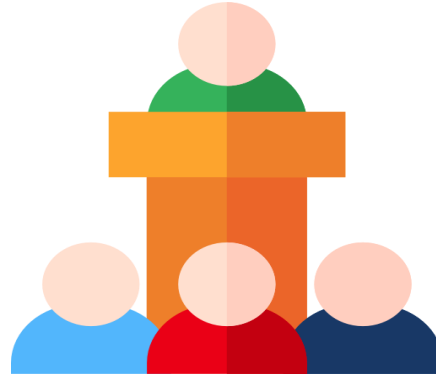


NGOs can be the mediator among public sector, private sector, and stakeholders to communicate and facilitate mutual understanding in any potential conflicts. They can offer creative approaches while maintaining unbiased comments among relevant sectors.

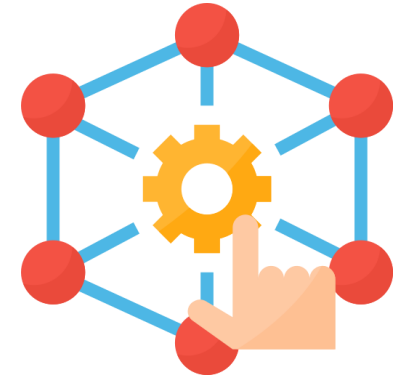
The Weaknesses of NGOs in Promoting the SDGs



Financial Instability



Low Influence in Public Sector



Lack of Resources



Conclusion/Discussion

- Even though all ten NGOs based in Bangkok have been implementing their roles in promoting road safety and sustainable transport systems for decades, and the main substance of the target number 11.2 of the SDGs is not a new thing for them. The importance of the SDGs is linked to various opportunities for NGOs to enhance their roles in social change perspective. The SDGs are not legally binding, but also crucial to the roles of NGOs.
- Nowadays, NGOs in Thailand have established themselves as important actors in Thai society, but they still need to collaborate with public sector to achieve goals. Independent concept may not be able to apply for the roles of NGOs that aim to promote road safety and sustainable transport systems. Most NGOs cannot play aggressive roles with policymakers to motivate them for resolving public transport problems. They tried to express coordinating roles for working together, whereas consensus is a form of decision-making.
- Enhancing the roles of NGOs to promote road safety and sustainable transport systems, NGOs based in Bangkok need to develop sustainable financial systems to prevent financial instability in the future.



THANK YOU

Q&A

