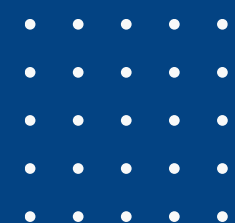


THAILAND'S ECONOMIC CORRIDORS DEVELOPMENT



Office of the National Economic and
Social Development Council (NESDC)



March 2025

Linkage between Economic Corridors Development, the 20-Year National Strategy and the 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan

20-Year National Strategy (2018 – 2037)

2nd Strategy :
Competitiveness enhancement

13th National Economic and Social Development Plan

Milestone 8 : Thailand has smart cities
as well as safe and livable regions with
sustainable growth



9th Master Plan : Special Economic Zones

Plan : Economic
Corridors development

Promulgation of Establishing for Special Economic Zones in Thailand

Special Economic Zones

10 Special Border Economic Zones

Continuously operated since 2015



- Tak
- Chiang Rai
- Kanchanaburi
- Nong Khai
- Nakhon Phanom
- Mukdahan
- Sakaeo
- Trat
- Songkhla
- Narathiwat

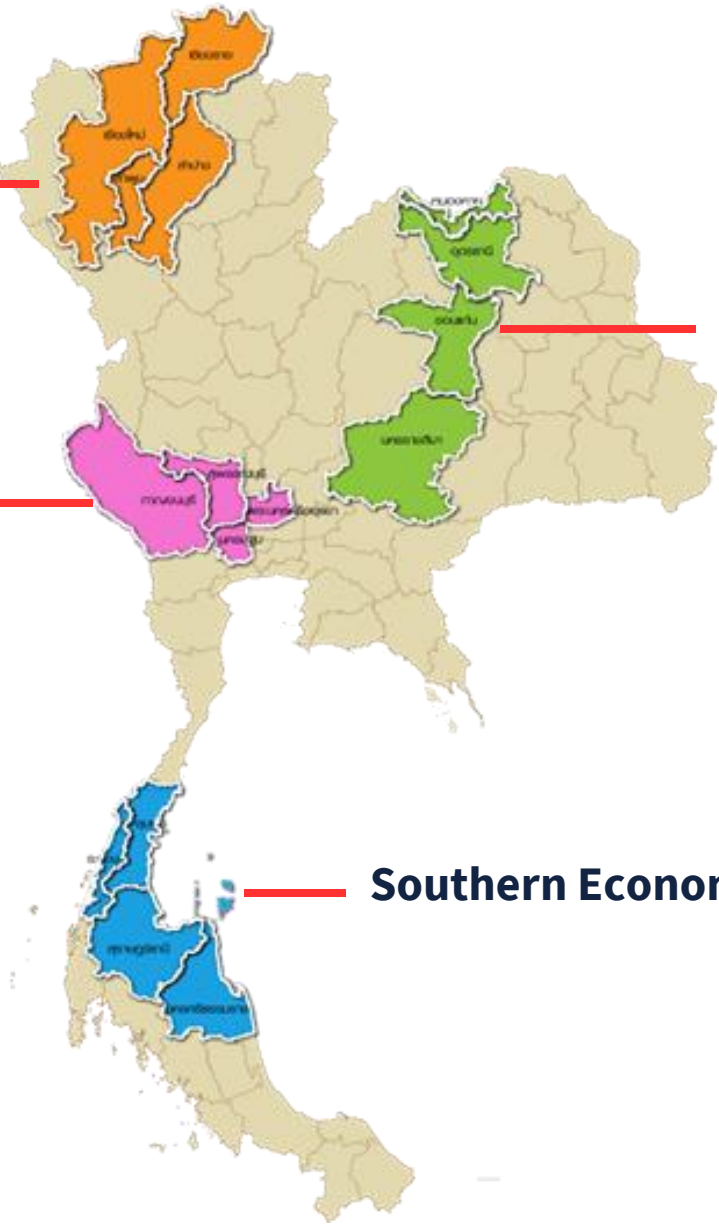
4 Economic Corridors

Northern Economic Corridor:
NEC – Creative LANNA

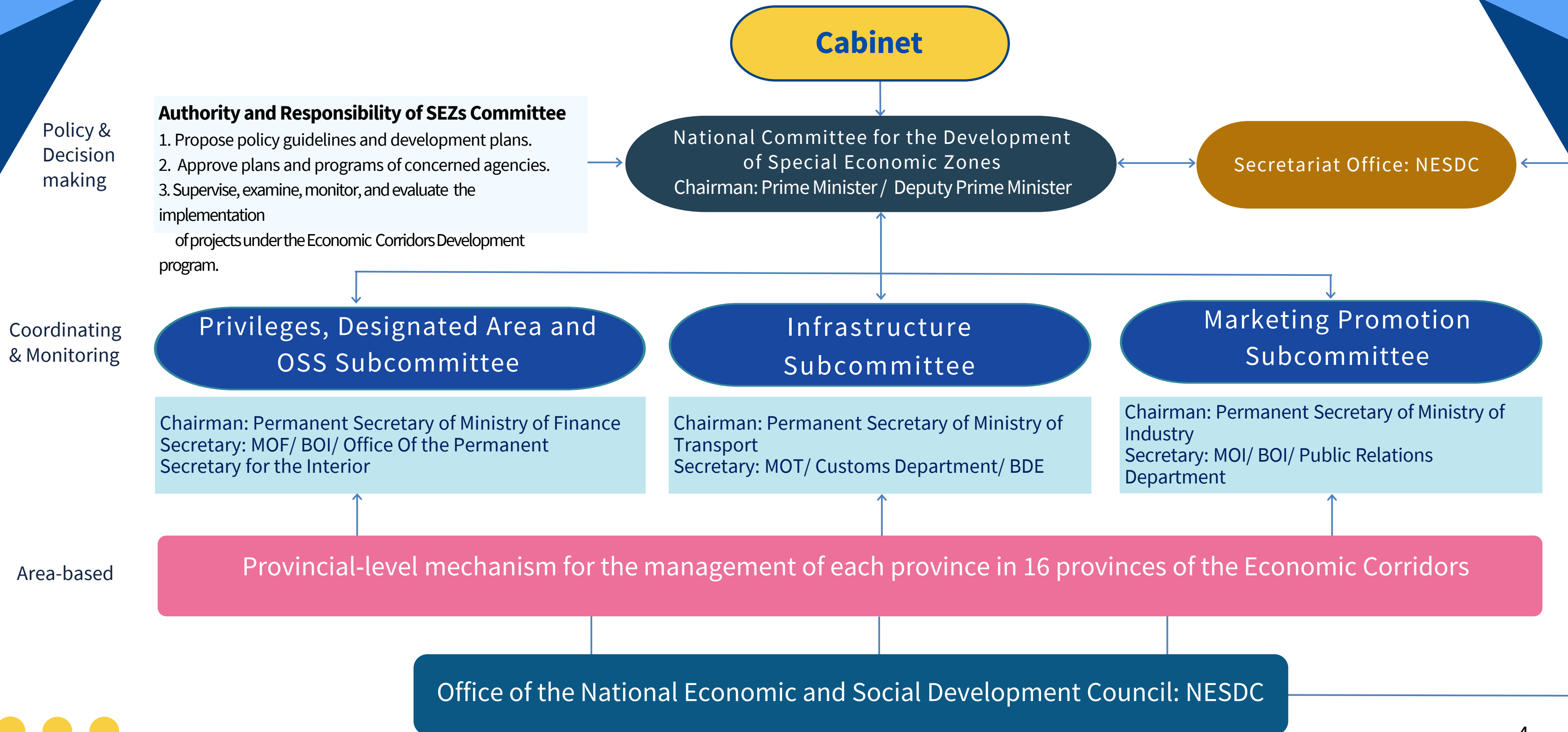
Central - Western
Economic Corridor: CWEC

Northeastern Economic
Corridor: NeEC – Bioeconomy

Southern Economic Corridor: SEC



Policy & Implementing Mechanism for Economic Corridors Development Program



Framework: Thailand's Economic Corridors Development Program

Relevant Plans and Policy

20-Year National Strategy (2018 – 2037)
2nd Strategy: Competitiveness enhancement

9th Master Plan: Special Economic Zones
Master Plan

13th National Economic and Social Development Plan
Milestone 8: Thailand has smart cities as well as safe and livable regions with sustainable growth

BCG Model /Thailand 4.0
Government Policy

Economic Corridors Development

Vision

Create new economics and the model of spatial development relating to BCG Policy and Thailand 4.0 for a sustainable country

Objectives

1. Prosperity contribution to regional areas
2. Create opportunities for economic activities and social development
3. Increase in and improvement of quality of life
4. Connect economic activities within each region and other surrounding economic areas

Target Areas

NEC	NeEC	CWEC	SEC
			
Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun & Lampang	Nakhon Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani & Nong Khai	Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Suphan Buri & Kanchanaburi	Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani & Nakhon Si Thammarat
Creative LANNA	Bio-economy	Agro & High Tech Industry Green & Heritage Tourism	Western Gateway Bio-industry & High Value Argo Ind. Wellness & Local Tourisms

Development Themes

Approaches

- Promote and facilitate investment
- Provide economic infrastructure linking to the economic corridors with other surrounding economic areas in Thailand and neighboring countries
- Improve the value chain for high-value products and services by using technology and innovation
- Develop human resources and entrepreneurs for targeted activities of each economic corridor
- Support research and development, technology transfer, and create cooperation/partnership in R&D and technology for entrepreneurs

Factors

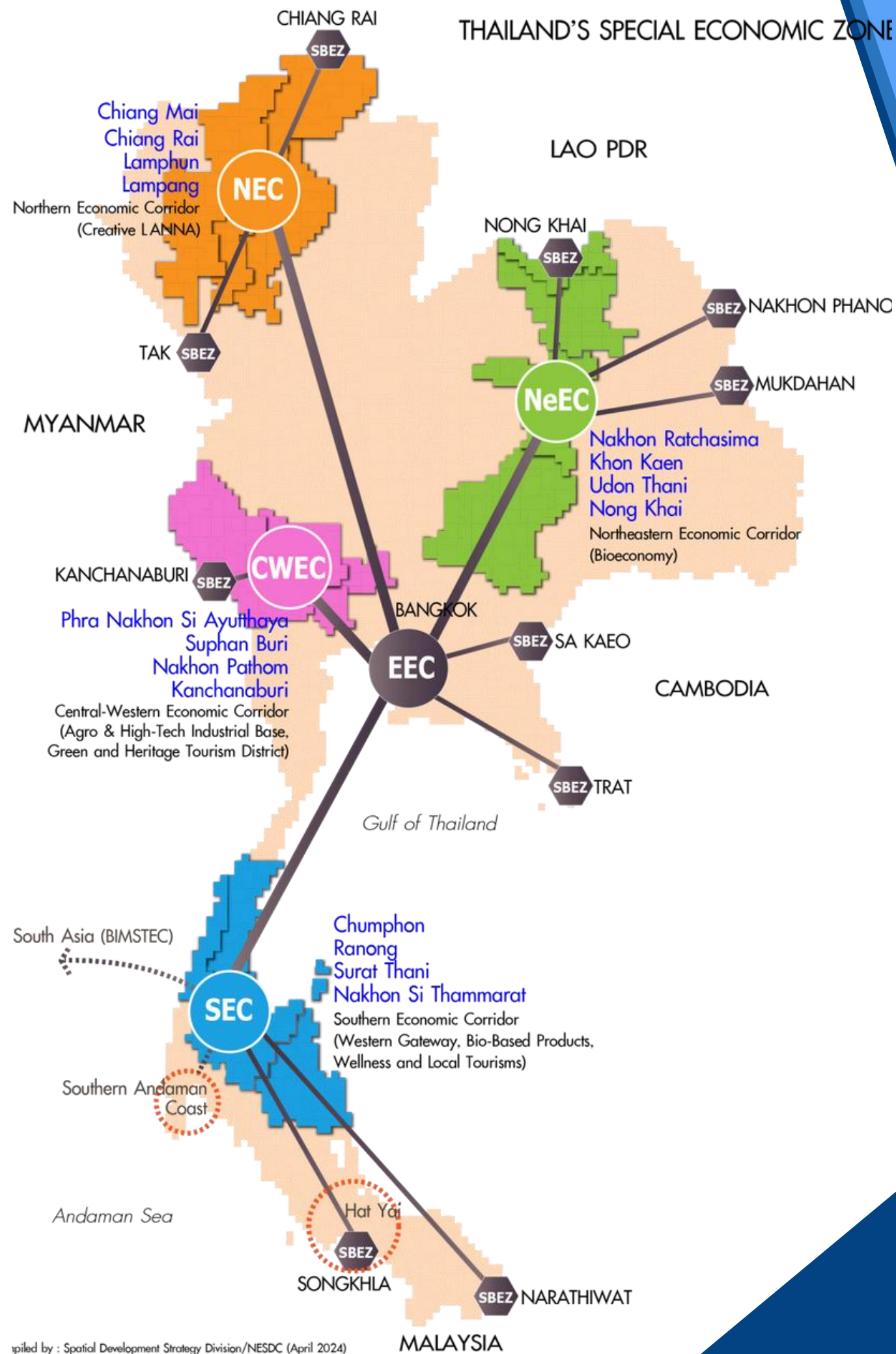
Incentives Infrastructures Public Facilities Logistics Human resource development Education R&D Technology Regulations

Target Areas



In 2022, Thailand commenced the establishment of **16 provinces** in 4 regions as Thailand's economic corridors

- (1) Northern Economic Corridor (NEC – Creative LANNA)**
Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun, and Lampang
- (2) Northeastern Economic Corridor (NeEC – Bioeconomy)**
Nakhon Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, and Nong Khai
- (3) Central - Western Economic Corridor (CWEC)**
Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Suphan Buri, and Kanchanaburi
- (4) Southern Economic Corridor (SEC)**
Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani, and Nakhon Si Thammarat



Objectives & Approaches

Northern Economic Corridor (NEC – Creative LANNA)

Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun, and Lampang :

To be Thailand's base of the creative economy

- Create creative ecosystem for creative cities
- Support creative products and services development
- Promote brands and marketing for the creative industry
- Develop creative R&D and support workforce in creative industry

Central - Western Economic Corridor (CWECC)

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Suphan Buri, and Kanchanaburi :

To be the base of high-tech industry and agro-industry connecting Bangkok and surrounding areas, including EEC, and promoting local tourism

- Enhance increasing the competitiveness of the old industrial base in the CWECC area
- Support high-tech industry in the CWECC area
- Promote local tourism, especially historical tourism and ecotourism

Northeastern Economic Corridor (NeEC - Bioeconomy)

Nakhon Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, and Nong Khai : To be Thailand's new base of bio-industry by using technology and innovation throughout the supply chain

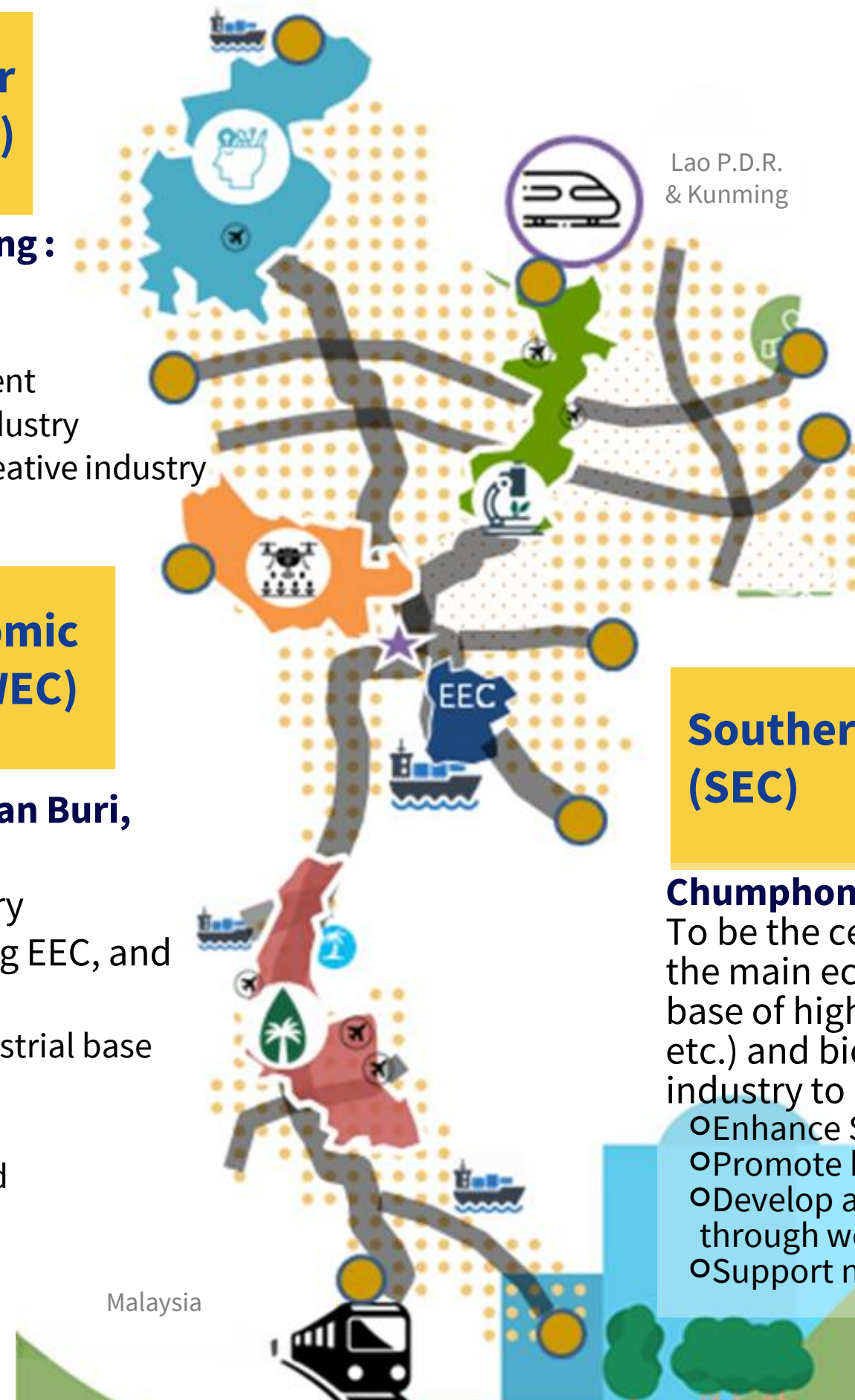
- Develop safe and eco-friendly bio-based products
- Promote investment in agricultural, bio-industry, and relevant industries using technology and innovation
- Promote marketing for high-value agro-products and bio-based products
- Support creating a workforce for agriculture and bio-industry

Southern Economic Corridor (SEC)

Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani, and Nakhon Si Thammarat :

To be the center of the southern region for trade and logistics linking to the main economic areas of the country and the Andaman coast area and base of high-value agro-industry (Palm oil, Rubber, Fishery products, etc.) and bio-industry, including promoting the standard of the travel industry to international level

- Enhance SEC to be the role of gateway for trade and logistics
- Promote high-value agro-industry and bio-industry
- Develop and link tourism in Thai gulf coast area to Andaman coast area through wellness and local based tourism
- Support natural and cultural conservation, including livable city development



Malaysia

Targeted Activities in Economic Corridors

National Committee for the Development of SEZs has also endorsed 6 targeted industries for Thailand's Economic Corridors



NEC : Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun, and Lampang

Creative Industries

e.g. R&D centers, Product Design centers, Products for Lifestyle and Movie Town

Digital Industries

e.g. Digital Park, Data Center and Cloud Service

Wellness and Tourism Industries

e.g. Amusement parks Cultural centers, Museums and Thai wellness services

Agricultural and Food Industries

e.g. GAP farming products, Organic farming products, Future Food, Products from natural extracts and including Agricultural and food industrial estate



CWEC : Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Suphan Buri, and Kanchanaburi

Agricultural and Food Industries

e.g. GAP farming products, Organic farming products (e.g. Plant Factory) Future Food Products from natural extracts and including Agricultural and food industrial estate

Electrical Appliances and Electronics industries

e.g. Smart electrical appliances and products and Electronics design



NeEC : Nakhon Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, and Nong Khai

Biotechnology Industries

e.g. Bio-plastic, Packaging from agro-industrial waste and Bio-chemical products

Agricultural and Food Industries

e.g. GAP farming products, Organic farming products, Future Food (Alternatives protein/ Medical food) Products from natural extracts and including Agricultural and food industrial estate



SEC : Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani, and Nakhon Si Thammarat

Agricultural and Food Industries

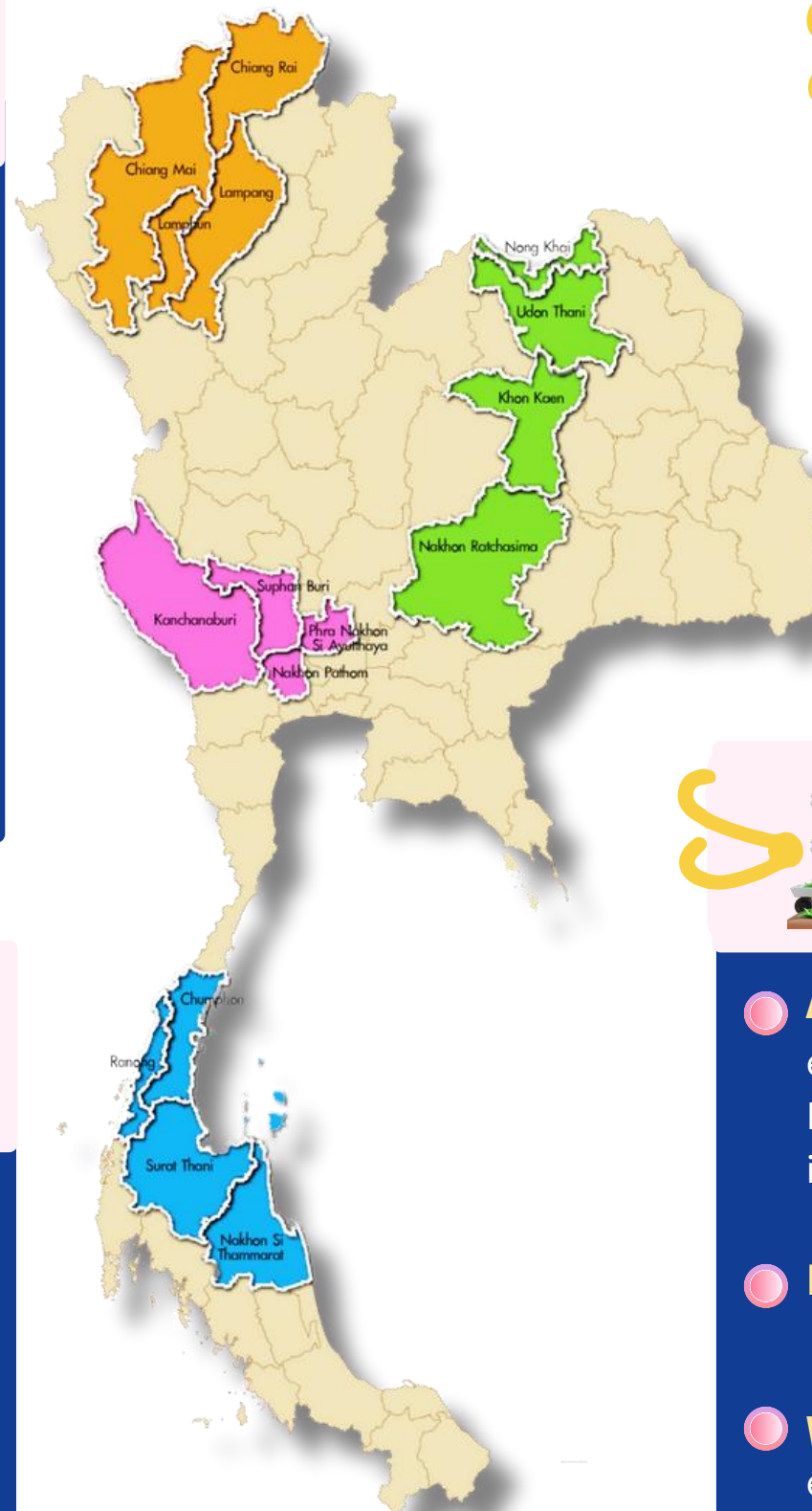
e.g. GAP farming products, Organic farming products, Future Food, Products from natural extracts, High-valued rubber products and including Agricultural and food industrial estate

Biotechnology Industries

e.g. Oleochemical Products and Natural extract from rubber

Wellness and Tourism Industries

e.g. Cultural centers, Museums and Thai wellness services



Economic Corridors Development Plan



- Investment Promotion & Facilitation**
(Privileges, Designated Area and OSS Subcommittee)
- Provide highest incentives for targeted activities
 - Provide the measures to create ecosystem for investment
 - Promote the targeted activities in the economic corridors + BCG
 - Facilitate investment process (e.g. One Stop Service center)



- Human resources and Entrepreneurs Development**
(Ministry of Labour & Ministry of Commerce)
- Support creating workforce for the targeted activities in the economic corridors areas
 - Promote the competitiveness of doing business for the entrepreneurs
 - Incubate the local entrepreneurs to upgrade the business by technology and innovation
 - Develop the competitiveness of the service provider



- Infrastructure Development**
(Infrastructure Subcommittee)
- Plan the development of Infrastructures for transportation, logistics, Digital Infrastructure, Industrial estate and public facilities to support the investment in the economic corridors areas, including linking to other surrounding economic areas



- R&D and Innovation**
(Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation)
- Elevate value-added for products through R&D
 - Support R&D and technology transferring
 - Promote knowledge exchange between governments - private sectors - universities - communities
 - Develop R&D Center



- Supply Chain Development for the Manufacturing and Service Sector**
(Ministry of Industry)
- Improve the value chain for high-value products and services
 - Develop and link the supply chain for products and services
 - Support the supply chain management strategy + creating value-added for all linkage process in the supply chain



- Others**
(Relevant Ministries & Institutions)
- Funding support e.g. Funding for R&D, Loan for startup business, Loan for SMEs
 - Regulations amending for the ease of doing business, including Reforming governments operation system to Digital Government, E-service , Upgrading the regulation for standard of the productions and process

BOI's Incentives

Thailand's Economic Corridors

"Promote targeted industry for prosperity contribution to regional areas thoroughly"

Targeted Industry for Initial Phase of
The Economic Corridors

Economic Corridors	Province	Target Industries
NEC	Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun, Lampang	•Agriculture and food •Digital •Creative Industries •Tourism and Wellness Tourism
NeEC	Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Udon Thani, Nong Khai	•Agriculture and food •Bio Industries
CWEC	Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Nakhon Pathom, Suphan Buri, Kanchanaburi	•Agriculture and food •Electrical and Electronics
SEC	Chumphon, Ranong, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat	•Agriculture and food •Bio Industries •Tourism and Wellness Tourism



A1+
CIT Exception
**10 - 13
years**

(no cap)

Technology and Innovation
Development includes
targeted core technology
development such as
development of biotechnology,
nano-technology, advanced
materials technology and
digital technology

A1-A4
CIT Exception
3 - 8 years

- A1** Knowledge-based activities focusing on R&D and design to enhance the country's competitiveness.
- A2** Infrastructure activities for the country's development, activities using advanced technology to create value-added, with no or very few existing investments in Thailand.
- A3** High technology activities which are important to the development of the country, with a few investments already existing in Thailand.
- A4** Activities with lower technology than A1-A3 but which add value to domestic resources and strengthen the supply chain.

Rights and incentives, and conditions for the targeted activities

In case of human resource development or R&D of technology and innovation

• Human Resource Development Criteria

Must collaborate with educational institutions in the specified forms, e.g., the Work-integrated Learning (WiL), cooperative education, and dual vocational training program, or collaboration in developing Thai personnel in sci & tech while the number of students or university students admitted to training shall $\geq 10\%$ of the total number of employees in the projects applying for investment promotion or shall ≥ 40 persons, whichever is lower.

• R&D of Technology and Innovation Criteria

In the first 3 years, the total investments or expenditures on R&D in technology and innovation either on its own must account for $\geq 1\%$ of the total sales or ≥ 200 million baht, whichever is less.

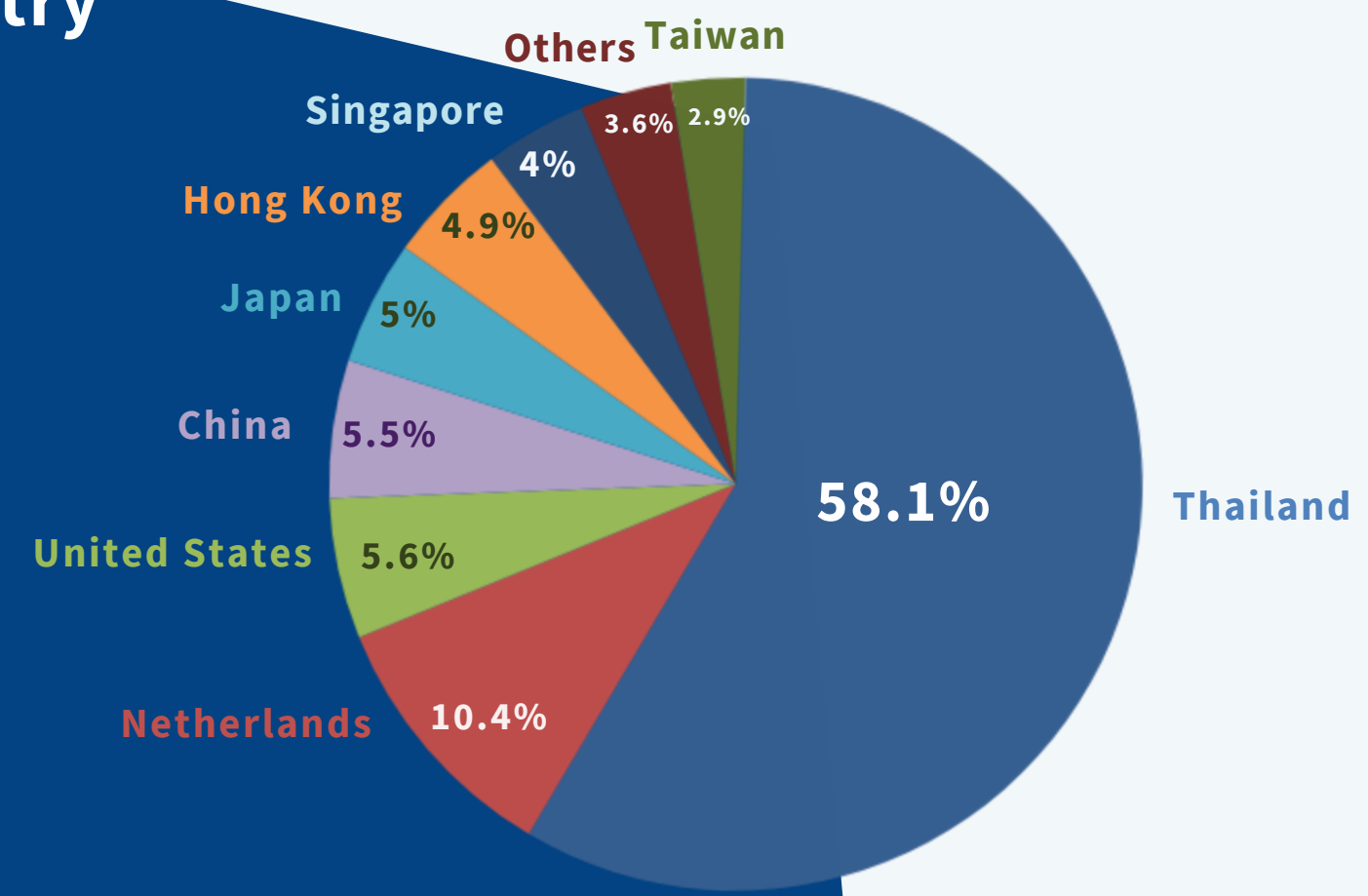
A1+
shall be entitled
to **2 additional
years of CIT
exemption.**

A1-A4
shall be entitled to
**50 % deduction
from the normal
rate of CIT for
3 additional years
of CIT exemption.**

Investment Promotion in Economic Corridors 2023–2024

Total Value of Investment
285,121 Million Baht*

Country



Top 5 by Nationalities

- 1 Netherlands**
Public Utilities, Machinery and Vehicles, Electrical Appliances and Electronics
- 2 United States**
Electrical Appliances and Electronics, Agricultural and Food, High Value Service
- 3 China**
Electrical Appliances and Electronics, Machinery and Vehicles, Chemical and Petrochemical
- 4 Japan**
Electrical Appliances and Electronics, Machinery and Vehicles, Metal and Material
- 5 Hong Kong**
Electrical Appliances and Electronics, Machinery and Vehicles, Metal and Material, Medical

Source: BOI processed by NESDC
Note: * is the value of the investment project submitted applications.

NEXT STEPS



Accelerate for increasing the investment in 4 economic corridors

Promote current investment incentive measures in 4 economic corridors and economic corridor policy to the public, including setting additional measures to support and create the investment ecosystem.



Develop infrastructure for 4 economic corridor areas

Develop the infrastructure within 4 economic corridors, both hard and soft infrastructure, as well as the infrastructure connecting to other economic areas in Thailand and neighboring countries. Support the infrastructure to match each corridor approach, such as digital infrastructure in NEC, transportation infrastructure for logistics in SEC, and infrastructure for R&D in NeEC and CVEC



Develop Supply Chain for the Manufacturing and Service Sector

Research for selecting the potential products in the targeted industries to develop the product's supply chain linkages in 4 economic corridors and surrounding areas and encouraging local entrepreneurs and communities to participate in and benefit from targeted industry development



Prepare the local entrepreneurs and workforce for targeted industries

Support local workforce and entrepreneurs for upskilling by collaboration with local education institutes for improving the competitiveness and matching the targeted industries in each economic corridor



Support R&D and Innovation

Encourage the entrepreneurs to translate the research project into commercialization through regional sci-park and research centers. In addition, support the universities for incubating innovation for local entrepreneurs and farmers.