



Swiss Thai



FEBRUARY 2021 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #127

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TOP NEWS

- Economy:** World Bank Economic Monitor - Executive Summary / TDRi Economic Update for JFCCT
- STCC Internal News:** Donation from Sylvac to the STCC
- RIS Swiss Section:** Online learning procedures in January 2021 / Online - Workshop / Maturaball 2021

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STCC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE STCC, DEAR READER,

It is my pleasure to address you in my capacity as the new Executive Director of the Swiss Thai Chamber of Commerce. My term in this position officially started on 1 January 2021 with the handover of the last set of tasks from our previous Executive Director, Thomas Gerber, to me. I'd like to thank Thomas for his work during the last 15 years as Executive Director and it is great to know he remains on our Board as Director of Operations.

Some words about my person

Originally, I come from Zurich, where I grew as the youngest of 6 siblings. After graduating from high school, I entered compulsory service with the army in Switzerland, where I served as a long-term service member for one year on the army staff directly under the Chief of the Armed Forces. Following in the footsteps of my late father I decided to study law at the University of Zurich and obtained

first a Bachelor and then a Master of Law degree.

My time in Bangkok started in Spring 2019, when I joined the Swiss Embassy in the political and economic section, where I also worked during the outbreak of the ongoing pandemic until the end of June 2020. Since then, I have continued to stay in close contact with my colleagues at the Embassy and to assist wherever the private sector is involved or when one of our members is in need of assistance.

Turning now to updates in regard to the chamber:

STCC Events

As we had to painfully learn at the end of 2020, Covid-19 finds its way into every society despite all possible prevention measures. The Thai government therefore had to take drastic measures last December to contain this renewed outbreak,

SERVICE

MEMBER DETAIL UPDATES

Do you have changes among your delegates or changes to your e-mail, mobile, telephone, or fax numbers?

Please send all updates to secretary@swissthai.com



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which meant for us that we had to put our event plans on hold for the time being.

Nevertheless, I intend to hold events again once the situation has stabilised. We will increase the cadence of our exclusive and community events and work closely with other chambers to provide an attractive and stable networking platform for our members. We have also designed new attractive event formats that will provide unique networking opportunities for our members. More detailed information on these events will follow at a later date.

CRM & New Website

On the subject of back office activities, I can report that we are working on the implementation of an interactive CRM software and a new website for the STCC. For our members, this means that they will be in control of their information and have access to all the activities of our Chamber on one platform. Here are the some of the improvements that this solution offers:

- Manage your personal details, and membership information
- Complete renewal and other add-on payments
- Create your own Job Postings and promote your company events on the new Website

I foresee to go live with this new software and website for mid end of February. So, stay tuned for the detailed announcement later this month!

S-GE Partnership

At this point we can officially announce, that at the end of last year the STCC concluded a partnership agreement with **Switzerland Global Enterprise (S-GE)**. S-GE supports Swiss SMEs in their international business and helps innovative foreign companies to establish in Switzerland. Under this partnership we will be the focal point for Swiss companies interested to explore and expand their business to Thailand and encourage Thai businesses to expand their operations to Switzerland.

“Switzerland Global Enterprise is proud to have gained with the Swiss Thai Chamber of Commerce such a strong partner in Thailand. We are convinced that the Swiss and Liechtenstein exporting industry will have even better access to business opportunities in this well-industrialized country”, says Stefan Barny, Director Global Network at S-GE.

Sponsorship opportunities

We are currently working on attractive sponsorship opportunities for our members. These programmes will be announced by the end of the first quarter. If

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you would like to already register your interest in one of these limited sponsorship packages, please contact me directly.

Let us share your news!

Gentle reminder for our members, that the multiple STCC communication channels (Newsletter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter) are available to communicate your news to the Swiss-Thai business community and beyond. This may range from announcements from the Management, introduction of new products,

innovations, CSR programs etc. In addition, our members have the opportunity to promote their services, products and promotions through these channels at a special rate.

These are just some of the projects we have in the pipeline for 2021, and I will regularly update you about upcoming changes and expansions of our activities and services from now on.

Let me close by assuring our members that although COVID-19 has changed our lives and

had a devastating impact on the global economy last year like none of us could have imagined, I am optimistic and energised to overcome this situation together and grow stronger and closer than before.

*Sincerely yours,
David Stauffacher
Executive Director*

*Feel free to connect with me:
execdirector@swissthai.com
LinkedIn
Line ID: dastau*

STCC CALENDAR FEBRUARY & MARCH 2021:

Wednesday 11th of January 13.30-15.00:

Webinar - Ways to reduce your Thai personal Income Tax

Tentative - Thursday, 25th of March:

Annual General Meeting at Mövenpick BDMS Wellness Resort Bangkok

More details for above events please wait for the invitation-mail or get it from www.swissthai.com, click on "events".

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: WORLD BANK GROUP. 2021. THAILAND ECONOMIC MONITOR: RESTORING INCOMES; RECOVERING JOBS. WORLD BANK, BANGKOK.

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Recent Developments

COVID-19 has severely affected the Thai economy, which was already weakening even prior to the global outbreak. US-China trade tensions, domestic political uncertainty and the ongoing drought caused growth to slow in 2019 and early 2020. While the spread of COVID-19 was successfully contained within Thailand's borders for most of 2020, the economic impact has been pronounced. Weak global demand, a near cessation of international tourist arrivals, and domestic mobility restrictions have depressed goods and services exports and private consumption. Private investment has also declined amid continued uncertainty around the medium-term outlook for exports and growth.

While signs of improvement have emerged in the most recent national accounts data, the second surge in COVID-19 cases is likely to constrain the recovery in the near-term. The economy contracted by 6.4 percent (yoy) in 2020 Q3, a smaller fall than the 12.1 percent contraction in Q2. Services exports remained very weak, but an easing of mobility restrictions and government stimulus provided some support, as did an agricultural sector slowly recovering from drought.

Nevertheless, the economy is expected to have shrunk by 6.5 percent in 2020. This is an upward revision from the 2020 forecast in October, re-

flecting the stronger-than-expected Q3 performance and Thailand's success in containing COVID-19 throughout most of the year. Core price inflation resumed in Q3 (after prices declined in the previous quarter) reflecting increased domestic demand and the expiration of discounts on electricity and water bills. However, the second wave of COVID-19 – which began in December – and the associated renewal of domestic restrictions is likely to have a negative impact on consumer spending in early 2021.

The current account surplus has narrowed sharply, but net inflows on the financial account supported the Thai baht and reserves coverage remains strong. The current account surplus fell to 0.6 percent of GDP in 2020 Q2 (from 6.6 percent in the previous quarter) due to the large contraction of tourism receipts. On the other hand, financial inflows associated with the sale of foreign assets and the repatriation of deposits held abroad have supported the local currency. Nevertheless, the baht has appreciated only modestly compared with the currencies of other countries in the region as of the end of the second quarter. In the fourth quarter, the baht has resumed the appreciation trend due to the depreciation of the US dollar.

Despite global volatility in financial markets, Thailand's financial system remains stable, though there are pockets of vulnerability. Sig-



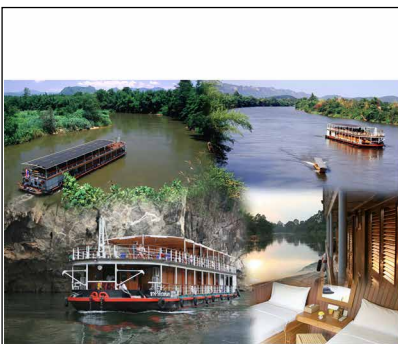
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nificant liquidity and capital buffers and high rates of regulatory compliance have meant that the financial sector has so far been able to weather the pandemic shock. However, increased corporate vulnerabilities and elevated levels of household debt pose significant risks, particularly if the economic recovery is slower than expected and debt service obligations become harder to bear. Household debt in Thailand is the second highest in East Asia (at 80.2 percent of GDP in March 2020). Though non-performing loans (NPLs) were stable at 3.1 percent of total loans at end-June 2020, they remain at a relatively high level. NPLs are particularly high for SMEs and could increase in the future if SMEs struggle to service loans provided in response to COVID-19 or adapt to the eventual withdrawal of financial support measures such as deferred loan payments.

With low inflation and a slowing economy, the Bank of Thailand maintained the policy rate at 0.5 percent to support economic recovery. The BOT also implemented a series of measures to support financial stability and ensure that adequate liquidity is available to banks and non-financial corporates. This included the establishment of a Corporate Bond Stabilization Fund (BSF) to provide bridge financing of up to 400 billion baht as a liquidity backstop for firms with bonds maturing during 2020.

The implementation of measures to provide soft loans to SMEs - as part of the overall pandemic response package - has proved challenging. SMEs account for over 40 percent of GDP and around 80 percent of private sector employment, but many have limited access to finance. As part of the government's approved fiscal and financial response to COVID-19 (equivalent to around 13 percent of GDP), the Bank of Thailand on-lent 500 billion baht (around 3 percent of GDP) to commercial banks to fund a dedicated SME lending program. But the disbursement of soft loans to SMEs has fallen below expectations while overall credit growth to SMEs has slowed. The government has more recently revised some of these programs to expand coverage, address credit risk issues, and extend the time frame.

The fiscal deficit widened sharply as the government ramped up spending to mitigate the economic impacts of the virus on households and firms. Revenue declined in FY2020 (year ended September) due to the impact of COVID-19 on trade and economic activity, and policy measures including a temporary reduction in withholding tax and expanded payroll tax deductions for SMEs. Spending rose, mainly due to the roll-out of pandemic relief measures. As a result, the budgetary central government deficit expanded to 5.9 percent of GDP in FY2020, from 2.3 percent of GDP in FY2019. The deficit was financed



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by domestic borrowing. As a result, public debt rose sharply to 49.4 percent of GDP in September 2020, its highest level since the early 2000s.

Progress has been made in implementing fiscal measures to support the most vulnerable. The fiscal response has centered on authorized borrowing of up to 1 trillion baht (about 6 percent of GDP) to fund cash transfers, the medical response, and economic and social rehabilitation (e.g. job-creating public works), in the aftermath of COVID-19. Of the 555 billion baht authorized to be spent on cash transfers for households, farmers, and entrepreneurs, around 300 billion baht has been disbursed. Despite some implementation challenges, the government has acted quickly to leverage existing social assistance mechanisms and set up new large-scale cash transfer programs to cover vulnerable individuals who would not otherwise have been covered. Overall, Thailand has performed relatively well compared to its peers in the region in terms of the scale, speed, and targeting of its response.

Outlook and Risks

The economy is expected to recover gradually over the next two years, but the outlook remains highly uncertain. Growth is projected to rebound to 4.0 percent in 2021 and pick up further to 4.7 percent in 2022, at which point output will return to its pre-pandemic 2019 level. Nevertheless, compared with our pre-COVID-19 (January 2020) projections, economic output is projected to be almost 8 percent lower per year (on average) between 2020 and 2022. In the first quarter of 2021, domestic demand will be adversely affected by the recent resurgence of COVID-19. But assuming that this outbreak is successfully contained, and vaccine distribution proceeds as planned, domestic activity is expected to recover through the remainder of the year as domestic mobility returns to pre-pandemic levels consumer and business confidence improves, and

fiscal policy remains supportive. External demand will recover more slowly, reflecting only a modest recovery in global goods trade and an increase in foreign tourist arrivals from mid-2021 onwards, when borders are assumed to gradually reopen. In the absence of mitigating policy responses, the effects of the pandemic on investment, human capital accumulation, and productivity may also have longer-run impacts on potential output.

With COVID-19 cases still surging globally, risks to the outlook are skewed to the downside. The recovery could be slow and start-stop in nature if the Government is forced to reimpose stringent lockdowns, if progress on developing and distributing a vaccine is slower than anticipated, or if global activity remains weaker than expected. Relatedly, the recovery of the tourism sector will be dependent on when international borders reopen, and whether hesitation to travel internationally persists, as well as the success of efforts to promote domestic tourism as a substitute, all of which remain uncertain. Negative impacts on potential output would be exacerbated if these downside risks are realized, and financial vulnerabilities associated with SME and household balance sheets may be exposed. In such a downside scenario, growth could drop further to 2.4 percent in 2021.

Besides COVID-19, several other sources of domestic and external risk exist. Prolonged political unrest could undermine consumer and business confidence, hindering the economic recovery. It will also distract attention from the critical policy reforms needed to support recovery and bolster long-term growth, such as those outlined below. The premature removal of fiscal and financial relief could stymie Thailand's recovery, even if the pandemic is successfully controlled in the coming months. A resumption of trade tensions and/or supply chain disruptions would stall the recovery of the external sector, although recently signed and pending trade agreements could provide some support.



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Thailand's Labor Market: Challenges and Policy Responses to Drive a Jobs Recovery

The labor market faced several challenges prior to the pandemic. COVID-19 struck a labor market already suffering from weaknesses, including lackluster job creation, a prevalence of low-quality jobs and informal employment, declining labor force participation, and a rapidly aging workforce. The movement of workers into higher-productivity sectors has stalled in recent years, and COVID-19 is likely to have reinforced some of the trends inhibiting the movement of workers into higher productivity jobs.

As a result of the pandemic, hours worked fell sharply and people resorted to agricultural employment as a safety net, likely increasing hardship for many households. The official unemployment rate doubled from 1.0 percent in the first quarter of 2020 to 2.0 percent in the second quarter, the highest level since 2009, with a particularly large increase for young people. By the second quarter of 2020 there were 700,000 fewer jobs in aggregate than a year earlier, and 340,000 fewer than the previous quarter. Employment losses were widespread across sectors, but a large proportion of workers who lost their

jobs in other sectors seem to have moved into the low-productivity agricultural sector, which gained more than 700,000 jobs between the first and second quarters, an atypically large gain even for a sector that generally grows at that time of year. Hours worked fell by 5.7 percent for men and 7.2 percent for women between the first and second quarters of 2020, reflecting a spike in zero-hour workers and an increase in workers working fewer than 40 hours a week. The reduction in hours worked and other labor market adjustments resulted in a decline of private sector average monthly wages of 5.4 percent in the agriculture sector and 1.9 percent outside of it. These income losses likely created economic hardship for many households. Recent projections indicate that an additional 1.5 million people may have entered poverty in 2020 due to the economic impacts of COVID-19, based on a poverty line of US\$5.50 (2011 PPP) per day.

Some of these employment impacts moderated toward the end of 2020. The labor force participation rate increased in the third quarter and employers added nearly 850,000 jobs resulting in year-on-year job growth of more than 1 percent. This continued in the first two months of the fourth quarter. Still, the unemployment

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rate remained elevated toward the end of 2020, hours worked have not fully recovered, and employment in several sectors including manufacturing remains lower than a year ago.

Thailand's rapidly aging population will cause the supply of labor to decline, exacerbating labor market challenges over the longer-term. Following a fast drop in fertility rates and improvement in life expectancy, population aging is occurring quickly in Thailand, and at a relatively low-income level compared to other aging countries. The number of years for the share of the 65-plus population to increase from 7 percent of the population to 14 percent, a measure often used to gauge the speed of population aging, was 115 years and 69 years in high-income France and the United States, respectively, but is only projected to take 20 years in Thailand. The working age share of the population is projected to decline from 71 percent of the population in 2020 to 66 percent in 2030 and 56 percent in 2060. Without changes in policy and behavior that improve the supply of labor and enhance productivity, this would imply a mechanical decrease in growth in income per capita, due to the smaller number of people working relative to the total population, and a decline in savings available for investment. Projections of the potential impact suggest that, absent any adjustments, changes in demographics will decrease average annual growth in GDP per capita by 0.86 percent in the 2020s. Population aging will therefore exacerbate the negative effects of low labor productivity (as reflected in the prevalence of low-quality jobs) and declining labor force participation on national income.

Productivity improvements and increases in the labor force participation of older people and women can counterbalance the negative growth effects of an aging population. Advancements in automation, digitization and other technologies may create opportunities for fewer workers to

produce more and for firms to participate in new global value chains while reviving capital investments needed to raise Thailand's long-term growth trajectory. Increasing health and education levels and changes to the nature of work mean that there is also scope for labor force participation to increase.

Policy options are available to counter the effects of population aging, several of which would also help promote a sustainable recovery from COVID-19. A resurgence of the COVID-19 outbreak in Thailand could require a renewed focus on employment retention policies like wage subsidies and job creation policies like public works that could help make up for reduced working hours. As Thailand recovers from the COVID-19 outbreak, upskilling and reskilling programs can be combined with financial support to help displaced workers get back to work. Training programs can target workers from sectors severely impacted by the outbreak (e.g. tourism) and provide training in strategic sectors likely to grow in the near and medium term (e.g. the care sector). Training can be provided in soft skills like teamwork and interpersonal communication, which are increasingly demanded by employers, and in entrepreneurship skills to help generate self-employment. Training can be linked to subsidies provided in the form of vouchers that finance training and act as a wage subsidy to promote demand or in the form of start-up support for self-employment. These programs should be followed by longer-term efforts to strengthen the workforce development system, including by developing an advanced labor market information system, to enhance linkages with the private sector and ensure that education and training matches the needs of employers. This will help ensure that workers acquire the sophisticated technical skills, the digital skills, and the soft (e.g. interpersonal, critical thinking) skills that will be increasingly demanded as Industry 4.0 takes hold in Thailand. Population aging also



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creates opportunities to increase employment in the care sector, particularly in the evolving market for aged care, which will require both lower skilled workers and highly trained specialists and highly trained specialists.

Barriers to the increased participation of women and older people can also be addressed. Female labor force participation can be increased by improving the accessibility and lowering the cost of childcare, making parental leave more generous, and bolstering old age social assistance programs. The working lives of older people can be extended by promoting flexible work arrangements and potentially increasing the retirement age, including through age or longevity indexing, that is, tying the retirement age to life expectancy at retirement age. These initiatives will need to be undertaken with the fiscal costs in mind.

Some involve minimal government action, such as disseminating good practices on flexible working arrangements for older workers. Others, however, imply a more significant fiscal cost. In these cases, careful evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs is important, likely through pilots to help determine what works. The effectiveness of existing schemes, such as tax incentives to promote the hiring of older workers, should be evaluated to ensure they are achieving desired objectives. Where ineffective, savings from these programs can be redirected. While costly, action is necessary to ensure that Thailand is able to recover quickly from the COVID-19 outbreak and to counteract the long-term negative implications of population aging on growth.

The Thai economy contracted less in 2020 Q3 than Q2

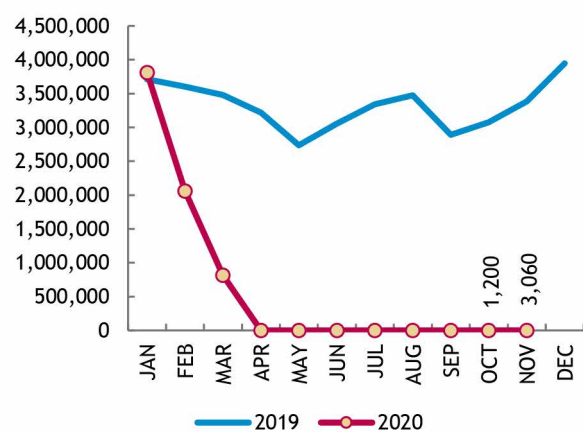
(% change, year-on-year)



Source: NESDC

... while foreign tourism arrivals ceased since April 2020

(People)



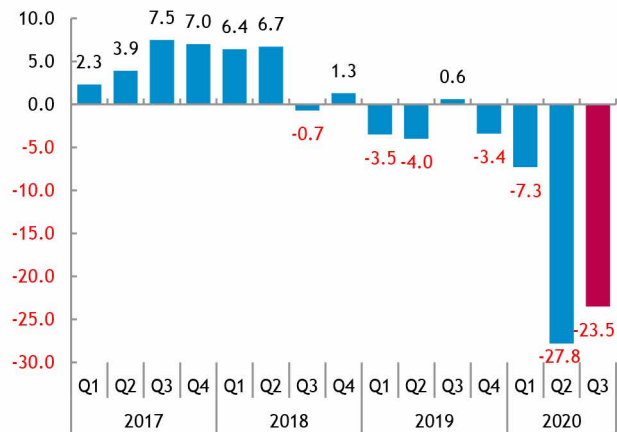
Source: Ministry of Tourism and Sports



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Exports of goods and services are still massively contracting, with tourism hit hard by foreign travel restrictions

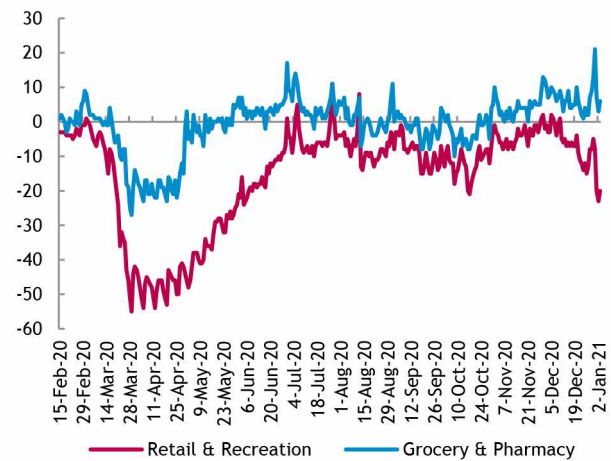
(% change, value, year-on-year)



Source: NESDC

Mobility improved after the easing of restrictions in mid-2020, as reflected by increased private consumption, but worsened again in response to the second wave

(Change in visits relative to baseline)



Source: Google Community Report

Note: Grocery & Pharmacy represents mobility trends for places like grocery markets, food warehouses, farmers markets, specialty food shops, drug stores, and pharmacies. Retail & Recreation represents mobility trends for places like restaurants, cafes, shopping centers, theme parks, museums, libraries, and movie theaters

Macroeconomic indicators

	2018	2019	2020f	2021f	2022f
Real GDP Growth Rate (at constant market prices)	4.1	2.4	-6.5	4.0	4.7
Private Consumption	4.6	4.5	-1.3	3.6	4.2
Government Consumption	1.8	-1.7	2.3	2.3	2.0
Gross Fixed Capital Investment	5.4	3.3	-4.4	1.5	2.1
Exports of Goods and Services	3.3	-2.6	-18.5	6.0	6.6
Imports of Goods and Services	8.3	-4.4	-15.3	4.5	4.7
Real GDP Growth Rate (at constant factor prices)	4.2	2.4	-6.4	4.1	4.7
Agriculture	5.0	2.0	-3.9	2.2	2.2
Industry	2.7	2.6	-6.9	4.0	4.5
Services	5.0	2.3	-8.0	4.3	5.0
Inflation (Consumer Price Index)	1.1	1.1	-0.9	1.0	1.3
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	6.5	5.0	0.8	2.2	3.8
Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)	-2.0	-2.3	-5.9	-6.5	-3.1
Debt (% of GDP)	42.0	41.1	49.4	54.4	55.4

Source: NESDC; World Bank staff calculations



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TDRI ECONOMIC UPDATE FOR JFCCT

TDRI Economic Update for JFCCT



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with Kirida Bhaopichitr, Ph. D.
Director for TDRI Economic Intelligence Service (EIS)
Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI)

TDRI Economic Update with three themes:

- How we see the overall economy & different sectors perform this year. Which will be better, which will be worse than last year?
- Structural strengths and weaknesses into 2021
- Government's roles & measures in the economy this year.

Special invitation to Chamber presidents and Board members

On 25 January, Ph. D. Kirida Bahopichitr, Director of the TDRI Economic Intelligence Service (EIS) of the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), gave an Economic Update with three themes to more than 100 participants:

- How we see the overall economy & different sectors perform this year/ Which will be better, which will be worse than last year?
- Structural strengths and weaknesses into 2021

- Government's roles & measures in the economy this year.

For all those who missed this informative and very topical webinar or who would like to study Dr Kirida's presentation again in more depth, the presentation can be downloaded from the JFCCT website or directly via this [link](#).



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WORK PERMIT AT OSSC UPDATE

Contribution by Dej-Udom & Associates

With immediate effect, the Labour Office at the OSSC announced the implementation of a new reduced eligibility period for the submission of work permit renewal applications. This new rule applies to non-BOI work permits.

Instead of the previous 45-day window for the submission period prior to the expiration date, the OSSC has decided to reduce the window submission period for work permit renewal applications down to 30 days prior to the expiration date. The reason of the change is conformity and to have every work permit holder use the same submission period rules, both for the rapid process at the OSSC and for the regular process at the Employment Department in all parts of the country.

Please note that for long term-visa renewals (non-BOI visa), Immigration at the OSSC has not changed the rules for the window submission period for visa extensions. The 45-day window submission period remains the same when filing visa extensions. This

means the eligible window submission period for visa extensions is 45 days before the visa expiration date.

To summarize, the eligible window submission period for work permit and visa renewals for non-BOI company are as follows:

- A. Non-BOI company eligible for OSSC process
 - Work permit renewal: 30 days prior to expiration date
 - Visa renewal: 45 days prior to expiration date
- B. Non-BOI company eligible for regular process
 - Work permit renewal: 30 days prior to expiration date
 - Visa renewal: 30 days prior to expiration date

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THAILAND EMPLOYMENT LAW MANUAL

Contribution by Respondek & Fan, Attorneys at Law



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T H A I L A N D

**EMPLOYMENT LAW
MANUAL**

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Dear Reader,

We have just completed the first edition of our Thailand Employment Law Manual:

- Are you familiar with current practice regarding probationary periods in Thailand?
- Do you know when a company must have an Employee Handbook?
- Are you aware under what circumstances a company has to make severance payments pay to an employee?

If your answers is “no” to any of these questions, you should download our Manual. On roughly 80 pages you will receive a concise overview regarding the most relevant and important issues under Thai Employment Law.

We hope you find this Manual helpful.

*Best regards,
Andreas Respondek*

 **RESPONDEK & FAN**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



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THAILAND'S LAND AND BUILDING TAX: 2021 PAYMENT DEADLINE EXTENSION AND PROPOSED REDUCTION

Contribution by Tilleke & Gibbins

The renewed spread of COVID-19 in Thailand since December 2020 has led to additional tax relief measures to lessen the economic impact of the outbreak.

Most recently, it has prompted the Ministry of Finance to propose a draft Royal Decree on Land and Building Tax Reduction B.E. 2564 (2021), which is expected to be similar to the 2020 measures that reduced land and building tax payments by 90 percent. In the meantime, on January 21, 2020, the Ministry of Interior announced an extension for the payment of land and building tax in 2021, which is now due by June 30, 2021 (extended from April 30, 2021).

In light of the new land and building tax payment deadline for 2021, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, or the relevant municipality or local ad-

ministrative office, will now send land and building tax assessment forms to taxpayers by April 30, 2021 (extended from February 28, 2021).

For more details on these measures, or on any aspect of Thailand's land and building tax, please contact Chaiwat Keratisuthisathorn at chaiwat.k@tilleke.com or +66 2056 5507.



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- Ceramic
- Hygienic



Metal
- Aluminum
- SS316
- Ductile
- Alloy



Plastic
- PP
- PVDF



Food FDA
- SS316



Hygienic
- SS316 Polished

Diaphragm pump sizing from 1/4" up to 4"

WILDEN



Internal Gear Pump



Vacuum Pump



Blower & Booster



Dampener Metal & Plastic



Spill-Stop



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STCC INTERNAL NEWS

DONATION FROM SYLVAC TO THE STCC

Sylvac

Donation

from

Sylvac

to the

Swiss-Thai Chamber of Commerce

THB 75'000

region and for discussions on future collaboration between Sylvac and the STCC as well as to provide an insight on the co-operation between the Embassy and the STCC.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to **Sylvac** and its local distributor **Max Value Technology** for the very generous donation of THB 75,000 which will support the STCC in increasing its services for our

members. For this occasion, Ambassador Helene Budliger Artieda hosted a breakfast handover ceremony at her residence, which was a great opportunity to learn more about the activities of Sylvac in the

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Contact Details: **SWISS EDUCATION GROUP**
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www.swisseducation.ac (THAI)



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NEW MEMBERS

CORPORATE MEMBERS:



ABB Electrification (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

161/1 SG Tower, 1st-4 th Floor, Soi Mahadlekluang 3,
Rajadamri Road, Lumpini, Pathumwan
Bangkok 10330

Phone: +66 2 665 1000

E-Mail: Contact Us

Website: ABB Electrification

Representatives: Mr. Gianandrea Bruzzone, Country Managing Director and Mr. Tenzing Dhondup Bomratsang, Country Finance Manager

Activity: ABB offers a full range of technologies across the electrical value chain from substation to the point of consumption, enabling safer more reliable power flow.

Digital and connected innovations to improve the reliability and efficiency for low- and medium-voltage electrical installations, including EV infrastructure, solar inverters, modular substations, distribution automation, switchgear, measuring and sensing devices, control products, including KNX systems

designed to integrate and automate a building's lighting, ventilation, heating, and security, wiring accessories, enclosures and cabling systems, data communication networks, and power protection.



Sicpa (Thailand) Limited

99/4 Moo 4, Software Park,
32nd Fl., Chaengwattana Rd.,
Klang Gluar, Pak-kred
Nonthaburi 11120

Phone: +66 2 709 4566

E-Mail: Contact Us

Website: <https://www.sicpa.com/>

Representatives: Mr. Wallop Charoenrom, Managing Director Thailand and Ms. Usanee Khan-ai Administrative Assistant

Activity: We are a trusted security provider and adviser to governments, security banks, high security printers and industry – providing secured identification, traceability and authentication solutions and services.

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS:



ECOLE HOTELIERE DE LAUSANNE PTE. LTD.

3 Lady Hill Road
258672 / Singapore

Phone: +41 21 785 11 11

E-Mail: asia-pacific@ehl.ch

Website: www.ehl.edu

Representatives: Ms. May Ruoyun Liu, Industry Relations Officer and Ms. Shinn Teo, Senior Recruitment Officer

Activity: Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL) is an ambassador for traditional Swiss hospitality and has been a pioneer in hospitality education since 1893. It has created and inspired a unique professional community of over 25,000 hospitality managers, united by the values and the legacy of EHL.



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NEW MEMBERS



IMD SE Asia Pte. Ltd.

South Beach Tower, 38 Beach Road,
#17-11 Singapore 189767

Phone: +65 6 715 9988

Website: <https://www.imd.org/>

Representatives: Mr. Simon Craft, Executive Director,
Client Engagement & Head IMD Nexus SEA/Australia
and Ms. Janita Kumar, Head of External Relations

Activity: The Institute for Management Development (IMD) is an independent academic institution with Swiss roots and global reach, founded 75 years ago by business leaders for business leaders. Since its creation, IMD has been a pioneering force in developing leaders who transform organizations and contribute to society.

Based in Lausanne (Switzerland) and Singapore, IMD has been ranked in the Top 3 of the annual FT's Executive Education Global Ranking for the last nine consecutive years and in the top five for 17 consecutive years. Our MBA and EMBA programs have repeatedly been singled out among the best in Europe and the world.

We believe that this consistency at the forefront of our industry is grounded in IMD's unique approach to creating "Real Learning. Real Impact". Led by an expert and diverse faculty, we strive to be the trusted learning partner of choice for ambitious individuals and organizations worldwide. Challenging what is and inspiring what could be.

IMD has also stepped up its action and measurement efforts in the area of sustainability in recent years. EcoVadis announced the business school's silver rating for 2019, showing a clear year-on-year progression.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER:

Ms. Jacqueline Kuratli

SCG-Dow Group CFO



w: www.regroup.asia

e: hello@regroup.asia

f @regrouparchitecture

ig regroup_architecture

Samran Loft Bangkok



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NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

FACEBOOK LIVE 01.02.21 #AskTheEmbassy WHIT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF THAILAND, H.E. MR. ANUTIN CHARNVIRAKUL



The Embassy of Switzerland in Bangkok and its Regional Consular Center organised a virtual Town Hall meeting on Monday February 1st– this time with a VIP guest H.E. Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health of Thailand. If you have missed this informative and topical Town Hall meeting you can watch the recorded session on the Embassies [Facebook](#) page or on their [YouTube](#) channel.





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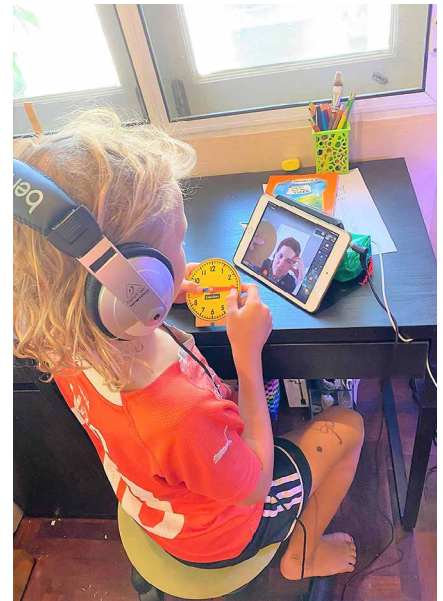
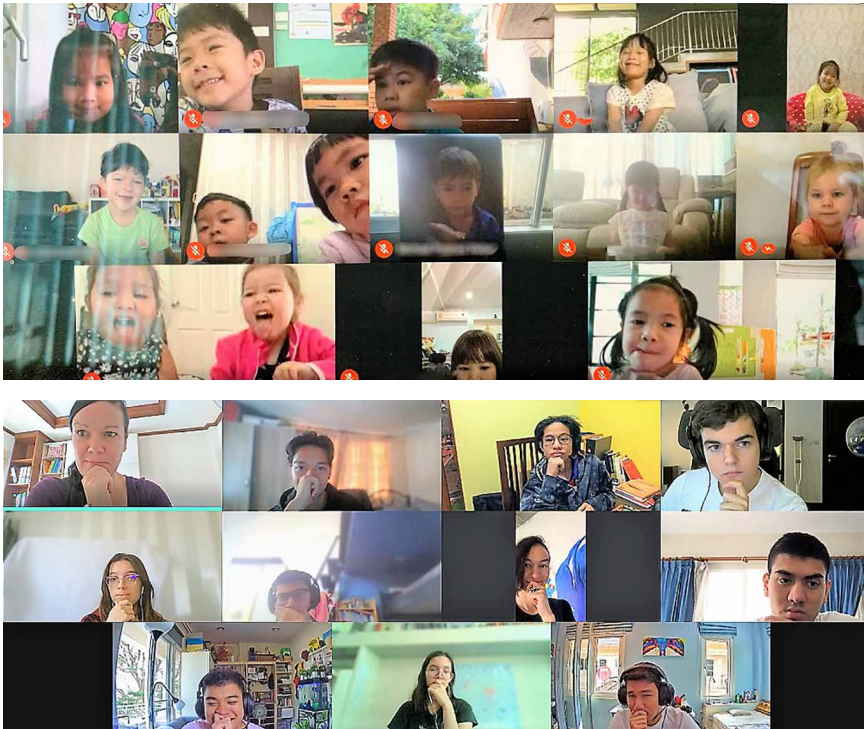


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RIS SWISS SECTION DEUTSCHSPRACHIGE SCHULE BANGKOK

ONLINE LEARNING PROCEDURES IN JANUARY 2021



Our enhanced online learning approach focuses not only on student assignments in various forms but more importantly on the communication and interaction with our students through

online platforms. The students meet with their homeroom and subject teachers and in small working groups with their classmates several times a day. Learning packages and resources were ship-

ped out by post, arranged for pick-up at school and in the garden of our Head of Primary School, or even distributed in person so that our students are equipped in the best possible way for their learning journey during these challenging times. Therefore the first weeks of this semester were full of excitement for the students



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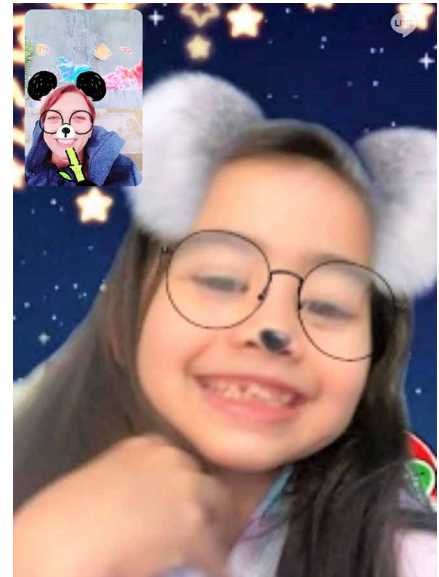
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During the read-aloud sessions, our specialist teacher for young children, Ms. Elli Biedermann reads aloud different picture books in German via Google Meet and has short discussions with small groups of students after having read the story.

During Thai culture classes, the students cooked and baked traditional Thai dishes at home. The highlight for the students of Kindergarten group "orange" was certainly the visit of Leo Leopard.

with various activities and many productive google meet sessions. Our read-aloud sessions took

place for the first time for Kindergarten and Basis Level students after the regular school program.



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THE STCC NEWSLETTER EDITOR TEAM IS ASKING FOR MEMBER CONTENT.

Contributions of interest are:
General English news and knowledge related to business in Thailand
Please email your contributions to Newsletter@swissthai.com

Thank you
The STCC Newsletter Editor Team





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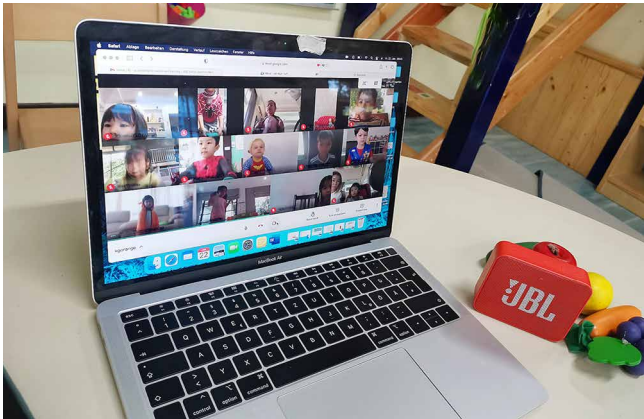


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RIS SWISS SECTION DEUTSCHSPRACHIGE SCHULE BANGKOK

ONLINE - WORKSHOP



Our Head of Primary School, Johanna Vänskä, hold an online workshop for interested parents about how to meaningfully support your child during distance learning.

MATURABALL 2021



The Class of 2021 invites you to the Maturaball, the highlight of every school year. Join us for a glamorous party with the graduating students of the RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok! The ball marks an exclusive event in a festive atmosphere at the S31 Sukhumvit Hotel on June 12th, 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the tickets are only available online until further notice via email: matura2021@ris-swiss-section.org or phone at 0910313002

Early Bird Ticket cost 999.- and are available until March 26th, 2021



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Important events in the second semester of the school year 2020-21:

10.03.2021	Open House Day (07:30 - 14:40)
22.05.2021	Open House Info Session (13:00 - 15:00)
10.06.2021	Flea Market for Primary School (11:00 - 12:00)
11.06.2021	Graduation Ceremony (10:00)
12.06.2021	Matura Ball

Please visit our website - www.ris-swiss-section.org - and get more information about our upcoming events.



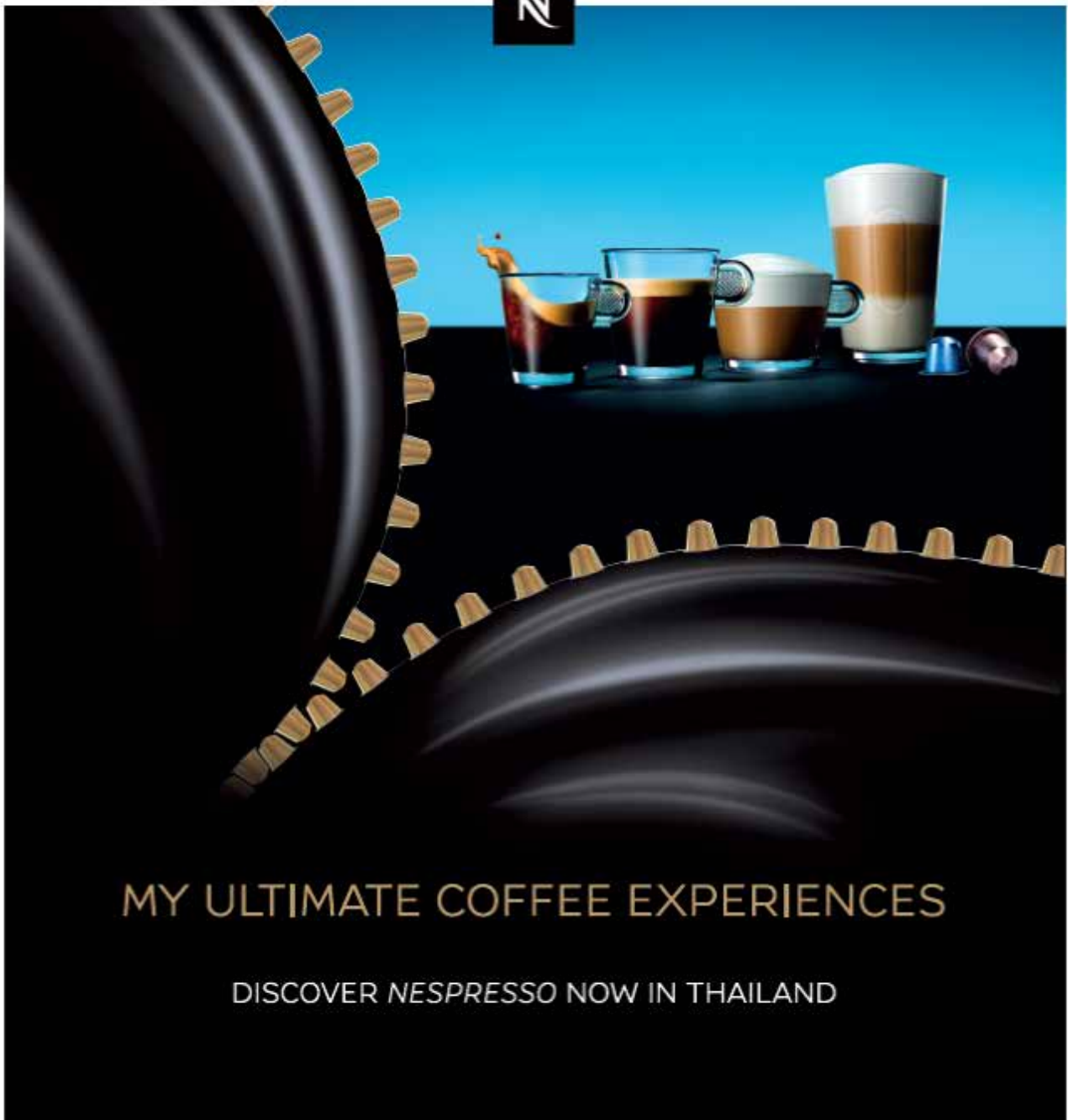
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