Thailand's Integrity and Transparency Assessment 2019

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1. Rationale and Significance of the Integrity and Transparency Assessment

The Integrity and Transparency Assessment (ITA) of government organisations can be considered as a vital part of the National Anti-corruption Strategy – Phase 3 (2017 - 2021). The strategy gives significance to the Integrity and Transparency Assessment of government organisations' performance, focusing on the development and strengthening of "Proactive Anti-Corruption Mechanisms", which all public agencies must implement. It is expected that the participating organisations in the assessment acknowledge and understand the assessment results as well as developing approaches to elevating organisational performance in terms of integrity and transparency.

Importantly on 23 January 2018, the Cabinet reached an agreement that it is required that all government organisations take part in the Integrity and Transparency Assessment for the fiscal years 2018 – 2021, based on the assessment tools and approaches imposed by the Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission.

The Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission has also developed information technology systems to support the Integrity and Transparency Assessment (ITAS) as the centre for updated database and effective information management. Therefore, the assessment can be conducted more rapidly, and comply with single national standards. Furthermore, it is convenient for users to automatically follow, analyse, and evaluate updated assessment results in response to the implementation of data for organisational improvement in anti-corruption prevention strategies in the participating agencies.

In order to conduct the Integrity and Transparency Assessment to the highest efficiency with academic principles, The Bureau of Integrity and Transparency Assessment, has been assigned from the NACC commissioner to conduct the ITA of all government agencies in Thailand. The intent is to raise awareness of integrity and transparency in public administration according to the good governance principles. The participating agencies need to improve their systems and operations to mitigate the risk of corruption and misconduct. In addition, positive measures against corruption should be executed to achieve the objectives of the National Anti-corruption Strategy – Phase 3 (2017 - 2021).

2. Target Group

The target group includes Public Administrative Organisations in every sector, including 1) Central Administrative Organisation, 2) Provincial Administrative Organisation, 3) Local Administrative Organisation, 4) University, 5) State Enterprise, 6) Public Organisation, 7) Autonomous Government Agency, 8) Foundation or Government Fund, 9) Independence Agency, 10) Judicial Office, and 11) Office of the Attorney General. The total of 8,299 government agencies from every province and every sector has participated in the assessment.

3. Basic Information about the Assessment Criteria

The Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission has determined the assessment criteria for the ITA of Local Administrative Organisations in the fiscal year 2018. The criteria are categorised into ten indicators as follows:

1) Bribery Fraud
2) Budget Misallocation
3) Power Distortion
4) Asset Misappropriation
5) Anti-Corruption Improvement
6) Service Quality
7) Communication Efficiency
8) Procedure Improvement
9) Open Data
10) Anti-Corruption Practice

4. Assessment Methodology and Tools

The consultants of the ITA project have proceeded to the principles and regulations for the Integrity and Transparency Assessment of the government agencies in every fiscal year, imposed by the Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission. The details are as follows:

4.1 Sample Population and Data Collection

The determination of sample population covered all dimensions of public sector in order to collect data from the diversity of information sources, which could meet the requirements from the indicators mentioned above and assessment tools. The sample size was determined by the principles of representativeness. Data collection can be explained as follows:

1) Internal Stakeholders (for Internal Integrity and Transparency Assessment: IIT) are the officers who have worked for government agency for more than a year.

2) External Stakeholders (for External Integrity and Transparency Assessment: EIT) are persons, juristic persons, private companies, or other government agencies who receive services or have contact with government agency.

3) Organisations (for Open Data Integrity and Transparency Assessment: OIT) which are government agencies have been surveyed. Data from all government agencies in the assessment must be collected without sampling.

4.2 Assessment Tools

Assessment tools are divided into three categories. Each tool can be used for different indicators as follows:

1) The Internal Integrity and Transparency Assessment (IIT) aims to evaluate the level of acknowledgement of internal stakeholders in the organisations. The indicators regarding the IIT consist of bribery fraud, budget misappropriation, power distortion, asset misappropriation, and anti-corruption improvement.

2) The External Integrity and Transparency Assessment (EIT) aims to evaluate the level of acknowledgement of external stakeholders towards the participating organisations. The indicators regarding the EIT include service quality, communication efficiency, and procedure improvement.

3) The Open Data Integrity and Transparency Assessment (OIT) aims to evaluate the level of public information disclosure in the organisations to allow general people to access data. The indicators regarding the OIT are open data and anti-corruption practice.

4.3 Data Collection Methods

4.3.1 Internal Stakeholders

Data Collection: Organisations conducted data collection after the Office of the National Anti-Corruption Commission had sent access channels for ITAS to the administrator of each organisation (through notification of ITAS users). The access channels for ITAS were in forms of URL and QR Code, which are specific to each agency. Then, every organisation needed to provide system access instructions for internal stakeholders who had worked for the agency for at least one year to access and assess by themselves via ITAS.

4.3.2 External Stakeholders

Data Collection: Data collection began with the list of external stakeholders which organisations gathered and sent to the consultants. The consultants then conducted face-to-face interviews, phone interviews, posting, emailing, and online questionnaires to collect data and transfer them to ITAS.

4.3.3 Open Data Integrity and Transparency Assessment

Data Collection: The consultants collected data from all participating organisations in the assessment without sampling. The consultants investigated public information on each organisational website which must be imported to ITAS.

5. Results Processing and Assessment Criteria

Results processing calculates scores in terms of indicators, tools, and overall scores, respectively, as shown in the table below.

Type	Weight	Indicators	Sub-Indicators	Number of Questions
IIT	30	Bribery Fraud	-	6
		Budget Misallocation	-	6
		Power Distortion	-	6
		Asset Misappropriation	-	6
		Anti-Corruption Improvement	-	6
EIT	30	Service Quality	-	5
		Communication Efficiency	-	5
		Procedure Improvement	-	5
OIT	40	Open Data	Basic Information	9
			Administration	8
			Budget Appropriation	7
			HRM and HRD	4
			Transparency Promotion	5
		Anti-Corruption Practice	Corruption Prevention Practices	8
			Corruption Prevention Measure	7

The assessment results have been reported in forms of raw scores and the rating scores which can be categorised into seven levels as illustrated in the table below.

Score	Level
95.00 – 100	AA
85.00 – 94.99	A
75.00 – 84.99	B
65.00 – 74.99	C
55.00 – 64.99	D
50.00 – 54.99	E
0 – 49.99	F