Juvenile Justice in Thailand – an Overview

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Presentation Outline

- Overview of the situation
- TIJ activities in support of the reform of juvenile justice system
- Moving forward
Overview of Current Situations

36,537 juvenile cases

- Male: 34108 cases
- Female: 2429 cases

- Over 10 years but not exceed 15 years: 24.49%
- Over 15 years but not attain 18 years: 70.51%
- Over 15 years but not attain 18 years: 5.01%
Juvenile cases from 2004 to 2014

Offence Categories (2014)

Drug: 45.18% (16,508 cases)
Assets: 19.73% (7,208 cases)
Life/body: 10.29% (3,759 cases)
Legal Framework

- Juvenile and Family Court Procedure Act (2010)
- Civil and Criminal Code
- Criminal Procedure Code
Challenges

Overcrowded conditions

limited systematic follow-up after being released

Inadequate capacity-building for staff
Emerging good practices

- Restorative justice as diversionary measures
- Communication with parents through video-conference

Diversion
3,665 cases
Or
10%
Among cases under care of Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection in 2014
TIJ activities in support of the reform of the juvenile justice system

TIJ Philosophy

- To promote crime prevention, criminal justice reform and the rule of law through research, policy advocacy and capacity building
- To encourage Thailand’s participation in UN frameworks related to crime prevention and criminal justice.
- To translate international standards into the implementation at domestic and ASEAN regional levels

Mobilizing Support for Implementation In Thailand

Informal Approach
The Dusit Thani Group among key domestic stakeholders:
- juvenile court,
- the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection,
- Attorney General,
- Ministry of Social Development and Human Security,
- Academia
- NGOs
- The UNSG Special Representatives on Violence against Children (Ms. Martha Santos Pais)
Implementation in Thailand

Towards a National Roadmap

- Gap analysis
- Action plans for
  - children as victims of crimes,
  - children as witnesses of crimes,
  - child offenders

Moving Forward
Rights-based Juvenile justice system
&
Sustainable Development Goals...

Thank You