Starting from Scratch(es): Building a Criminal Justice Statistics Database in Thailand

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About the Thailand Institute of Justice

- Founded in 2011 by Royal Decree
- Research and Promote CJ Reform
- Bangkok Rules
- Rule of Law
- Crime and Development
- Transnational Organized Crime
- Crime and Justice Statistics

Criminal Justice Agencies w/n the Thai Ministry Justice

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Probation
- Department of Rights and Liberties Protection
- Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection
- Department of Special Investigation
- Legal Execution Department
- Office of Justice Affairs
- Office of Narcotics Control Board

The Situation: Challenges

- Lack of inter and intra agency coordination
- No uniform classification of concepts and indicators
- Lack of culture using data and statistics informing policy-making or performance
- No legal authority
- Youth*

Initial Steps: Identification of What's Available

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Probation
- Office of Justice Affairs
- Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection
- Royal Thai Police
- Courts of Justice
- Department of Special Investigation
- Legal Execution Department
- Office of Narcotics Control Board

Example of Publicly Available Statistics

Department of Corrections

Categories	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Convicted	166,853	29,107	195,960	75.865
On-remand	50,747	9,332	60,079	23
2.1 Pending appeals	23,389	4,078	27,467	11
2.2 Awaiting trial	9,046	1,799	10,845	4
2.3 Awaiting investigations	18,312	3,455	21,767	8
Children and youth under detention	118	6	124	0.05
Relegated persons	11	1	12	0
Detainees	1,946	200	2,146	1
Total incarcerated	219,675	38,646	258,321	100

Department of Probation

Fiscal year		Sex						
	Male	Female	Total	Addicts	Possession	Distribution	Possession w/ intent to distribute	Total
2553	109,079	10,441	119,520	111,339	6,972	666	543	119,520
2554	161,204	16,378	177,582	166,032	10,126	876	548	177,582
2555	159,475	16,591	176,066	161,675	12,292	1,216	883	176,066
2556 (ต.ค.55-ก.ค.56)	154,185	14,353	168,538	154,990	11,816	911	821	168,538

Examples of Publicly Available Statistics

Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	31,684	92.44
Female	2,592	7.56
Total	34,276	100.00

Royal Thai Police

	Arrest Cases	Arrest People
Crimes against the State	554,029	653,374
5.1 Gun		
Regular Gun	34,549	36,591
Military weapon	618	808
5.2 Gambling		
Regular Gambling	39,994	118,071
Illegal lottery	11,141	11,360
5.3 Drugs	442,844	461,494
5.4 Prostitution	24,565	24,727
Possession and Distribution of unlawful images	318	323
Royal Thai Police Official Statistics 2013		

Examples of Publicly Available Statistics

Courts of Justice

Court	New Total Cases	Male	Female	Total
Criminal	6	4	3	7
District	-	-	-	-
Provincial	9	-	12	12
Youth and Family	3	-	3	3
Total	18	4	18	22
Total Human Trafficking Cases as of Jan 2007				

Office of Narcotics Control Board

Year	Month	Number of Persons
2013	Oct	15, 410
	November	13, 792
	Dec	13, 990
2014	Jan	13, 205
	Feb	14, 354
	March	16, 658
	Apr	11, 299
	May	-
	June	-
	July	-
Total		98, 708

Initial Steps: Identifying Needs

- Comprehensive pic of CJ process in Thailand
- Agencies no longer working in isolation
- Agency-wide uniform concepts and measurements
- Data and statistics that inform policy successes and shortfalls
- Dissemination of research and data to several audiences: general public, policy-makers, academics etc.

Initial Steps: TIJ Goals and Priorities

- House and maintain Thailand’s only crime and justice statistics database
- Link CJ agencies domestic and international
- Conduct research projects independently and with other CJ agencies

- Promote international standards and best practices

- Promote uniform crime classification standards

- Promote data and statistics-driven criminal justice policies

The Political: Fostering Relationships

- Crafting MOU w/ all domestic CJ agencies add value:
- Share, process and publish data
- Joint capacity-building trainings
- Joint-research projects—CVS, performance indicators, trends analysis, etc.
- Next year: Networking with domestic and international NGOs
- Work w/ CJ agencies to link data to policy planning and evaluation
- Developing CJ indicators

The Technical: Dissemination

- Currently purchasing technology for storing, processing and publishing data and statistics
- Currently preparing TIJ website for publication of data and statistics in user-friendly format
- Periodic publication on basic CJ stats: Stats in Brief
- Establishing presence domestically and internationally: e.g. Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law, UNODC, conferences like this ☺

Key Challenges: The Political

- History
- Cooperation
- Turf/Ownership

The Political: Macro-Structural

- Coup Politics:
- Prospects of Change: Riding the reform wave
- Prospects for Disaster: Left behind
- Other Macro: Transparency in an environment of secrecy

The Next Steps Forward

- MOU
- Technology
- Public Relations
- Suggestions???

Thank You!!!

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