

CHONTIT CHUNEURAH

**DIRECTOR
OFFICE FOR THE BANGKOK RULES
AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS,
THAILAND INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE**

SHORT BIO

Over the past ten years, Chontit has been involved in national, regional, and international advocacy related to the promotion and protection of human rights in prison setting. As part of her work, she supervises several research projects focusing on women's pathways to imprisonment and recidivism in Southeast Asia. She is author/ co-author of articles and book chapters focusing on these issues. Also, she leads social reintegration projects through the collaboration between government, private sector and civil society. Chontit is specialised in topics related to prison reform, treatment of offenders, and UN standards and norms with a strong focus on gender aspect.

CONTACT

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)

- February 2020 – Present: Director, Office for the Bangkok Rules and Treatment of Offenders
- October 2015 – January 2020: Chief, Programme on the Implementation of the Bangkok Rules and Treatment of Offenders
- June 2012 – September 2015: Criminal Justice Researcher

Office of Justice Affairs (OJA), Ministry of Justice, Thailand

Jul 2009 – June 2012: Legal Affairs Officer

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Jan 2007 – Apr 2007: Supporting staff

EDUCATION

MSc Social Policy and Social Research, University of Southampton, UK
(2010-2011) (British Chevening Scholarship)

Master of Laws (Criminal Justice), University of Kent, UK (2007-2008)

Bachelor of Laws, Thammasat University, Thailand (2002-2006)

PUBLICATION

- Chuenurah, C., Owen, B. and Rao, P. (2022), "Expanding the Promise of the Bangkok Rules in Southeast Asia and Beyond", Jefferson, A.M. and Jeffries, S. (Ed.) Gender, Criminalization, Imprisonment and Human Rights in Southeast Asia, Emerald Publishing Limited, Bingley, pp. 139-154.
- Chuenurah, C., Thipphayamongkoludom, Y., & Uerfuer, P. (2021). Healthcare in prisons: protection of the rights of prisoners during the covid-19 crisis in Thailand. *Social Science Asia*, 7(3), 37-49.
- Chuenurah, C. and Sornprohm, U. (2020), "Drug Policy and Women Prisoners in Southeast Asia", Buxton, J., Margo, G. and Burger, L. (Ed.) *The Impact of Global Drug Policy on Women: Shifting the Needle*, Emerald Publishing Limited, Bingley, pp. 131-139.
- Chuenurah, C., & Jeffries, S. (2019). An Analysis of Thai Women's Roles and Involvement in Cross-Border International Drug Trafficking, *Social Science Asia*, 5(2), 45-55.
- Chuenurah, C. and Park, M. (2016) *Women Prisoners in Southeast Asia: Their Profiles and Pathways to Prison*, *Korean Journal of Correctional Discourse*
- Chuenurah, C. (2015) *Mainstreaming Gender into Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics*. *TIJ Quarterly*. Issue 1: June 2015. Thailand Institute of Justice: 12-13.
- Jeffries, S. and Chuenurah, C. (2019) *Vulnerabilities, Victimization, Romance and Indulgence: Thai Women's Pathways to Prison in Cambodia for Drug Trafficking*, *International Journal of Law Crime and Justice* Volume 56, 2019, 39-52.
- Jeffries, S., Chuenurah, C. (2018) *Gendered Pathways to Prison in Thailand for Drug Offending: Exploring Women's and Men's Narratives of Offending and Criminalization*, *Contemporary drug problems*
- Jeffries, S., Chuenurah, C. (2018) *Pathways to prison in Cambodia for homicide offending: Exploring women's life history narratives*, *South East Asia Research*
- Teerawan W., Chuenurah C. and Havanon N. (2016) *Children as Invisible Victims of Criminal Justice*, *Journal of Mekong Societies*

- Jeffries, S., Chuenurah, C. (2015) Gender and Imprisonment in Thailand: Exploring the Trends and Understanding the Drivers, International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice

EXPERIENCE IN CAPACITY BUILDING

- Led the development of **TIJ's flagship regional training programme on the UN Bangkok Rules**. The training has been conducted annually since 2016 and Chontit is one of the main trainers. The training brings together senior correctional staff including deputy director general level to prison superintendent.
- Initiated TIJ's **tailor-made training courses** aimed at addressing specific knowledge gaps related the treatment of women prisoners, and delivered a training upon requests by a country. From 2018-2021, she led TIJ's training in Kenya (2018), Indonesia (2018 and 2020), Cambodia (2019), and Malaysia (2021).
- Contributed as expert in **various specialised trainings**. For instance:
 - a national training for prison wardens on the topic of international standards and norms (organized by Thai DOC, 2020-2022),
 - a session on "Strategies for Women Offenders" of the International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA) Virtual Learning Academy (Online, November 2020),
 - UNAFEI's training course titled Comparative Study of Myanmar and Japan to Improve Prison Management (Japan, February 2018); and
 - UNAFEI's Training Course for Myanmar Prison Officers (Myanmar, June 2015).

EXPERIENCE IN AWARENESS RAISING AND COMMUNICATION

- Designed social campaign and events to raise awareness about social reintegration of prisoners and UN standards and norms such as the anniversary of the Bangkok Rules and the Nelson Mandela Day
- Engaged and built partnership with private sector and civil society to deliver pre- and post-release support for prisoners such as the "Hygiene Street Food for Chance" project
- Used a creative form of communication such as art exhibition to raise public's understanding
- Organized a media workshop on reducing recidivism and stigmatization
- Managed a youth engagement programme to raise awareness among university students
- Contributed as speaker / moderator in public events

CONTRIBUTION IN GLOBAL DISCUSSION

Participated as expert in the development of UN guideline and handbooks in several meetings such as:

- UNODC's Expert Group Meeting on Reducing Reoffending (April 2022)
- CCPCJ's side event on "Building A Rehabilitative Environment to Reduce Reoffending: Exploring Effective Approaches to Technical Assistance" organized by UNAFEI (May 2022)
- UNODC's Expert Group Meeting on gender-sensitive non-custodial measures (Sep 2019)
- UNODC's Expert Group Meeting on Classification of Prisoners (Oct, 2019)
- Expert Group Meeting on the Implementation the Mandela Rules by Essex University, UK