

AUN-HPN

Organization Profile

AUN-HPN

Secretariat

AUN-HPN Secretariat is hosted
by ASEAN Institute for Health
Development, Mahidol University,
Thailand.

The Office of AUN-HPN Secretariat

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Message from
**DR. WIWAT
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AUN-HPN Executive Director

The ASEAN University Network – Health Promotion Network (AUN-HPN) was established as part of the efforts to address public health issues and sustainable development. We all are aware that the challenges facing

public health have changed tremendously since the beginning of this century. In our closely interconnected world, health everywhere is shaped by the same influential forces, such as rapid urbanization and technological development, ageing, and the globalization of unhealthy lifestyles. Under the pressure of these forces, chronic non-communicable diseases have overtaken infectious diseases as the leading cause of morbidity, disability, and mortality. Since the Ottawa Charter produced in 1986 through to Shanghai Declaration in 2016, a large body of evidence and experience has accumulated about the importance of health promotion as an integrative and cost-effective strategy and essential component of health systems to respond adequately to emerging concerns. Health promotion has never been timelier or more needed.

One of our small but important stepping stone toward expansion of health promotion concept is the development of a set of standard called “Healthy University Framework” in 2017 which provides practical guidance to becoming a healthy university. The framework was launched and adopted in the AUN Rectors meeting in July 2017, and circulated to all AUN member universities. We would like to encourage all member universities to put this framework into practice. In the future, we hope that we will be able to push forward the health promotion concept to other higher education institutions in Asia.

AUN-HPN has been established in 2014 with the aim to serve as a platform for ASEAN higher education institutions for collaboration among themselves and with other key stakeholders for the purpose of health promotion in the ASEAN region. The Network also encourages sharing of knowledge, skills, and resources among the network members in order to build capacity for health promotion and to develop innovative solutions to common health challenges we shared. AUN-HPN hopes that we could contribute by highlighting the roles of higher education institutions and enhancing existing strengths in their technical knowledge and skills for health and wellbeing of the population.

ABOUT AUN-HPN

Established in 2014, AUN–Health Promotion Network (HPN) is a thematic network of the ASEAN University Network (AUN), dedicated to health promotion in the ASEAN region. The establishment of AUN-HPN was the most significant outcome of the first AUN Health Promotion Conference organized in 2014 at Mahidol University (MU), Thailand. The AUN-HPN Secretariat is based at Mahidol University under the guidance of the AUN–HPN International Advisory Committee.

AUN-HPN serves as a regional network of academic collaboration joined by health experts, practitioners, higher education institutions, and interested organisations to promote the roles of universities in promoting healthy lifestyles and suitable environments with health promotion approach.

In response to Ottawa Charter 1986, health promotion demands coordinated actions by many parties concerned, and universities are inextricably involved. The time has come for ASEAN universities to implement thoroughly the health promotion strategies introduced in the charter, for example, to create the environments that support health promotion, empowerment of community for concrete health promotion works and to develop personal skills throughout, and policy oriented actions.

AUN-HPN takes a leading role in liaising and cooperating with higher education institutions and partners in ASEAN region and beyond to accelerate health promotion campaigns and collaborative research for community well-being and public benefits through regional collaboration, research, capacity building, sharing of knowledge and experience to tackle common health challenges in ASEAN region and beyond.

OUR MISSIONS

- 1 To serve as a platform for ASEAN higher education institutions for collaboration among themselves and with other key stakeholders for the purpose of health promotion in the ASEAN region.
- 2 To share knowledge, skills and resources among the network members in order to build capacity for health promotion and to develop innovative solutions to common health challenges in the region.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- 1 To provide a discussion platform for stakeholders (policy makers, health care professionals, university students, communities and dialogue partners) involved in health promotion activities within the ASEAN region for intellectual exchange and experience-sharing on the successes, learning and best practices;
- 2 To document outcomes of current health promotion policies and practices being implemented by participating universities, with a view to promoting effective health promotion policies and practices in cross-border collaboration among ASEAN universities;
- 3 To promote the roles of universities in health promotion, particularly on action-oriented policies that relate to community and public health;
- 4 To proactively promote platforms for knowledge sharing in the area of health promotion;
- 5 To make recommendations for further development of the collaboration framework on interdisciplinary health promotion in the Southeast Asian region.

WHAT WE DO

1 Advocacy toward a Healthy University:

AUN Health University Framework (HUF)

AUN Health University Framework (HUF) has been developed by AUN-HPN in cooperation with member universities from the ASEAN University Network to serve as a powerful tool to advocate higher education institutions to promote “healthy university” in Asia.

To set standards for health promotion universities in the ASEAN region;

To promote the role of AUN member universities in the area of health promotion within and outside the universities;

HUF

aims to serve the following objectives:

To raise awareness of university administrators on the threat of unhealthy behaviors and poor environment that impact health of university personnel, students and the society as a whole; and the need to address them;

To scale-up health promotion activities for universities mainly in ASEAN Plus Three countries.

Monitoring and evaluation on the implementation progress of HUF are underway to assess how HUF has been implemented and utilized in ASEAN universities for further development planning for universities in the region including health promotion capacity building, collaborative projects and other initiatives.

HUF publication is available online at <https://aun-hpn.mahidol.ac.th>.

2 Health Promotion Capacity Building:

Health promotion by its nature applies a holistic and multi-sectoral approach. We have put great efforts to build up capacity of our member universities to enhance more knowledge and understanding in the health promotion concept.

The focus of capacity building includes several prioritised areas pertinent to health promotion in universities such as research, leadership development, and monitoring & evaluation.

Knowledge and Experience Sharing: 3

Knowledge and experience sharing is key component of networking activities. We provide platforms for member universities, as well as regional and international experts to share and learn from one another. We believe that knowledge and experience sharing among members themselves and with the experts will broaden perspectives in health promotion and lead to more innovative approaches and strategies in dealing with public health issues in our members' countries.

International Health Promotion Conference

The conference is one of our key platforms for promoting knowledge and experience sharing that highlights the roles of universities in healthy lifestyles and environments with guest speakers and panel discussions from experts in ASEAN and Asia.



4 Health Promotion Research Collaboration:

AUN-HPN in cooperation with member universities and partners develop collaborative research projects with main focus on current public health issues.

Current research projects:

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

AUN-HPN collaborates with Osaka University of Japan for a joint research project on non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The primary objective is to tackle the rise of NCDs by addressing key modifiable risk factors, including tobacco, alcohol, physical activity, diet, and mental health, for better health and wellbeing of Asian populations.

The research on NCDs will investigate the prevalence of tobacco and alcohol consumption, physical activity participation, dietary intake, and mental and reproductive health status in university students and staff. It also aims to develop appropriate interventions and promotions, and examine their effectiveness, along with strengthening the research capacity and networks amongst higher education institutes and providing evidence-informed policy recommendations.

Children and Youth Physical Activity Study (CYPAS)

CYPAS is a 3-year research project on physical activity led by Mahidol University of Thailand with funding support by Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth). This research project has 4 objectives:

- 1 To generate knowledge on physical activity in Thai children and youth;
- 2 To set up an online research database for scholars and a separate database for general public;
- 3 To disseminate knowledge in various forms to the general public for use in their daily lives;
- 4 To build up capacity of Thai researchers on physical activity in children and youth and a research network by linking with local and international education institutions.

5 Health Promotion Campaigns

The campaign aims to provide a platform to expand health promotion concept and raise awareness on AUN Healthy University Framework (HUF) within universities in ASEAN in cooperation with universities at national level.

Rolling out of AUN-HPN Network Expansion at national level

Launched in 2017, AUN-HPN in cooperation with universities in 5 regions of Thailand implemented the university health promotion campaigns through the organisation of seminars in different regions of Thailand including north, south, east, central, and northeast. The seminars served as a kick-off platform to seek interest and potential collaboration among universities in country as part of the network expansion plan.

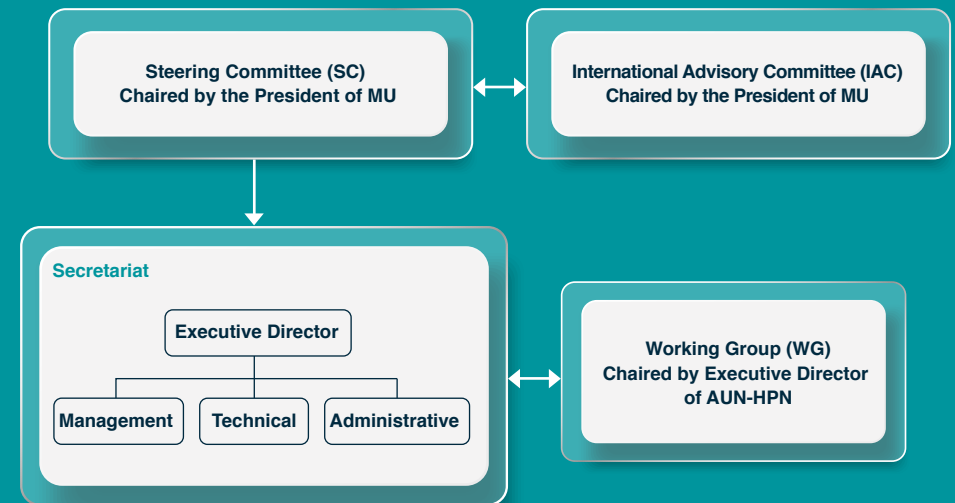
Mahidol University Health Promotion Campaign

Launched in 2019, this is a 3 year university campaign aiming to expand health promotion concept and raise awareness of AUN Healthy University Framework across all faculties and institutes within Mahidol University.



Organisation/Management Structure

AUN-HPN has 3 main committees looking after network policies, strategies, and operational plans. The Secretariat office is the main body implementing all agreed operational plans and facilitates communication among network members.



AUN-HPN International Advisory Committee (IAC)

The primary function of the IAC is to advise the AUN-HPN Steering Committee on a wide range of health promotion issues, especially those relating to the ASEAN region. The IAC has the following roles:

- Advising the AUN-HPN on policy and technical issues related to health promotion within the ASEAN region;
- Supporting the mobilization of funds for AUN-HPN activities;
- Supporting member universities to increase engagement with the work on AUN-HPN;
- Facilitating introduction of agreed programs and activities;
- Advocating for AUN-HPN;
- Monitoring and evaluating AUN-HPN activities.

AUN-HPN Steering Committee (SC)

The SC was formed on 10 March 2015 within Mahidol University. Chaired by the President of Mahidol University, the SC provides policy direction for the health promotion network across ASEAN. The SC has the followings responsibilities:

- formulate policies, strategies, and provide strategic direction for AUN-HPN
- support and collaborate for AUN-HPN activities that encourage further cooperation between universities, at regional level and internationally
- consider and advise on AUN-HPN policy and participate in reaching resolutions with AUN-HPN members
- participate in AUN-HPN meetings held twice a year

AUN-HPN Working Group

The AUN-HPN Working Group is responsible for work planning and implementation of AUN-HPN activities. Based at Mahidol University, it was established on 10 March 2015. The Working Group has the following responsibilities:

- To provide and prepare plans and resolutions in the short and long-term for relevant targets and policies as instructed by the Steering Committee;
- To draft and develop proposals for funding;
- To report on activities of AUN-HPN to the Steering Committee for consideration;
- To carry out health promotion activities, as directed by the Steering Committee and AUN-HPN plans;
- To follow up and assess work performance and progress to the Steering Committee twice a year.

Membership Policy

AUN-HPN consists of member universities from the ASEAN University Network and is open to interested universities in ASEAN and beyond through associate membership. Members will have access to information and will be invited to participate in AUN-HPN activities, conferences, other planned initiatives and collaborations in meaningful partnerships with communities and industries nationally and regionally.

