



SEAMEO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SUFFICIENCY ECONOMY PHILOSOPHY FOR SUSTAINABILITY
11th Floor, Natural History and Environment Building, 928 Sukhumvit Road, Phra Khanong, Khlong Toei, Bangkok 10110, Thailand

SEAMEO SEPS RESEARCH GRANTS 2024 GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

I. Overview

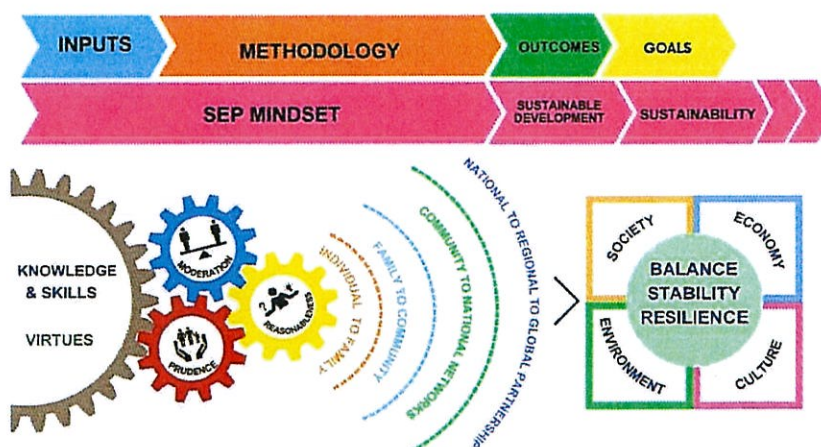
The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for Sustainability (SEAMEO SEPS) was established in 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, to serve as a centre of excellence in promoting sustainable development in Southeast Asia through Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP). The Centre aims to foster learning, research, human resource development, and partnerships within Southeast Asia, addressing regional sustainability challenges.

The **SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants** is launched to encourage academic scholars and school-based/community-based researchers from Southeast Asia to undertake research on SEP and related themes. These grants aim to generate a wealth of knowledge on SEP, expand its application beyond Thailand, and contribute to community development, ultimately improving the quality of life in the region.

II. Focus Area: Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and Sustainability

The focus of SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants FY 2024/2025–2025/2026 is to encourage research work that looks into the application of SEP in addressing sustainability challenges across Southeast Asia. Research should explore how SEP can serve as a foundational context, a baseline for comparative studies, or a practical tool for linking various sectors, such as education, environment, culture, technology, and economic resilience, to sustainability goals and efforts.

It is essential that SEP is included in the research either as the central theme or integrated into the study through its application to real-world problems. Whether focusing on theory, practice, or both, proposals should demonstrate how SEP principles contribute to sustainability and align with regional development objectives, such as the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Model of the SEP concept, designed by SEAMEO SEPS

Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP), introduced by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great of Thailand, offers a holistic approach to achieving balanced and sustainable development. Rooted in the principles of moderation, reasonableness, and prudence, SEP emphasises the importance of knowledge, skills, and virtue in making sound decisions at the individual, community, and national levels. Initially designed to address economic challenges and the pressures of globalisation in Thailand, SEP has since influenced policies across sectors like agriculture, small-scale industries, and community-based tourism.

Through the establishment of SEAMEO SEPS, the philosophy is now being promoted across Southeast Asia, with the aim of integrating SEP into education systems. SEP's holistic approach can help countries in the region enhance their resilience against environmental and economic challenges while nurturing future generations equipped with innovative, sustainable mindset.

III. Research Areas

The scope of research for the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants includes the following key elements.

1. **Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)** should be the core focus of all research, whether theoretical or applied, exploring its role in sustainable development.
2. Investigating how SEP supports long-term **Sustainable Development** practices across different sectors.
3. Examining SEP's contributions to promoting **Sustainable Living** at the community or national level, fostering resilience and thriving within their environmental limits.
4. Aligning SEP with the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** in Southeast Asia.
5. Exploring other **Values and Frameworks Similar to SEP** that enhance equitable development.
6. Studying how SEP fosters **Intercultural Understanding and Related Themes** in the context of sustainability.
7. Other SEP-related issues.

IV. Eligible Applicants

To be considered for the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants, applicants must meet the following criteria.

1. A national of one of the SEAMEO Member Countries.
2. Between 18 and 55 years of age at the time of application.
3. Proficient in the English language.
4. Not employed/contracted by any of SEAMEO Centres and Network, or by SEAMEO Secretariat.
5. Not a previous recipient of any SEAMEO grant for the past 3 years.

Applications may be submitted individually or as a group, with the lead researcher submitting on behalf of the group. The same eligibility criteria apply to all members of the group submitting a proposal.

V. Characteristics of Desirable Research for the Grant

SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants highly prefer studies that meet the following minimum characteristics.

1. High-impact and high-quality research
2. Regional focus with collaborative approaches
3. A practical idea or clearly identified gap in the knowledge

4. Well-structured, feasible methodology
5. Potential to benefit a diverse or large population
6. Ethical and mindful of cultural considerations
7. Written in English
8. Original work specifically developed for the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants

VI. Selection Process

The selection process for the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants takes place in two stages.

1. The Centre conducts a preliminary review to ensure that submissions meet eligibility requirements. Regardless of country of origin or affiliation, 10 proposals advance to the next stage.
2. A selection committee comprising select SEAMEO SEPS Governing Board members and external experts conducts the final review and assessment of the shortlisted proposals based on the aforementioned research areas and characteristics.

VII. Benefits to Research Grantees

Grant recipients receive:

1. Financial support of USD 4,000 to implement the research proposal.
2. A certificate of recognition from SEAMEO SEPS.
3. Opportunities to network with other SEP scholars and present their research at relevant SEAMEO platforms.

VIII. Submission Guidelines

Applicants must submit the following requirements in electronic/digital format through email to research@seameoseps.org no later than **28 February 2025, 1630 HRS Bangkok Time (GMT+7)**.

1. Completed Application Form

Includes personal information, research proposal summary, workplan and budget, and declarations on anti-plagiarism, absence of conflict of interest, and adherence to Personal Data Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) of Thailand (<https://www.mdes.go.th/uploads/tinymce/source/%E0%B8%AA%E0%B8%84%E0%B8%AA/Personal%20Data%20Protection%20Act%202019.pdf>) and other data personal data protection and data privacy laws of the applicant's respective country (<https://www.privacyworld.blog/privacy-asia-pacific/>).

2. Recorded Video (3–5 minutes)

Content includes:

- Brief introduction of the applicant or group (name, affiliation, and relevant background or expertise).
- Overview of the applicant's research advocacy, community, or sector, what motivates their research focus, and how it aligns with Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP).
- Summary of research idea, objectives, the problem or challenge aimed to address, and expected outcomes
- Explanation of how the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants support the applicant's research and community goals.

Video Technical Requirements

- Format: MP4, filmed in landscape orientation.

- Resolution: 720p or higher
- File Size: Maximum of 100 MB.
- Submission: Attach the video to the application email or upload it to a cloud platform (e.g. Google Drive) and share the link with "viewable" permissions.
- File Name: Include the Research Title and use this format "SEPSGrant2024_ResearchTitle.mp4".
- Professional editing is not required. Simple transitions and optional clips or visuals (e.g., of the school or community) may be included to enhance the video's clarity and flow.

IX. Grant Schedule

SEAMEO SEPS coordinates arrangements with grantees on fund transfers and other administrative details. The submission of deliverables, as outlined in the table below, serves as supporting documentation to initiate fund transfers.

Installment	Percentage	Deliverables and Documentary Attachments
First Installment (Mobilisation Fund)	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed Letter of Award • Inception Report and Work Plan • Data Collection Instruments • SEAMEO SEPS' Certificate of Acceptance for the deliverables
Final Installment	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular progress updates on data collection and analysis • Research Manuscript • Project Completion Report • SEAMEO SEPS' Certificate of Acceptance

X. Key Dates

Activity	Timeline
1. Call for Proposals	25 November 2024 – 28 February 2025 (3 months)
2. Proposal Review and Selection, and Announcement of Grant Recipients	March – April 2025 (2 months)
3. Research Implementation and Monitoring	May 2025 – February 2026 (10 months)
4. Reporting and Completion	March – April 2026 (2 months)
5. Project Evaluation	May – June 2026 (2 months)

XI. Monitoring and Evaluation

SEAMEO SEPS monitors the progress of funded research through regular reporting by grantees, online meetings, and occasional site visits. Monitoring activities ensure that research is progressing as planned and meeting the agreed-upon deliverables.

A project evaluation is conducted to assess the overall impact of the research. This includes feedback from grantees to improve future grant processes and appraisal of the research impact on communities and relevant sectors.

As SEAMEO SEPS continues to build its regional knowledge base on the application of SEP, future initiatives include the following.

- On-site and online forums and conferences featuring grant recipients to share their research findings and the broader impacts of their work.

- Publication of SEAMEO SEPS-funded studies and knowledge products, providing guidance for policymakers, educators, and development practitioners across Southeast Asia.

XII. Special Provisions

A. Research Ownership

The research outputs shall be owned by SEAMEO SEPS, with the grantee(s) duly recognised as the author(s). Prior written consent from SEAMEO SEPS is required for presenting the research at conferences, forums, or other events not organised by SEAMEO SEPS, or for publishing in external journals and bulletins. In such instances, the grantee(s) must appropriately acknowledge SEAMEO SEPS as the owner of the research.

B. Letter of Award

To ensure accountability and clarity, all researchers receiving funding must acknowledge and sign the Letter of Award citing the terms and conditions of the grant, timeline, and Grant Schedule as agreed upon by SEAMEO SEPS and the grantee. Research activities and disbursement of mobilisation fund are expected to begin within five working days following SEAMEO SEPS' receipt of the signed Letter of Award, Inception Report, and Work Plan, and data collection instrument.

C. Research Ethics

Researchers are required to uphold the highest ethical standards, ensuring integrity and credibility in all studies. Any breach of ethical standards leads to disqualification from funding opportunities. Researchers must obtain proper consent, protect participants' privacy, and avoid harm or exploitation. Transparent documentation of methodologies and data collection is required, and fabrication is not tolerated. Submission of AI-generated data and information is strongly opposed. Respect for cultural sensitivities must be given special consideration, and safeguards must be in place for research involving sensitive topics.

D. Plagiarism and Fraud

Grantees must ensure that all research proposals and final reports are original works. Proper citation and referencing are mandatory. Any instance of plagiarism or fraudulent activity leads to immediate disqualification from the grant process and permanent exclusion from future grant opportunities.

E. Technical Support on the SEP concept

SEAMEO SEPS provides technical support to researchers needing more information on the SEP concept. This is arranged with researchers on a case-by-case basis.

F. Failure to complete the research

In the event that a grantee is unable to complete the research or fails to submit the required deliverables, they are obligated to repay the full amount of the research grant that was received.

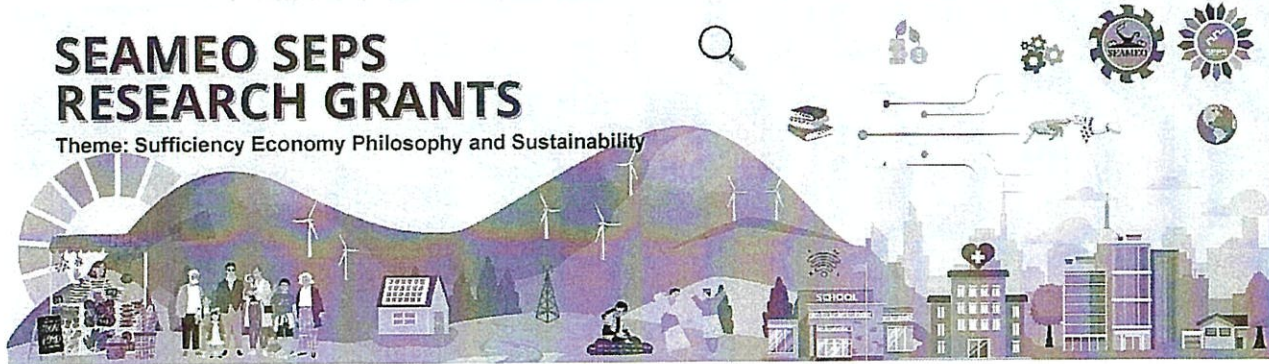
XIII. Contact Information

For more information about the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants, please contact:

The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization
Regional Centre for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for Sustainability
Email: research@seameoseps.org / secretariat@seameoseps.org
Attention: Abigail Lanceta at l.abigail@seameoseps.org

SEAMEO SEPS RESEARCH GRANTS

Theme: Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and Sustainability



SEAMEO SEPS RESEARCH GRANTS 2024 APPLICATION FORM

1. Proponent Information

Please complete this section with the key details. For group submissions, the lead researcher serves as primary point of contact.

Title (Mr, Ms, Dr, Prof)							
First Name				Last Name			
Gender				Age			
Nationality				Country of Residence			
Organisation				Position			
Complete Address							
Email Address				Mobile Number			
Research Group Members:							
Title	First Name	Last Name	Gender	Age	Nationality	Role in Research	

2. Research Proposal Summary

Please summarise your research idea in this section.

Research Title				
Research Area (Tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) for Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>	SEP-related Values and Frameworks
	<input type="checkbox"/>	SEP and the SDGs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intercultural Understanding
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other SEP-related Issues (Please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Living
Abstract	In approximately half a page (250 words or less), provide a concise summary of your research proposal. Include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main topic or issue your research will address Key objectives of your study Methods you will use Expected outcomes or impact of your research 			
Relevance and Impact of the Study	In approximately 1 page (around 400 words), explain why your research is important and its impact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What problem or challenge does your research address, and why is it important? How does your research align with SEP and sustainability? What are the expected contributions of your study to knowledge, policy, or communities in Southeast Asia? 			
Objectives of the Research	Clearly state the goals of your study in 3-5 bullet points. Consider these questions as you outline your objectives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you aim to discover or achieve through this research? How will your objectives align with SEP principles or sustainable development goals? Are your objectives specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and within the grant period? 			
Research Questions	What are the key questions your research will address?			
Research Design	In approximately 1 to 2 pages, detail your research design, data collection and analysis methods, including an illustration of your research framework.			

Timeline Outline key milestones within 6–10 months.	Activity	Start Date	End Date
Collaborative approaches	Explain how you will work within multiple regional contexts or collaborate with other researchers, if applicable.		
Ethical Considerations	Describe the ethical principles and practices you will apply to ensure your research is conducted responsibly and with integrity.		

3. Workplan and Budget Utilisation:

Please provide a detailed breakdown of how you plan to use the grant funding.

No.	Activity	Indicative Schedule	Particulars/Details	Estimated Cost (in USD)
Example	Focus Group Discussion	1 June 2025	Meals for 20 participants	40
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
			Total	

4. Submission Instructions

Please submit this completed application form, electronic copy of 2x2 inch photo of the applicant or group members, and 3-5-minute video in electronic/digital format through email to research@seameoseps.org no later than 28 February 2025, 1630hrs Bangkok Time (GMT+7).

Video Content

- Brief introduction of yourself or your group, including your name, affiliation, and any relevant background or expertise.
- Overview of your research advocacy, community, or sector, what motivates your research focus, and how it aligns with Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP).
- Summary of your research idea, objectives, the problem or challenge you aim to address, and expected outcomes.
- Explanation of how the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grant will support the applicant’s research and community goals.

Video Technical Requirements

- Format: MP4, filmed in landscape orientation.
- Resolution: 720p or higher
- File Size: Maximum of 100 MB.
- Submission: Attach the video to the application email or upload it to a cloud platform (eg. Google Drive) and share the link with “viewable” permissions.
- File Name: Include the Research Title and use this format “SEPSGrant2024_ResearchTitle.mp4”.
- The video does not need to be professionally edited. A clear and authentic recording is sufficient. Use your video to showcase your passion and commitment to sustainability!

Link to the video	
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5. Declaration

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that

1. Originality and Anti-Plagiarism

- This research proposal is entirely my/our original work and has not been previously completed, published, or submitted for academic, professional, or organisational purposes.
- All sources of information, ideas, and contributions from other works have been properly acknowledged and cited.
- All deliverables and the final research study arising from this proposal will also be original, adhering to ethical and academic standards, with proper citation of external works.
- I/We understand that the submission of AI-generated data and information is strongly opposed and commit to ensuring that any use of AI tools adheres to ethical and academic standards outlined in relevant policies and literature, such as in Thai Journals Online (<https://so03.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/journal-la/index/AiPolicy>; <https://so02.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/hasss/announcement/view/2082>; <https://so17.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/JEL/announcement/view/23>)
- I/We understand that any violation of this commitment, including plagiarism, will result in disqualification from the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants and may result in further penalties, such as reimbursement of the grant payment and exclusion from future funding opportunities.

2. Absence of Conflict of Interest

- I/We confirm that there are no personal, financial, or professional conflicts of interest that could influence the objectivity or outcomes of this research.
- If any conflict of interest arises during the research, I/we will disclose it immediately to SEAMEO SEPS for resolution.
- I/We understand that failure to disclose such conflicts may result in the termination of the grant and other consequences as determined by SEAMEO SEPS.

3. Data Protection and Privacy Compliance

- I/We will fully comply with the Personal Data Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) of Thailand and all other applicable data privacy and protection laws in my/our respective country.
- I/We commit to:
 - a. Collecting, processing, and storing personal data ethically and securely.
 - b. Obtaining informed consent from all research participants.
 - c. Maintaining confidentiality and protecting personal data from unauthorized access or use.
 - d. Disposing of personal data responsibly and securely at the conclusion of the research.
- I/We understand that any violation of data protection obligations may result in penalties or termination of the grant.

4. Adherence to SEAMEO SEPS Research Grant Guidelines

- I/We have read, understood, and agree to abide by all terms and conditions outlined in the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants Guidelines.
- I/We will ensure timely submission of progress updates, deliverables, and final reports as required under the grant agreement.
- I/We acknowledge that non-compliance with these terms may result in the withdrawal of grant funding or other consequences as determined by SEAMEO SEPS.

5. Consent for SEAMEO SEPS Use of Research Findings and Personal Data

- By participating in the SEAMEO SEPS Research Grants, I/we acknowledge and grant SEAMEO SEPS the right to use the information, data, and findings arising from my/our research.
- I/We consent to the use of my/our personal information, photographs, and videos by SEAMEO SEPS for the exclusive purpose of disseminating information related to its programmes, projects, and activities.
- I/We understand SEAMEO SEPS ensures that all usage complies with the Personal Data Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) of Thailand, and that no third-party sharing will occur without obtaining my/our prior consent.

By typing my name below and submitting this application via email, I affirm that this declaration is binding and that the information provided in this application is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge, and shall be considered equivalent to a physical signature.

Full Name of Applicant/ Lead Researcher		Date	
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