ANNUAL MEETINGS
2026 | THAILAND
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
WORLD BANK GROUP

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2026 GUIDE FOR CSOS

GENERAL INFORMATION

What are the Annual and Spring Meetings?

The Annual and Spring Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) each year bring together central bankers, ministers of finance and development, private sector executives, civil society representatives, and academics to discuss the state of the global economy and issues of international concern, such as the growth outlook, financial stability, and poverty reduction. The Meetings are the only gathering of its kind in the world and a unique forum for discussion on economic policymaking.

What Happens at the Annual and Spring Meetings?

The Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the IMF and World Bank Group take place in October in Washington, DC. and every third year in a city of another member country.

The Board of Governors consists of a high-level representative from each of the 191 member countries, typically the finance minister, central bank governor, or minister of development. During the Meetings, the Governors participate in a plenary session and discuss the challenges for the global economy. They also decide on major policy issues related to the future work of the two organizations, which are subsequently implemented by their respective Executive Boards.

In addition, the IMF's International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) and the joint IMF-World Bank Development Committee (DC) meet to discuss progress on the work of the two organizations.

The IMFC has 25 members drawn from the Board of Governors and oversees the work of the IMF. It focuses discussions on the global economy, developments in financial markets, as well as other pressing issues within the IMF's mandate. For its part, the DC advises the Board of Governors of the World Bank on critical development issues and financial resources required to promote economic development and poverty reduction in developing countries.

At the conclusion of these meetings, the IMFC and DC release statements that provide guidance to the Executive Boards of the two institutions. For a list of past statements, please see IMFC and DC.

Past Annual and Spring Meetings

Who attends the Meetings?

Over 10,000 people have traditionally attended the Annual and Spring Meetings in person, with this number continuing to expand as the Meetings—including the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF)—are held in a hybrid format. Participants include country delegations (including the governors themselves and their alternates), observers from other intergovernmental organizations (such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),

and the World Trade Organization (WTO)), and representatives from financial institutions and bodies (such as the Financial Stability Board (FSB)), as well as numerous journalists, academics, and representatives of civil society organizations.

What events take place during the Meetings?

Several events take place on the side of the Annual and Spring Meetings—some are by invitation only, and others are open to the general public.

- **Country group meetings:** Various country groups, such as the Group of Twenty (G-20), the Group of Twenty-Four (G-24), and the Commonwealth hold ministerial-level meetings ahead of or during the Annual and Spring Meetings. These meetings are by invitation.
- **High-Level seminars and events:** The Program of Seminars is a premier global forum where leaders in policymaking, academia, civil society, private sector, and media, among others engage in a public dialogue on the pressing global economic and financial issues of the day. In parallel, expert in-depth discussions take place as part of established talk series, such as the New Economy Forum, Analytical Corners, Capacity Development Talks, Governor Talks, and other forums. These High-Level seminars and events are open to the public.
- **Civil Society Policy Forum:** A Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) is also held during each Annual and Spring Meetings. The forum is the largest platform for representatives of civil society from across the globe to engage with the Fund and Bank on priority issues of [mutual] interest through a series of civil society-led sessions, Townhalls with the President and Managing Director, and a Roundtable with the Executive Directors of the World Bank. The CSPF sessions are open to the public.
- **Press Conferences:** The Managing Director of the IMF and the President of the World Bank, as well as senior officials from the institutions, hold press conferences on global and regional economic outlooks and other topical issues. The press Conferences are for journalists.

Where can I find the agenda of the Meetings?

The agenda of the Spring and Annual meetings is available on-line and can found here, here and here.

Do I need to register to attend the Meetings?

Yes, all the participants who would like to attend the Spring and/or Annual Meetings must register. The registration process will open in July, is online and free of charge. Additional information can be found here.

CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM

What is the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSFP)?

The CSPF, which takes place two times per year during the IMF and WBG Spring Meetings (April) and Annual Meetings (October), is a robust and well-established platform bringing together over 800 representatives from civil society from all over the world for a weeklong forum to exchange views with IMF and World Bank staff, their peers, government delegations, and other stakeholders in an open and collaborative space.

The CSPF is made up of approximately 30 sessions, selected from an open call for proposals by a working group of civils society representatives. It is held in the same venue as the Spring and Annual Meetings, in-person with hybrid components. Participants and speakers can participate in-person or virtually.

Who can participate in the Forum?

CSOs from all over the world are invited to attend the Forum and can **submit session proposals to be considered for the CSPF and engage in the discussion of events.** CSOs include non-governmental organizations, community groups, labor unions, indigenous peoples' movements, faith-based organizations, professional associations, foundations, think tanks, charitable organizations, and other not-for-profit organizations. The CSPF sessions are open to the general public. Anyone who wishes to attend in-person must be registered in advance.

How are the CSPF sessions and speakers selected?

The sessions are selected through a transparent and competitive process that strives to select the strongest, most impactful sessions:

- the IMF and World Bank launch an open Call for Proposals approximately four months before the CSPF;
- proposals are then reviewed by IMF and World Bank staff to ensure they were submitted by an eligible organization; and
- finally, proposals are reviewed and selected by the CSPF Working Group, which is made up of eight elected civil society representatives from around the world.

For this final step, the CSPF Working Group, together with the civil society teams from the IMF and WBG, base selections on the following criteria:

  - Relevance: Does the session discuss development topics that are a priority for civil society? How does this session engage with the IMF/Bank? Is the CSPF the best venue for the discussion?
  - Timeliness: Is this a time-sensitive subject? Are there new reports or discussions that can be included? Can this session inform discussions at the Spring/Annual Meetings?

- Partnership: Does the session engage with various stakeholders, including regional organizations? Are CSOs from the global south included?
- Strength: Will this session be interesting for attendees? How are the organizers proposing to use their 90-minute slots? Is there anything particularly innovative? Is there a geographical and gender balance?

Do I need to register to attend the Civil Society Policy Forum?

As the CSPF is part of the Spring and Annual Meetings, anyone interested in attending the Forum in-person will need to register to attend the Spring or Annual Meetings (see above).

Where can I find the agenda of the Forum?

A detailed and up to date schedule for the CSPF is available here, and here.

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2026

Guide for participants

This Guide for participants includes key logistical information for all the participants attending the 2026 Annual Meetings. We encourage you to read it as you will find useful information which complements this FAQs in this document.

Registration for the Annual Meetings

Registration for members of civil society for the 2026 Annual Meetings is open now until Friday, October 2, at 6 p.m. Bangkok/7 a.m. Washington DC time. More information on the registration process is available here. Applications can be submitted online here. All registrations must be completed before the Meetings begin. There is no option for registration on site.

Meetings Badges

All persons must display their 2026 Annual Meetings photo identification badges to board the shuttle buses to/from the campus, and to enter the campus. IMF and World Bank staff in Bangkok will be unable to reprint lost or damaged badges.

Badge Collection

In order to collect 2026 Annual Meetings photo identification badges, participants must present their registration confirmation letter and a government-provided ID at the Registration Building, located in the Tobacco Authority of Thailand building adjacent to the Annual Meetings campus (QSNCC). Attendees may collect their registration badges at the registration site starting on Sunday, October 11, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Registration hours of operation are the following (subject to change):

Sunday, October 11
12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, October 12
7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13 – Saturday, October 178:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 18
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

**Please note that times are subject to change.*

Access beyond the registration area will not be permitted until the first day of the Annual Meetings on **Monday, October 12**.

Visa and Digital Entry Requirements

Obtaining a Visa and Entry into Thailand

All foreign nationals entering Thailand must possess a passport or a valid travel document with a validity of at least six months beyond their intended date of departure.

All visa information and application procedures are fully accessible online.

2026 Annual Meetings E-Visa Guidelines

Participants of the 2026 Annual Meetings are eligible for a courtesy visa or visa exemption for diplomatic, official, or ordinary passports if their countries have a bilateral agreement on visa exemption and visa on arrival with Thailand. More information can be found in the 2026 Annual Meetings E-Visa Guidelines. All applications must be submitted online via the Thailand E-Visa Official Website.

For visa related enquiries, please contact visaam2026@fpo.go.th

International Health Certificate for Yellow Fever Vaccination

Participants from 45 countries are required to present a valid International Health Certificate for Yellow Fever Vaccination to the Immigration Officer upon arrival at the port of entry in Thailand. More information can be found on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

Thailand Digital Arrival Card

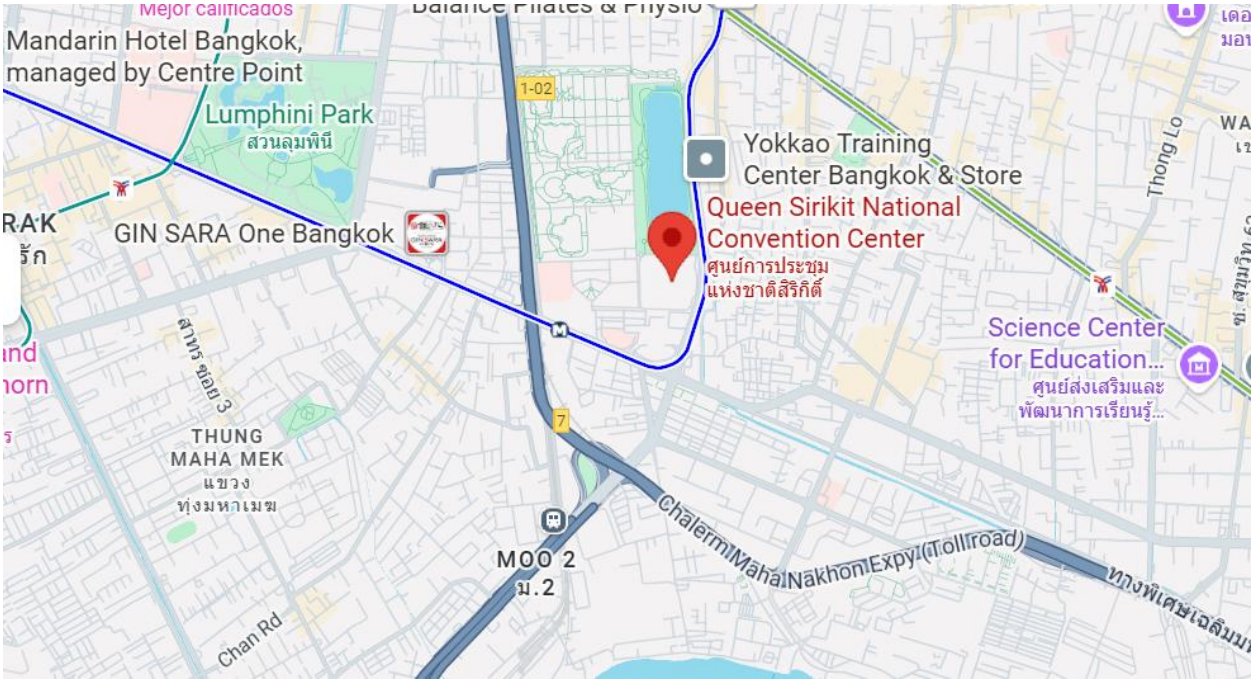
All participants are required to present a Thailand Digital Arrival Card upon entry. Required information must be submitted online via the Official Thailand Digital Arrival Card website within 72 hours before scheduled arrival in Thailand.

Meeting Venue

The venue for the 2026 Annual Meetings is located at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (60 Ratchadaphisek Rd, Khlong Toei, Bangkok 10110, Thailand).

Map

Queen Sirikit National Convention Center



Advocacy activities

To ensure the safe, respectful, and meaningful participation of all the attendees, all participants are kindly reminded to act with an appropriate level of decorum while at the Annual Meetings venue, the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center.

The Annual Meetings venue will include a dedicated CSO Center, with hybrid capabilities for the sessions of the CSPF. There is also a dedicated advocacy and demonstration space, outside

the QSNCC but close to the venue. Please note the Thai authorities have recently changed the location of the Advocacy and Demonstration site, which is now located here.

Behavior that disrupts the proceedings and events will be addressed in accordance with Annual Meetings protocols and local laws. Please note that, per Thai law, permits are legally required for all demonstrations. Any person who uses this demonstration area are exempted from notification of public assembly under public assembly act B.E. 2558. Attendees are reminded to follow local laws. More information on the permitting requirements and advocacy and demonstration site is available on the Thai authorities' site here.

Hotels

The IMF and World Bank have blocked rooms at several hotels throughout Bangkok for the 2026 Annual Meetings for registered participants. Hotel reservations and availability are managed separately from Meetings registration. Participants are encouraged to make accommodation arrangements as early as possible, as hotel demand is expected to be high during the Meetings period. Participants may consult this accommodation website, which provides information on hotels near the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, guidance on convenient areas to stay, and practice tips on planning their visit. You can find additional information here.

Please note that confirmed registration for the 2026 Annual Meetings is not a guarantee of hotel accommodations in the IMF/WBG hotel block.

During the week of the Meetings, shuttles will be provided between the airport, the official hotels, popular locations, and the event venue.

Complementary Shuttle Bus Service

Complimentary shuttle services will be available throughout the 2026 Annual Meetings to support travel between airports, official hotels, and meeting venues.

Airport – Official Hotels Shuttle

Operating Dates: Saturday, October 10 to Monday, October 20

Hours: 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
Frequency:

- Every 30 minutes (peak hours)
- Every 60 minutes (off-peak hours)

Peak Hours:

- 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Off-peak Hours:

- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Arrival at Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK): Participants should proceed to the **Annual Meetings Shuttle Bus Information Counter**, located in the parking area behind **Gate 10, Arrivals** where staff will provide boarding assistance and hotel route information.

Departure to Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK): Hotel-to-airport shuttles will drop participants at **Gate 10, Departures, Level 4.**

Official Hotels – QSNCC Shuttle

Operating Dates: Sunday, October 11 to Sunday, October 18

Hours:

- October 11, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- October 12 - 18, 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Frequency:

- Every 10 minutes from 6:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- Every 30 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

QSNCC Shuttle Stop

At QSNCC, the shuttle will drop-off and pick-up participants at the Lakeside Entrance within the campus. Participants should follow on-site signage and instructions from transportation staff when boarding or exiting shuttle services.

Annual Meetings Transportation Counters

Participants are encouraged to confirm their assigned route and departure time at one of the dedicated transportation service counters before travel. Transportation staff will be available to provide route information, shuttle schedules, and travel assistance throughout the Meetings.

- **Suvarnabhumi Airport (BBK):** 2026 Annual Meetings Shuttle Bus Information Counter, located in the parking area behind **Gate 10, Arrivals**.
- **Official Hotels:** Transportation counters are located in the lobby of each official hotel.
- **QSNCC:** Transportation counter is located in the **QSNCC, Entrance of Hall 2, Level G**

Customs and Changes

For information about currency limits and customs guidelines, visit the Host Government website at this link: Immigration & Customs.

Insurance

Participants are strongly advised to arrange for their own insurance for individual travel, medical care and personal effects while attending the Meetings. Participants at the 2026 Annual Meetings are not covered for insurance purposes by the IMF, World Bank Group, or the Government of Thailand, nor will these institutions accept responsibility for costs related to re-booking travel, personal injuries, loss or damage to participants' personal properties.

Tourism

The host Government has provided information regarding local tourism packages for participants who may wish to explore Thailand before or after the Annual Meetings.https://www.am2026thailand.go.th/thailand-travel-tips Participants can explore and book specially curated tour packages through the official host government Thai Tourism website, in partnership with the Association of Thai Travel Agents (ATTA).

For information on travel to Bangkok, please visit the official host government website.

Thai Pavilion

Within the Annual Meetings Venue, A Thai Pavilion located within the Annual Meetings venue will showcase Thailand's rich cultural heritage, history, innovation, and economic development.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the country's traditions, industries, and contributions to the global economy through a variety of exhibits and displays.

Transportation

Public Transportation

BTS Skytrain and MRT Metro
Bangkok's MRT Metro and BTS Skytrain provide fast, reliable access to many of the city's major hotels, business districts, and attractions. The MRT Blue Line offers the most direct connection to QSNCC via Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre Station. Participants staying along BTS routes can conveniently transfer to the MRT at interchange stations, including Asok/Sukhumvit and Saladaeng/Silom.

Ride-Hailing Applications
Ride-hailing services are widely available in Bangkok and offer a convenient alternative to taxis. App-based booking provides fare transparency and advance destination entry, making these services a practical option for travel between QSNCC, official hotels, restaurants, shopping malls and other destinations.

Taxis
Metered taxis are widely available throughout Bangkok and provide convenient door-to-door transportation. QSNCC is easily accessible by taxi; however, travel times may vary depending on traffic conditions. Participants are advised to allow for additional travel time during peak hours and ensure the meter is used.

BMTA Bus Service
Bangkok's public bus network serves a wide area of the city and offers an economical transportation option. While several routes operate near QSNCC, participants may find the MRT a more convenient and efficient way to reach the venue, particularly during peak traffic periods.

Tuk-tuks
Tuk-tuks are a distinctive feature of Bangkok's transportation network and offer a unique way to experience the city. They are best suited for short journeys, particularly in historic and tourist areas. Participants should agree on the fare before departure and allow additional travel time during periods of heavy traffic.

Parking
Parking is not available for participants. There is a limited number of parking spaces available for pre-approved, placarded vehicles. Only vehicles with the appropriate placard will be permitted entry to the campus and designated parking areas.

Contact Information

Registration**:** csoregistration@worldbank.org.

Hotels: am26hotels@connectionshousing.com.

For other questions please contact:

IMF: publicaffairs@imf.org

World Bank: civilsociety@worldbank.org

Local Emergency Contacts

On Campus Emergency Number: +66 2111 6200

Off Campus Emergency Number (Tourist Police): 1155

24/7 Medical Hotline: +66 8 0118 4229

Helpful Phrases

English	Romanized	Phonetic — Male speaker	Phonetic — Female speaker
Good morning / Good evening	Sawatdee ton-cháo / Sawatdee ton-yen	sah-wàt-dee ton-CHOW **khráp**	sah-wàt-dee ton-CHOW **khâ**
Goodbye	Laa gòn	laa-GAWN **khráp**	laa-GAWN **khâ**
How are you?	Sabai-dee măi?	sà-bye-dee MĂI **khráp**?	sà-bye-dee MĂI **khá**?
Fine, thank you, and you?	Sabai-dee, khòp-khun, láew khun lâ?	sà-bye-dee, kòp-KOON, láiw koon LÂH **khráp**?	sà-bye-dee, kòp-KOON, láiw koon LÂH **khá**?
I understand / I don't understand	Phŏm kâo-jai / Phŏm mâi kâo-jai	pŏm KOW-jai **khráp** / pŏm MÂI kow-jai **khráp**	dì-chăn KOW-jai **khâ** / dì-chăn MÂI kow-jai **khâ**
It was delicious	Aròi mâak	à-ROY MÂAK **khráp**	à-ROY MÂAK **khâ**
Yes / No	Châi / Mâi	CHÁI **khráp** / MÂI **khráp**	CHÁI **khâ** / MÂI **khâ**
Thank you (very much)	Khòp-khun (mâak-mâak)	kòp-KOON (mâak-mâak) **khráp**	kòp-KOON (mâak-mâak) **khâ**
My name is...	Phŏm chêu...	pŏm CHÊU... **khráp**	dì-chăn CHÊU... **khâ**
I would like to go to...	Phŏm yàak pai thîi...	pŏm YÀAK bpai TÊE... **khráp**	dì-chăn YÀAK bpai TÊE... **khâ**
How much is it?	Raa-khaa thâo-rài?	raa-kaa tow-RÀI **khráp**?	raa-kaa tow-RÀI **khá**?
Taxi	Tháek-sîi	TÁEK-see **khráp**	TÁEK-see **khâ**
Where is...? / How can I get to...?	...yùu thîi-năi? / Pai...yang-ngai?	...yòo tee-NĂI **khráp**? / bpai...yang-NGAI **khráp**?	...yòo tee-NĂI **khá**? / bpai...yang-NGAI **khá**?
Hotel	Rohng-raem	rohng-RAEM **khráp**	rohng-RAEM **khâ**
Help!	Chûai dûai!	CHÛai DÛai **khráp**!	CHÛai DÛai **khâ**!
I'm lost	Phŏm lŏng-thaang	pŏm lŏng-TAANG **khráp**	dì-chăn lŏng-TAANG **khâ**

Water	Náam	NÁAM **khráp**	NÁAM **khâ**
I am allergic	Phŏm pháe	pŏm PÁE **khráp**	dì-chăn PÁE **khâ**
Have a nice day!	Khŏ hâi pen wan thîi dee!	kŏ hâi bpen wan tee DEE **khráp**!	kŏ hâi bpen wan tee DEE **khâ**!

Quick Note: Thai Politeness Particles (ครับ / ค่ะ)

In Thai, always add a **politeness particle** to the **end** of your sentence. It makes you sound warm and respectful; leaving it out can sound blunt.

The two particles

Speaker	Particle	Pronunciation
Male	ครับ	**khráp** — always the same
Female	ค่ะ / คะ	**khâ** (statements) / **khá** (questions)

*Note: "I" also differs — men say **phŏm**, women say **dì-chăn**.*

Samples

English	Male	Female
Hello	Sawatdee **khráp**	Sawatdee **khâ**
Thank you	Khòp-khun **khráp**	Khòp-khun **khâ**
Yes	Chái **khráp**	Chái **khâ**
How much is it?	Raa-khaa thâo-rài **khráp**?	Raa-khaa thâo-rài **khá**?

Quick Tips:

- **When in doubt, add it** — over-using is better than sounding curt.
- **Works alone:** a simple "**khráp**"/"**khâ**" = a polite "yes" or "okay."
- **Women:** use **khâ** (falling) for statements, **khá** (rising) for questions. Men just use **khráp** every time.