

The Inaugural Southeast Asia Sport and Youth Crime Prevention Conference 2025

Building Safer and More Resilient Communities Through Sport

27 – 28 November 2025

The Grand Fourwings Convention Hotel Bangkok

Srinakarin Road, Bangkok, Thailand

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 26 November 2025

Arrival of Delegates to Bangkok

Thursday, 27 November 2025 – *Setting the Stage: Context, Challenges and Vision*

9.00-9.45

Opening Ceremony

- H E Mr Atthakorn Sirilatthayakorn, Minister of Tourism and Sports of Thailand (tbc)
- High-Level Dignitaries from the Thai Government (tbc)
- H E John Patrick C Gregorio, Chairman of the Philippines Sports Commission (tbc)
- International Olympic Committee Member, Thailand
- H E Mr Jean-Claude Poimboeuf, Ambassador of France to Thailand
- Ms Delphine Schantz, Regional Representative, UNODC Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
- Special Keynote Message by the Olympic Medalist (tbc)

9.45-10.00 Group Photo / Coffee Break & Networking

10.00-11.00 **Plenary Session I: Strengthening Olympism and Sport in Youth Crime Prevention: Towards Safer and More Resilient Societies**

This session gives an overview of how Olympism and Olympic values can help promote sport in youth crime prevention strategies – a proposition echoed by UN General Assembly resolutions 74/170 and 76/183. From the Southeast Asia Sport and Youth Crime Prevention (SYCP) Initiative and other ongoing initiatives of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), it is evident that sport is an effective tool to prevent youth from being disenfranchised and vulnerable to criminality. The collaboration between sport and justice sectors will be highlighted, especially in the context of recent international events namely the Paris Summit on Sport for Sustainable Development in 2024 and the Olympism365 Summit held in Lausanne, Switzerland this year. Discussions include: (i) the IOC's Olympism365 strategy; (ii) introduction of the Southeast Asia Sport and Youth Crime Prevention (SYCP) Initiative; (iii) ASEAN work plan on sports and how Olympism resonates with the ASEAN vision and community-building.

11.00-12.00 **Plenary Session II: Promoting Secondary and Tertiary Prevention and Juvenile Justice Through Sport**

This session introduces UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, international human rights instruments on children, and how sport can be used as an important tool in tertiary crime prevention—working with youth in the criminal justice system. It will look at how these mutually reinforcing dynamics contribute towards achieving the SDGs, especially Goal 16 -- but essentially other cross-cutting goals, international and regional cooperation and ultimately, safer and more resilient communities. Discussions include: (i) integrating sport into justice policy and global trends for the 15th UN Crime Congress to be held in Abu Dhabi, UAE in 2026; (ii) reducing recidivism, promoting life skills and social reintegration of juvenile offenders through sport-based programmes; and (iii) promoting the rights of children deprived of liberty.

12.00-13.00 Lunch Break

Note on the Parallel Thematic Workshops

Following Plenary Sessions I and II, the conference will transition into a parallel thematic workshop format. The purpose of these workshops is to allow for a deep dive into specific aspects related to youth crime prevention through sport. The themes include:

- (i) Sport and narcotic drug prevention;
- (ii) Sport and social inclusion, education and youth empowerment;
- (iii) Sport and health; and
- (iv) Sport and gender considerations

The thematic workshops will take place in two breakout rooms, running in parallel sessions:

Time Slot I (13:30–15:00): Workshops I and II

Time Slot II (15:30–17:00): Workshops III and IV

While the workshop format is similar to that of the plenary sessions, it will be more interactive due to the smaller group size (approximately 30 participants per room). As with the plenary sessions, key discussion points from each workshop will be compiled and included in the final summary of the conference.

13.30-15.00 **Parallel Thematic Workshop I: Promoting a Drug Free Society Through the Sport Sector and Olympism**

This workshop will examine primary and secondary drug prevention strategies driven by sport. It will explore how structured sports programmes and Olympism's principles, can serve as a powerful alternative to drug use and a mechanism for teaching essential life skills. Participants will discuss models on building youth resilience against drug involvement, highlighting the role of mentorship and positive role models in supporting a healthy and drug-free lifestyle. The session will draw upon relevant issues and lessons learned related to the UNGASS 2016 outcome document, regarding the need for comprehensive and evidence-based prevention initiatives, particularly for youth, as well as the International Guiding Principle for Alternative Development, fostering the positive development and social inclusion of at-risk youth.

13.30-15.00 **Parallel Thematic Workshop II: Promoting Sport as a Pathway to Social Inclusion, Education and Youth Empowerment**

This workshop explores how sport transcends social exclusion and fosters genuine social engagement for vulnerable youth. Discussions will center on programmes that deliberately integrate sport with educational attainment, vocational training, and mentorship, offering clear pathways to employment and stability. The session will draw upon relevant issues related to the Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD2) in Doha, November 2025, galvanizing global efforts in key areas, including poverty eradication, employment and social integration. It also looks at the new ASEAN Vision 2045 and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Strategic Plan, and how these cross-cutting issues can be synergised.

15.00-15.30 Coffee Break & Networking

15.30-17.00 **Parallel Thematic Workshop III: Sport and Healthy Lifestyle in Youth Crime Prevention: A Closer Look at Mental Health and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD)**

This workshop addresses the interconnected relationship between mental health vulnerabilities and susceptibility to crime or violence. It will examine evidence of how physical activity and sport provide a structured outlet for stress reduction and anxiety management, acting as a crucial protective factor against risky behaviors. Discussions will focus on integrating trauma-informed care and mental wellness components into sport programmes. The session will draw upon relevant issues and lessons learnt related to the UN High-Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases and the Promotion of Mental Health (2025), especially in emphasising the need for multisectoral and whole-of-society action to address the major risk factors - including physical inactivity - for both Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and mental health conditions.

15.30-17.00 **Parallel Thematic Workshop IV: Sport as a Catalyst to Prevent Young Women and Girls from Offending and Victimization**

This workshop will explore gender-responsive strategies for utilising sport as an empowerment tool. Discussions will highlight best practices in creating safe, inclusive, and tailored sports environments that promote leadership, self-esteem, and physical safety for girls, while ensuring that sport programmes effectively reduce gender-based violence. This session may reference relevant international frameworks such as (i) the Joint UN Women and UNESCO Study on Tackling Violence against Women and Girls in Sport, (ii) the Updated UN Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and (iii) for tertiary prevention and social reintegration of young female offenders and imprisoned women -- the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules).

17.00-20.00 Welcome Reception

— End of Day 1 —

Friday 28 November 2025 – *Looking Ahead: Policy, Partnerships and Action*

9.00-10.30 **Plenary Session III: Promoting Financial Investment and Multistakeholder Engagement for Effective Sport-Based Crime Prevention Programmes**

This session addresses the international financial landscape to sustain sport-based crime prevention initiatives, including funding sustainability, high-level policy commitment, innovative financing models, public-private partnerships and regional development funds/banks. Discussions can draw upon recent global commitments, including the Paris Summit 2024 Sport for Sustainable Development and the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Seville in July 2025.

Equally important, the session will examine multistakeholder engagement as the key catalyst for the implementation of sport-based crime prevention programmes. It will provide a platform for practitioners to discuss and share successful multi-sectoral partnerships, focusing on operational challenges and enabling factors for collaboration between sport organisations, justice sector, law enforcement, local community groups, the private sector, NGO, and the media.

10.30-11.30 Coffee Break & Networking

11.30-12.00 **Summary and Recommendations of the SYCP Conference**

12.00-12.15 **Closing of the Conference**

12.15-13.30 Lunch Break

 **End of the Conference** 