



# **Investment Opportunities in Thailand**

**Presented by** 

#### Narit Therdstreerasukdi Senior Executive Advisor

Senior Executive Advisor

**Thailand Board of Investment** 

July 2017

Australia

1

# **BOI's Core Functions**

**Enhancing Competitiveness and Investment Facilitation** 



#### **Business Support Services**

Offers an attractive and competitive package of tax incentives.



Imposes no foreign equity restrictions on manufacturing activities or most services.



- Waives restrictions on land ownership by foreign entities.



Provide assistance in the provision of visas and work permits to facilitate entry and subsequent operation for a foreign-owned business.



Provides comprehensive information and advice on establishing operations in Thailand.



- Arranges site visits.
- Identifies potential suppliers, subcontractors, joint-venture partners.
- Provides useful contacts with key public and private organizations.
- Coordinates between the foreign business community and other public agencies











# Why Thailand?







### **Thailand's Economic Overview in 2016**



BOARD OF

# **Thailand: the Crossroads of ASEAN**

Strategic Location Gateway to ASEAN "We are surrounded by the world's economic powerhouses"



Note: Exchange rate (BOT, June 1 2017):1 AUD = 25.70 THB



ASEAN Economic Community





**GDP: AUD 3.2 trillion** (2% of world's GDP)



Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)



**3.3 billion population** (50% of world population)



**GDP: AUD 28.6 trillion** (28% of world's GDP)



### **Thailand's Bilateral FTAs**



THAILAND An Asian Hub, a World of Opportunity

6

Note: \*BIMSTEC: Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation



# **Thailand's Top 10 Exports**

Unit: Billion AUD

Product	2015	2016	Growth (YoY)
Automotive, parts and accessories	33.7	35.9	6.6%
Computer parts and devices	23.2	22.9	-1.4%
Precious stones and jewelry	14.4	19.6	35.1%
Integrated circuits	10.9	10.5	3.5%
Plastic beads	10.6	10.5	-3.0%
Machinery and parts	10.2	9.5	2.4%
Rubber products	9.2	8.9	0.1%
Chemical products	8.9	8.4	-0.6%
Oil	8.4	7.5	-28.2%
Iron and steel and their products	6.6	7.1	1.2%

Source: Ministry of Commerce (MOC) Note: Exchange rate (BOT, June 1 2017):1 AUD = 25.70 THB

# **Cost of Living Rankings**

### 2017 CITY RANKINGS [Out of 209 Cities]

Ranking	City	Country
<b>4</b> 2 (1)	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
<b>5</b> (4)	Singapore	Singapore
<b>3</b> (5)	Tokyo	Japan
<b>↓</b> 8 (7)	Shanghai	China
<b>6</b> (15)	Seoul	S. Korea
<b>67</b> (39)	Yangon	Myanmar
<b>25</b> (43)	Taipei	Taiwan
<b>67</b> (74)	Bangkok	Thailand
<b>95</b> (80)	Manila	The Philippines



Source: Mercer Cost of Living City Rankings 2017



**Note**: 1) Numbers in parenthesis are the rankings from 2016

8 2) Low ranking = high cost of living



# **Competitive Corporate Income Tax**

#### [Unit: %]



Source: Deloitte Corporate Tax Rates 2017



# **Competitive Infrastructure**





### 12 international airports

- Suvarnabhumi Airport Capacity: 45 million passengers and 3 million tons of cargo per year
- 6 Deep Sea Ports & 2 International River Ports
  - Laem Chabang Sea Port Capacity: 10.8 million TEUs, with additional 8 million TEUs expansion
  - e-Customs facilities



- Over 70,000 km in Highways
- 4,346 km in Rail links to Malaysia & Singapore
- More than 70 Industrial Estates



### Thailand's Infrastructure Development Program (2015-2022)

#### 5 Key Programs: to reduce logistics and transportation costs and improve competitiveness in the economy

#### Infrastructure development programs for 2015-2022 (AUD 74.5 billion)





Source: Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning, Ministry of Transport, as of 21 December 2015

THAILAND An Asian Hub, a World of Opportunity

Note: \*Exchange rate (BOT, June 1 2017):
 1 AUD = 25.70 THB \*\*Maintenance Repair and Overhaul



# **Investment Incentives**





# **Attractive Investment Incentives**

#### **Investment Incentives**

#### **Tax Incentives**

Exemption of import duties on machinery / raw materials imported for use in production for exports and for R&D

Corporate income tax exemption

#### **Activity-based Incentives**

Up to 8-year tax holiday for targeted industries in the BOI list

**Technology-based Incentives** 

### **10 to 13-year tax holiday** for core technologies

development projects

#### <u>Competitiveness</u> Enhancement Measures

15-year tax holiday for new technologies and high-impact investment

+ Grants for R&D, Innovation and human resources development

#### **Non-tax Incentives**

Land ownership rights

Work permit & visa facilitation

#### **Investment Policies**



100% foreign ownership



No local content requirements



No export requirements



No restriction on foreign currency



# **Investment Promotion Policies**

### **Activity-based**

- Agriculture Industry
- Mineral, Ceramics and Basic Metals
- Light Industry
- Metal Products, Machinery and Transport Equipment
- Electronic and Electrical Appliances
- Chemicals, Plastics and Paper
- Services and Public Utilities

### **Technology-based**

- Biotechnology
- Nanotechnology
- Advanced Materials Technology
- Digital Technology

#### **Merit-based**

- R&D
- Advanced Technology Training
- Local Suppliers
- Development
- Product & Packaging Design
- IP Licensing Fee
- Technology & HRD
   Fund Donations

#### **Area-based**

- Eastern Economic
   Corridor (EEC) 3 provinces
- 10 Special Economic Zones
- Southern border provinces
- 20 provinces with lowest per capita income
- Industrial estates / zones
- Science and technology parks e.g. Science Park,
   Food Innopolis, Space
   Krenovation Park



# **Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC)**

New Growth Hub for Thailand and the AEC





### **Existing infrastructure and industrial estates in the EEC**



**2 Deep sea ports** Laem Chabang and Map Ta Phut ports

**U-Tapao airport** 3 million passengers per year

1 Motorway 8 Highways



**Double-track railway** Ladkrabang (BKK) – Laem Chabang



Industrial estates more than 160 sq.km.

Leading petrochemical complex in AEC

Leading automotive manufacturing base



**Tourism** Pattaya – more than 10 million visitors



# **Investment Plan in the Eastern Economic Corridor**

#### Combined Public and Private Investments at least 1.5 Trillion baht (AUD 55 Billion) in the next 5 years



Target



### **Foreign Educational Institution in the EEC**



The government has deregulated the law allowing foreign educational institutions to set up in the EEC.





# **Sectors of Opportunities**

- Biotechnology
- Agriculture & Food Processing
- Medical Industry
- Machinery and Automation
- > IHQ & ITC





### **Competitive Factors for Bio-industry**







# **Biotechnology Educational Institutes**





#### **Kasetsart University**

(Plant Genetic Engineering Unit, DNA Fingerprinting Unit, and the Bio-service Unit, which provides bio-molecular resources for researchers from both the public and private sectors)

#### **Mahidol University**

(Microbial Genetic Engineering Unit and Medical Biotechnology Center at Siriraj Hospital)

#### Chulalongkorn University

(Marine Biotechnology Laboratory)

# King Mongkut's University of Technology

(Biochemical Engineering and Pilot Plant Unit)





# **Opportunities in Agriculture and Food Industry**

PERFORMANCE Thailand is the **13**TH **THAILAND WORLD'S #1 EXPORTER** TOTAL FOOD EXPORTS in cassava starch, #1 #1 #1 canned tuna, canned pineapple **Cassava Starch Canned Tuna Canned Pineapple** approximately 9,000 food processing Rice Sugar companies in Thailand #6 **#6** #4 **Frozen Chicken Frozen Shrimp** Seasoning Source: Ministry of Science & Technology, 2016



world's

There are



### **Thailand a Strategic Location for the Food Industry**

### STRENGTHS



#### ABUNDANT RAW MATERIALS

 >80% of raw materials used by the food industry are locally sourced at low prices



#### SKILLED & PRODUCTIVE WORKFORCE

Approximately **660,000 workers** in Thailand's food industry with a minimum daily wage THB 300 (AUD 11)



#### GOOD QUALITY & SAFETY STANDARDS

The GMP international standard is used as a mandatory measure for 54 types of food products



#### TAX SAVINGS FROM FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

• The reduction of tariff and nontariff barriers articulated in FTAs with Japan, India, Australia, New Zealand, Peru, and Chile



 The government's numerous training organizations and support facilities ensure a robust and technically-equipped workforce that is ready to go



# Thailand's First Innovative Park for the Food Industry





Source: Thailand Science Park

# **Thailand's Medical Industry**

#### Thailand's Healthcare Expenditures as a % of GDP









## **Opportunities in Medical Services**

#### **Medical Tourism Hub of Asia**



Source: Department of International Trade Promotion, Ministry of Commerce (Thailand), Thai Medical Devices Technology Industry Association (THAIMED)



### **Opportunities in Medical Devices and Pharmaceutical**





AstraZeneca

THAILAND

BOARD OF

I & FUNG

# **Thailand's Machinery Industry Overview**



Source: Machinery Intelligent Unit, Exchange rate (BOT, June 1 2017): 1 USD = 34.28 THB



# **Opportunities in Thailand's Machinery Market**







# **IHQ & ITC**





# Scope of Activities of International Headquarters (IHQ) and International Trading Centers (ITC)



THAILAND: An Asian Hub, a World of Opportunity

Note: only activities related to purchases and sells of goods



# International Headquarters (IHQ): Incentives & Special Tax Regime

#### **BOI Incentives:**

Incentives offered by the Revenue Department



Majority or <u>100% foreign</u> <u>ownership</u>



Permission to bring <u>skilled</u> workers and experts to work in promoted activities



Permission to own land



Repatriation of <u>foreign</u> currency



Exemption of **import duties** on machinery (only for R&D and Training activities) **Corporate Income Tax** 

- CIT exemption 15 yrs. (only services provided to foreign branches or AE)
- 10% of CIT

   (only income derived from its branches or AE in Thailand)
- Tax exemption of NP from revenue from the purchase and sale of goods to foreign branches or AE and such goods are not imported to TH (OUT-OUT)

#### **Personal Income Tax**

**15%** for expatriates at the specialist or executive level working at an IHQ.

#### **Specific Business Tax**

Tax exemption on loans taken out by an IHQ to relend to its branches or AE in TH and abroad.

#### Withholding Tax

Tax exemption on interest received from its branches or AE in TH and abroad for loans granted in accordance with BOI regulations.



# International Trading Centers (ITC): Incentives & Special Tax Regime

#### **BOI Incentives:**



Majority or <u>100% foreign</u> <u>ownership</u>



Permission to bring <u>skilled</u> <u>workers and experts</u> to work in promoted activities



Permission to own land



Repatriation of <u>foreign</u> currency

Exemption of <u>import duties</u> on machinery

#### Incentives offered by the Revenue Department

**Corporate Income Tax** 

**Personal Income Tax** 

**CIT exemption 15 yrs.** of net profits from revenue from the purchase and sale of goods to its foreign branches or AEs and where such goods are not imported to Thailand **(OUT-OUT)**, including revenue from marketing and logistics abroad.

The tax rate of **15%** for expatriates at the specialist or executive level working at an ITC.



### **Examples of IHQ in Thailand**







# **Australian Investment in Thailand**





# **Australian Applications Submitted**



Source: BOI; Exchange rate (BOT, June 1 2017): 1 AUD = 25.70 THB





**Examples of Australian Companies in Thailand** 





**Digital**Monopo







**FUTURis** 







Ansell

**4X4 ACCESSORIES** 



## **BOI Office in Australia (Sydney)**



Thailand Board of Investment, Sydney Office Suite 101, Level 1, George Street, Sydney, New South Wales 2000 Australia

Telephone: +61-2-9252-4884, +61-2-9252-4882 Fax: (+61) 2 9252 2883 Email: sydney@boi.go.th

#### **Key Contact Person:**



Ms. Vorawan Norasucha

Director



## **For Downloading**

# This presentation can be found on BOI website at: http://www.boi.go.th/index.php?page=presentation



# **THANK YOU**

