

REHABILITATING OFFENDERS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

The State Courts have partnered the Centre for Psychotherapy (CFP) to rehabilitate offenders with intellectual disabilities through the Court-Directed Pre-Sentencing Protocol (CPSP).

The CPSP is a multi-agency initiative launched in 2016 to manage offenders in cases where community-based sentencing options are unavailable. Aimed at addressing underlying problems commonly faced by individuals who commit minor offences, the Courts direct offenders to undergo treatment, receive counselling or voluntarily participate in residential or structured programmes, before passing a sentence.

Under this partnership, the State Courts Centre for Specialist Services (CSS) conducts initial interviews with an offender before referral, monitors his or her progress and compliance with therapy, and reviews strategies to prevent reoffending. The CFP provides

counselling and psychotherapy services, and submits reports to the Courts for consideration. Both the CFP and CSS reach out to the offender's family as well, to understand the offender's background, needs and challenges, and to equip them with relevant skills and knowledge to assist the offender's rehabilitation.

On 31 July 2021, the CFP received the Public Service Transformation Star Partner Award for its work with the State Courts. This award recognises exemplary non-government agencies that have demonstrated a strong spirit of partnership with public agencies.

Recognising that such partnerships allow the State Courts to respond more effectively to the needs of court users and guide them in their journey to improve their lives, the State Courts intend to generate greater awareness of this initiative amongst stakeholders so that more can benefit from it.



Under the CPSP, individuals with intellectual disabilities who commit minor offences receive counselling or treatment to address underlying problems and hopefully prevent reoffending.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR ASEAN JUDICIARIES

More than 50 participants comprising judges and court administrators from the 10 ASEAN judiciaries attended the inaugural International Framework for Court Excellence (IFCE) Train-the-Trainer Workshop on 8 and 9 April 2021. The objective of the workshop was to help build a core team within ASEAN member states with IFCE expertise.

The IFCE serves as a guide to court excellence, and reinforces values and aspirations deemed critical to an effective and publicly respected court. It was first developed in 2008 and has since undergone two revisions, the latest of which was launched in 2020.

The April workshop, which was organised by the State Courts, covered theoretical and practical aspects of the IFCE. These included the formation and development of the International Consortium for Court Excellence (ICCE), of which the State Courts are a founding member;

the origins and evolution of the IFCE; and its holistic approach to evaluating court performance and continuous improvement methodology. In addition, the workshop allowed for the exchange of ideas with members of the ICCE Executive Committee.

Prior to that, on 23 March 2021, the State Courts and the Administrative Court of Thailand held a one-day workshop to cover the latest developments in the IFCE and its application to court operations. The State Courts shared updates on the third edition of the IFCE and how it had guided them in overcoming challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Representing Thailand, Judge Siriwan Chullapo of the Supreme Administrative Court, alongside the President of a Chamber of the Central Administrative Court, Judge Ekkanut Jinasen, recounted their implementation of the IFCE in three courts and how various projects had been undertaken to strengthen certain areas under the Framework.



Judge Siriwan Chullapo (centre) led the Thailand delegation at the IFCE workshop from their base in Bangkok, while the State Courts team joined virtually from Singapore.

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Our CapabilityConnecting With
The Community