



Bangkok, January 18th 2021

PRESS RELEASE

BANGKOK'S NIGHT OF IDEAS

Urban changes in Southeast Asia : what is the citizen's role ?

An event co-organized by the Embassy of France in Thailand, French Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC), Alliance Française Bangkok, Urban Design and Development Center – Chulalongkorn University (CU-UDDC) and Heinrich Böll Foundation, in collaboration with UN Women

▶ The second edition of the Night of Ideas will take place at the Alliance Française in Bangkok and online !

Celebrating the free flow of ideas between countries, cultures, topics and generations: each year, the event "**Night of Ideas**" is an opportunity to explore the latest thinking behind major issues of our time. It is staged simultaneously on **January 28th 2021** across five continents and brings together guests from diverse backgrounds around a common theme.

"**Closer**" is the common topic chosen for the year 2021 for more than 100 countries and raises questions about the distance and proximity between humans and machines, animals and plants. It calls upon the experience of civil societies and the expertise of social sciences to think about new solidarity beyond the social, economic and health crises.

The Night of Ideas in Bangkok will unfold in a series of screenings, debates, exhibitions, urban visits and a Living Library activity, engaging French and Thai guests, from all walks of life, with a focus on how civic engagement plays a key role in creating a more inclusive and sustainable city.

Bangkok's Night of ideas will be a rallying call to action fostered by a deep reflection on the environmental issues and role of citizens in urban changes based on the specific nuances found in Southeast Asian cities.

▶ One event, two dates! 28th January 2021 & March-April 2021

▶▶ January 28th 2021 (from 5.30pm)

A debate with six panelists on the role of citizens in the urban fabric in Southeast Asia with screenings
And all day: visit the Book-shop
Carnets d'Asie

▶▶ "After the night" : March-April 2021

A full afternoon filled with Exhibitions, Cinema, Urban visits, Video game and a Human Library activity around the engagement of women for the environment

This event will be the first of a series of conferences supported by the Fonds d'Alembert from the Institut Français in Paris organized by IRASEC, the Embassy of France in Thailand and UDCC - Chulalongkorn University around the theme of "*Ecological and Civic Transitions in Southeast Asia's Cities*".

Events are open to the public upon online registration. Given the current social distancing measures, limited seats are available and the discussion will be streamed online for guests who are not able to attend in person. All participants will be informed about the latest health and safety measures. The exact date of the event "After the Night" will be announced shortly.

▶ **More information and registration [here](#)**