Strategic Environment Assessment Policy and Experience In Thailand

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The Ministry of Industry is the main sector to develop Thailand's economy, set up industry development strategies for environment and society by proactively take action in enhancing and promoting industry growth and sustainability.

Enhance the Thai Industry further by using technology and innovation that is environmentally friendly.

Our organization mission

▶ Manage the supervision of industrial businesses including hazardous materials in production, environment, safety in accordance with international laws and agreements.

▶ Promote information and knowledge on environmental production machinery, Hazardous material safety, energy and social responsibility For the benefit of industrial business development .

▶ Development of the organization and personnel development.

▶ **Issue Factory License** (Entrepreneur/Investor request for the permission.

▶ *Environmental/ Safety /Community-People Participation/SD*

▶ *EIA/ ESA (Factory that have high level impact.)*

Strategic Environment Assessment; SEA Background

▶ Currently, SEA is widely accepted and used in various countries as a tool that brings environmental considerations into the decision-making process.

▶ In general, it is understood that SEA is an environmental impact assessment process. Which may be caused by the policy, plan, or program (which will later be called PPP) that will be determined or prepared.

▶ Which, in fact, the SEA should be understood as a method that helps support appropriate decision-making from an environmental perspective And sustainability of development.

▶ Have a group of countries and many organizations that accept and apply SEA (e.g. Netherlands, EU, World Bank, etc.)

WHAT IS SEA?

▶ Process used to predict the impact of environmental impacts from **Policy Plan** and **Program**.

▶ Process that have been implemented prior to policy decisions Making, the SEA consideration highly flexible.

▶ Processes that are considered and proposed alternatives Including anticipating the impact of the environment in that choice in order to find the best way to maximize benefits and have the least impact.

WHAT IS SEA?

▶ People can participate. The participation may be implemented in several ways

    Such as receiving information,

    Public consultation,

    Providing opinions in the process of determining the scope of education/ assessment.

▶ Consideration of alternatives including options not developing policies, work plans and programs, if <u>highly affecting the environment</u> and <u>no effective preventive measures.</u>

ategic Environment Assessment; SEA

- SEA is the use of conceptual framework and the processes in analysis, potential assessment and limitation of environment starting from development of policy, plan, program and sectoral based and area based mega projects.

- Emphasis on sustainable development by integration of environmental, economic, social and technological dimensions

- comparing alternatives in decision making with quality, caution, transparency and participation from all stakeholders.
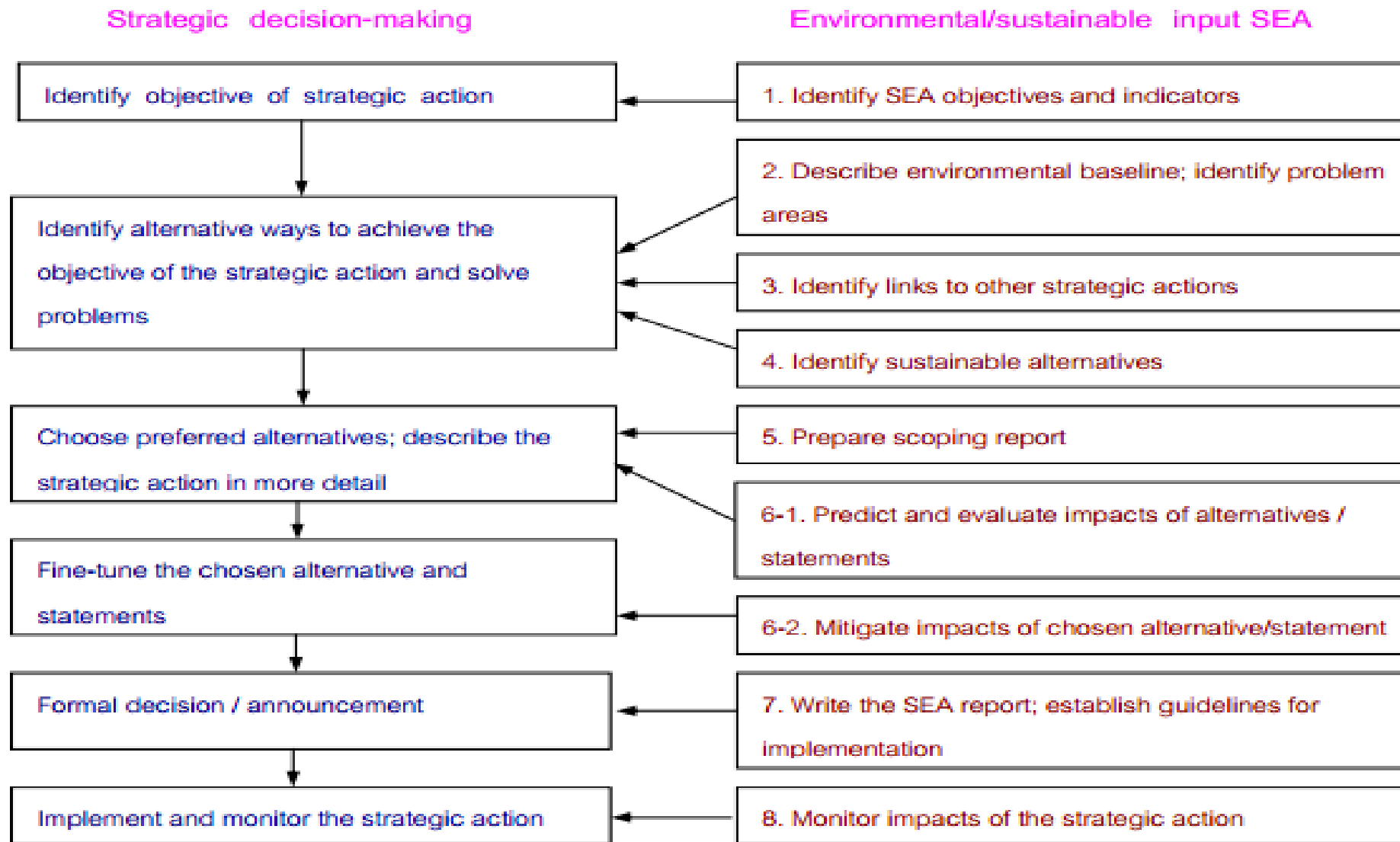
Strategic Environment Assessment; SEA

- SEA is implemented at the stage before the development process.

- SEA helps indicate the suitable policy, plan, program and mega project for a particular area and sustainable development target and indicate important topics or issues to be assessed at the project level, as well.

- SEA is a tool for integration of both concepts and practice of all concerned parties generating systematic working environment and decision making process aiming for sustainable development based on potential and condition of long-term development as indicated in National Economic and Social Development Plan.
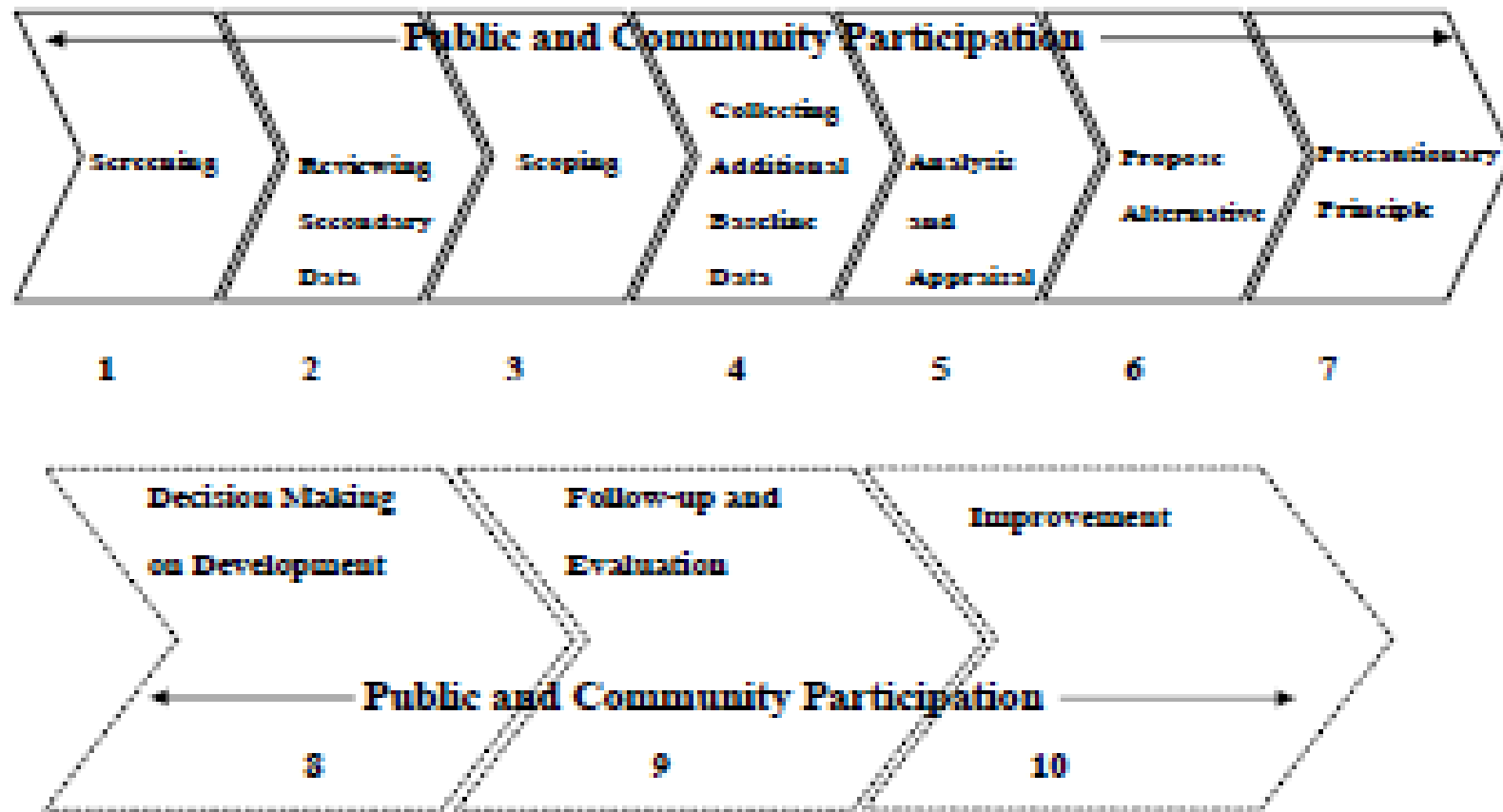
The relationship between the decision-making process and the SEA procedure
Source: Nishiura, S. (2005)

SEA in THAILAND

▶ After several public and technical hearings, Strategic Environmental Assessment Sub-committee (the former name as Spatial Environmental Assessment Sub-committee) which was appointed on May 24, 2005 by National Environment Board came into a resolution to establish the Strategic Environmental Assessment(SEA) in Thailand's environmental assessment system.

▶ The objectives of introducing SEA are to assess the potential and limitation of environment prior to the preparation of policy, plan, program and mega project and to integrate environmental, economic, social and technological dimensions equally in order to achieve sustainable development.

▶ According to the objectives Strategic Environmental Assessment Sub-committee has developed the system for SEA of Thailand based on the principle, rational and benefit.

Figure 1 Partway of Strategic Environmental Assessment of Thailand

Remarks: Steps 1-7 for SEA process

             Steps 8-10 for development process

Steps 1-7 for SEA process
Steps 8-10 for development process

Partway of Strategic Environmental Assessment of Thailand

Part 1: Strategic Environmental Assessment

▶ **1. Screening is the step that decides whether SEA reporting is required or not.**

The rationale in requirement of the step of screening in SEA process is to be confident that developments causing impacts on policy, plan, program and mega project will prepare SEA report in order to prevent and reduce the environmental impacts in the project level of those developments.

2. Reviewing secondary data

2.1 Collecting data or document in **relation with** strategy, policy and development plan and laws and regulations.

2.2 Collecting data or document in **relation with** situation on environmental, economic, social and technological concerns based on sectoral or spatial development.

2.3 Screening of the collected data or document for assessment

3. Scoping

▶ 3.1 Determining what level of policy, plan, programme or mega project in preparation of SEA reporting.

▶ 3.2 Determining what approach of sector or area/ subarea to be implemented.

▶ 3.3 Analyzing the statement of problem, objective or target and expected benefits of policy, plan, programme or mega project.

▶ 3.4 Analyzing targets of sustainable development and indicators of all four development dimensions of environmental, economic, social and technological concerns by consideration on baseline data in scoping step of SEA process.

3. Scoping

- 3.5 Analyzing framework and impact on various dimensions.

- 3.6 Carrying out stakeholder analysis and design all stakeholders to participate in every step of SEA process.

- 3.7 Designing the study plan.

- 3.8 Using information from stakeholder consultation for improving and correcting the scoping and the study plan.

4. Collecting additional baseline data

▶ 4.1 Determining the incomplete data or incorrect data including limitation of existing data and proposing the problem solving.

▶ 4.2 Collecting additional data needed in analysis of SEA for the completion of the report.

5. Analysis and appraisal

▶ 5.1 In case of policy or sectoral or spatial development plan,

The following should be implemented:

- Analyzing problems, causes and trend of problems in environmental economic, social and technological dimensions.

- Analyzing direct and indirect impacts and recipients suffering from impacts.

- Analyzing impacts on existing developments in the area.

- Analyzing opportunity and limitation in reducing, preventing and solving the problems (External analysis).

► - Analyzing potential and limitation, risk of environmental, economic, social, technological dimensions and law and regulations of national and international levels (Internal analysis).

► - Developing at least three strategic alternatives in problem solving including no-action alternative.

► - Assessing strategic alternatives based on target and indicators of

sustainable development as determining in the step of scoping.

5. Analysis and appraisal

- 5.2 In case of mega project, implementation following the principle of sectoral or area based developments with the emphasis on details of cumulative impacts and trend of impacts on existing and future development projects.

- For analyzing and evaluating data, analytical tools listed other suitable methods can be applied.

6. Propose alternative

- the step that proposes various alternatives which are suitable to the project area including rationale, strong and weak points of each alternative and data from public participation of stakeholders.

7. Precautionary principle

- 7. Precautionary principle is
- the step of proposing measures on precaution and monitoring of <u>total impacts</u> with the <u>emphasis on</u>
  - measures of avoidance
  - impact reduction and compensation for possible impacts.
  - In case of measures that have an effect on organization and institution arrangement, it is required to propose measures or guidelines on organization and institution restructure for effective implementation.

8. Decision making on development

- the step of implementing the development management which is the step that administrator uses the information available in SEA report for decision making on policy, plan, program and mega project.

- For this step, <u>decision on development or no-development</u> should be made and the reasons supporting the decision have to be clearly documented to inform stakeholders on standing points of administrator's decision.

9. Follow-up and evaluation

▶ one of the important steps of the development management.

▶ Plan and responsible authority should be proposed for monitoring and evaluation in all steps starting from the *Conceptual phase to the final step of Utilization phase (including evaluation and follow-up, improvement and correction* steps)

for testing accuracy and precision of SEA hypothesis or effect of existing important data on hypothesis set. Moreover, summary of problems, limitation and lesson learn including measures in prevention and reduction on increasing standard of SEA system should be prepared.

10. Improvement

- the step to make the improvement of the data of the Step 9 <u>aiming to</u> increase the effective and efficiency in implementing SEA.
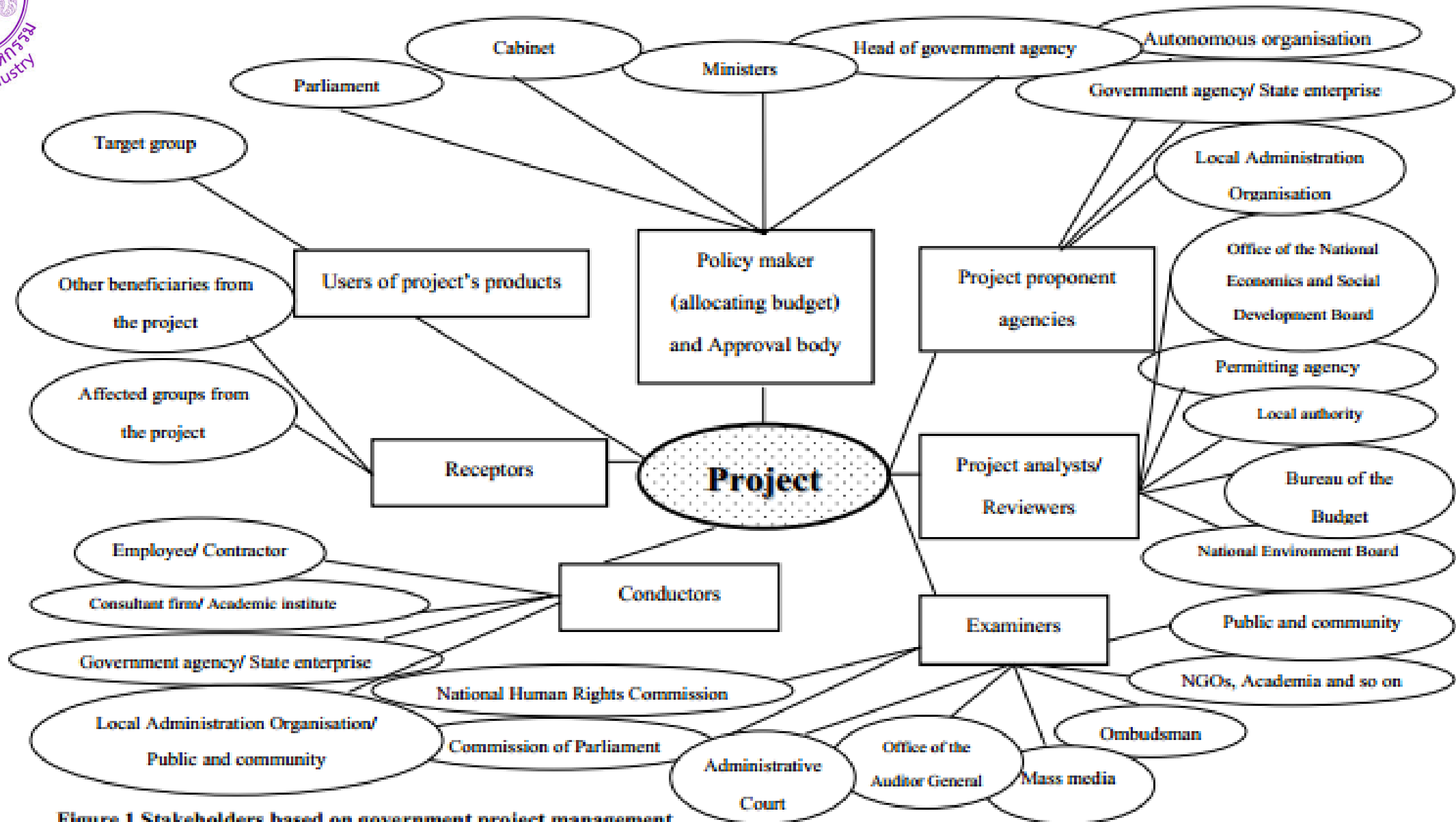
Figure 1 Stakeholders based on government project management

SEA (Sectoral Based)

▶ Development Project of

- Electronics Industry.

- Potash Mining.

- Sustainable Integrated Steel Industry.

- Resource management Study

(Lead and zinc) in Kanchanaburi Province)

SEA (Area Based)

- SEA Project Studying the environmental impacts at the border economic Area.

 (Chiang Rai Province)

- SEA Project Management Policy for Lum Num Yom.

- SEA Project Lum Num Tha Jean for Sustainable water resource development.

- SEA Project in Rayong Province.

- Special Economic Zone Development: case study in Kanchanaburi Province.

- Development of the southern coastal area.

- Prachin Buri Province Management Plan.

Years National Strategy (Yr 2018-2038)

▶ **OUR VISION**

Thailand has a strong wealth of sustainability as developed by the sufficiency economy philosophy.

Stable Nation, the citizens happy, the economy continually develops, a fair society and sustainable Natural resources.

Country development focuses on the participation of all sectors 6 Strategies

- 1.Stability

- 2.Competitive capacity

- 3.Developing and strengthening human resource potential

- 4.Creating opportunities and social equality

- 5. Creating growth on quality and environmentally friendly life

- 6. Balancing and development of public sector management systems

THANK YOU

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