



Mahidol  
University  
*Wisdom of the Land*

# INSTITUTE FOR POPULATION AND SOCIAL RESEARCH



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THE SYMBOLIC PLANTS OF MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, KAN PHAL MAHIDOL

## Institute for Population and Social Research

Established in 1971, the Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) is one of Asia's premier population research and training hubs.

The Institute conducts research and provides training in population and development and explores their relationship to the social, economic, reproductive health, medical and public health fields. This allows the Institute to help address emerging issues for Thailand and neighboring countries in south-east Asia and beyond, with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of life for all.

The demographic transition throughout Asia has emerged at different stages in recent decades as political and economic change has swept the region, and the Institute is uniquely positioned to keep abreast with these changes through our timely research. This knowledge and technical support is widely disseminated to scholars and policy-makers internationally, regionally, and at the country and local levels.



IPSR BUILDING

## About us

The Institute for Population and Social Research was the first institution of its kind in Thailand, and has a large number of academic staff and international collaboration partners. In 2006, the Institute was ranked first among social science research institutes in Thailand by the National Office of the Higher Education Commission.

The Institute's highly distinguished faculty has demonstrated excellence in applied academic research aimed at improving the quality of life of people in Thailand and throughout Asia.

The work of the Institute has been recognized by many international bodies. Today, we are a Collaborating Centre of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), a United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Centre of Excellence in Population and Family Planning/Reproductive Health, and a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Research in Human Reproduction. We also maintain other important research collaborations with The Population Council, Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Wellcome Trust.

## IPSR's eight strategies :

- Excellence in population and social research
- Transformative education
- Excellence in population and social academics services
- Internationalization
- Social responsibility
- ICT based Institute
- Management for sustainability
- Human resource excellence



*“Quality and morality guide  
the Institute”*

## Our mission

The Institute's mission is to conduct timely research into key population issues affecting the region and share such knowledge through collaborative research and training programs with colleagues from within and outside Asia.

In support of this mission, the Institute undertakes comprehensive research, training, academic services, and information dissemination. In addition, to serve as the Population Reference Center for Thailand, the Institute has established the Mahidol Migration Center, and the Thai Centenarians Center. IPSR has also developed 'Thailandometers', real-time indicators about Thailand.

## Our staff

The Institute has an internationally distinguished faculty of social scientists, demographers, reproductive health researchers, and program evaluation specialists. Our multi-disciplinary team holds doctoral degrees from universities in Thailand, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Several faculty members hold distinguished positions as members of major research and policy committees for national and international bodies including WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.



ANNUAL IPSR RETREAT

## Our research clusters

The Institute's major areas of expertise are:

- Thai Society and Changes in the Population and the Family
- Population Ageing
- Sexuality, Gender, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS
- Population, Environment and Health
- Migration, Urbanization and Labor
- Emerging Issues

National and international training is conducted about these areas of knowledge. Our website is regularly updated with information about upcoming courses and ongoing research.

## Our research

The Institute conducts relevant and responsive research to meet emerging population and reproductive health program needs.

While we carry out our own research, we also actively cooperate with other national, regional and international organizations – governmental, non-governmental, community-based – to conduct population and social research in a broad and timely way. Our extensive list of publications can be found on our website.

Research projects are conducted at all stages, ranging from basic research, preliminary studies, program interventions, as well as final monitoring and evaluation. Faculty staff have actively organized research projects and provided consultancy services for programs implemented in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.

The Institute regularly produces several research publications detailing its research findings and activities, including the *Population and Development Newsletter*, *Journal of Population and Social Studies*, and the *Mahidol Population Gazette* (in both Thai and English). We have a lively and engaged research culture with staff and students attending weekly 'brown bag' seminars and an annual conference presenting the results of our most recent and up-to-date topical research.

## Our facilities

The Institute has modern teaching and learning facilities including a well-resourced library with over 10,000 volumes of reference works, theses, and national and international journals that are population- and health-related.

Our field station in Kanchanaburi province was established with support from the Wellcome Trust. This facility is dedicated to the monitoring of population change in this ethnic minority-populated region, and to evaluating the effects of intervention-based research.



## Our training

The Institute conducts postgraduate training for national and international programs.

The Institute offers a Master of Arts in Population and Social Research (Thai program), along with the following international programs:

- Master of Arts in Population and Reproductive Health Research
- Master of Population and Social Gerontology offered jointly with Miami University
- Doctor of Philosophy in Demography
- Doctor of Philosophy in Demography (consortium program).

All these degrees are geared towards academic excellence. Upon graduation, our high-calibre students are able to plan, analyze, and conduct research on socioeconomic, demographic and reproductive health problems. Advanced degree students are encouraged to participate in project development with the many international agencies that contact and collaborate with the Institute on a regular basis.

Student financial support is offered in the form of Masters and PhD scholarships generously funded by a range of bodies including United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Thailand Government, UNFPA, the Wellcome Trust and WHO, along with the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Mahidol University.

Non-degree programs are also offered, including a Monitoring and Evaluation of Population and Health course concentrating on HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and qualitative research and analysis.

Other short-courses and training are available upon request.



## Our partners

The Institute has developed an extensive network of linkages with national and international agencies. We enjoy strong support from Mahidol University, other government organizations, as well as international organizations. Institute fellows benefit from these linkages through access to extensive program data and opportunities for field visits.

A trilateral cooperation program with the Thailand Government in collaboration with various international institutions and academic organizations has led to many regional workshops and training sessions. These organizations include the International Network for the Demographic Evaluation of Populations and Their Health in Developing Countries (INDEPTH), the Population Council, the Population Reference Bureau (PRB), the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (USA), UNFPA, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), USAID and WHO.

The Institute has developed strong working relationships with universities and national agencies in countries throughout Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America and Africa. We are also grateful for the excellent relationships we have with the international organisations and funding bodies who generously support our research.



