

<b>Research Title</b>	Extending Sustainable Social Protection for the Informal Sector in Thailand
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<b>Year of Publication</b>	2022
<b>Publisher</b>	Huachiew Chalermprakiet University
<b>Sources</b>	Huachiew Chalermprakiet University
<b>No. of Pages</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>Keywords</b>	informal sector, social protection, sustainability
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### **Abstract**

The research on “Extending Sustainable Social Protection for Informal Workers in Thailand” has four objectives: to study the problem situation and the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on informal workers, to study the existing social welfare system and social protection for informal workers, to assess measures to provide immediate government assistance to informal workers and their problems barriers to access and to propose policies and measures to expand sustainable social protection. The research employed a qualitative method to collect data by organizing a focus group discussion, and in-depth interviews with informal sector workers.

The results showed that the spread of the covid-19 virus in Thailand have affected informal workers, both Thais and foreigners in terms of mental health, and lower quality of life. The social welfare system and the social protection for informal workers that exist today cannot provide security or security for informal workers. Government assistance is immediate and unsustainable.

The researcher suggests the government to implement the policy “Protection for universal society,” integrates agencies involved in social welfare provision and social protection for informal sector by defining the mission of each ministry clearly, improving the Social Security Act by expanding the benefits of Section 40 insured workers who are informal sector to have benefits that are close to those insured under Section 39, issue ministerial regulations or ministry announcements to enforce

the law in detail according to the Home Workers Protection Act, 2010, Section 14, Section 21 and Section 24, provide a clear database of informal sector, improve the management of the Informal Sector Occupation Promotion Fund by engaging representatives of the Informal Sector Federation, clearly link the network of government aid protection systems at both local and national levels.