

Advancing Greater Access to Social Protection for Informal workers in Thailand

The Federation of Informal Workers (Thailand) (FIT) is an alliance of five networks representing four major occupations within the informal economy. With a membership of over 10,000 workers, FIT works in collaboration with HomeNet Thailand to improve the quality of life for informal workers nationwide.

Recognizing this commitment and the opportunity to strengthen support for informal workers in Thailand, Fondation Chanel has provided funding through HomeNet Thailand with three main objectives:

- **To expand access to social protection** for informal workers, including social security, home-based worker legislation, and domestic worker legislation.
- **To strengthen the leadership and capacity of informal worker representatives** and further develop FIT's role in public advocacy, negotiation, and rights campaigning.
- **To push for new social security benefits**, such as maternity protection, improved efficiency of the Social Security Office, and government implementation of mandatory contributions under Article 40.

With this support, and through the joint efforts of FIT and its member networks, a range of **notable activities** have been carried out, including:

1. Annual Assembly of Informal Workers 2025

For the first time, the **Federation of Informal Workers Thailand (FIT)** successfully invited the **Minister of Labour** to join a public forum and listen directly to the voices of informal workers. The event was co-organized by FIT in collaboration with the **Social Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University, HomeNet Thailand**, and the **Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth/สสส.)** on **9–10 February 2025**



A total of **134 participants** attended (43 men and 91 women). The program featured as follows

- Regional cultural performances
- Exhibitions and informal workers' stalls
- Occupational showcases
- 12 storytelling sessions by workers themselves
- Panel discussions with 13 speakers under four key themes:
 - The future of laws, policies, and social protection for informal workers
 - The direction of social security development for informal workers

- Economic development pathways for informal workers
- Strategies for relief and assistance for informal workers impacted by climate change

An impressive outcome of the event was the development of **policy recommendations under the four main discussion themes**, which were consolidated from activities during the assembly and presented directly by **four informal worker representatives** to the **Minister of Labour**. The event also received broad public attention, with coverage across multiple [media outlets](#)—marking a significant step in raising visibility and amplifying the voices of informal workers in wider society.



Among the policy proposals, several stood out as particularly significant. One was the call for **Universal Social Security**, a recommendation that directly reflects the pressing challenges faced by informal workers in Thailand—where over **60% of the workforce remains outside social protection systems**. If implemented, this would guarantee basic social security for all workers, regardless of their employment status (Articles 33, 39, or 40) or occupation. This approach aligns with principles of **social justice** as well as international trends pushing for equal fundamental rights for all workers.

Another notable proposal was for **supporting motorcycle taxi drivers to transition to electric vehicles**. This measure connects the issues of labour, environment, and energy: not only would it reduce workers' costs and exposure to pollution, but it would also advance the country's carbon reduction goals. Such proposals highlight the importance of recognizing informal workers as “**directly affected groups**” in the climate crisis, and the need for **targeted measures** to address their vulnerabilities.



2. Election of the New Executive Committee of the Federation of Informal Workers Thailand

In 2025, the term of the previous Executive Committee of the Federation of Informal Workers Thailand (FIT) came to an end. A general assembly and election were therefore held on **25 June 2025** to select a new committee. The new committee will serve a **two-year term, from 26 June 2025 to 25 June 2027**.



On this occasion, we are pleased to announce and extend our congratulations to **Ms. Renu Deviloa**, Chair of the Village Athlete-Laemthong Street Vendors' Network, who was unanimously elected as the new **President of the Federation of Informal Workers Thailand (FIT)**.

