

Ministerial Speech

Professor Dr. Anek Laothamatas

Minister of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation of
Thailand

for

The Seventh Annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science,
Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

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Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to warmly welcome the seventh annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals or STI Forum and thank you for inviting me to participate in this Forum.

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has become one of the most challenging issues to all of us for the past two and a half years. Nevertheless, with global collaboration, all parts of the world may overcome this obstacle and work together towards the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations by the year 2030.

In this regard, let me announce that Thailand has set its 20-year national strategy to make herself a developed country, achieving prosperity, sustainability, and security. Moreover, the Thai government has launched a national agenda to make full use of the so-called BCG Economy Model which in turn comprises three main components, namely B standing for bioeconomy focusing on the utilization of biodiversity of the country, C standing for circular economy focusing on sustainable production and consumption of natural resources, and G standing for green economy focusing on balancing economic, societal, and environmental impact. The BCG Economy Model, put differently, utilizes science, technology and innovation to promote the strength of Thailand in its biological diversity as well as in its rich cultural heritage.

The guiding principle of our BCG Economy Model also follows the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, introduced by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great. The philosophy puts an emphasis on knowledge and virtues as foundation for development focusing on reasonableness, moderation and resiliency as management principles towards sustainable well-being both in terms of economy and in terms of environment and culture.

Even though the concept of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and BCG Economy Model comes from the experience of Thailand, its guiding principle is universal and can be applied anywhere. It is my sincere hope that this Model of Thailand can be an example of

success in building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic while advancing towards the implementation of SDGs which is the theme of this STI Forum

Thank you very much.
