The Role of Thai Universities in the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals from 2012 to 2017

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This paper has two main aims: the first one is to find out about the understanding and awareness of the universities towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the other aim is to investigate how the universities had been implementing the SDGs and through various types of policies, strategies and techniques. The data collected are mainly from the influential and highly recognized Thai universities from the year 2012 onward, which was when the United Nations launched the SDGs up until the present day of 2017. The focus will be looking at these universities’ roles, and their policies, management systems, also the curriculum and the outcomes achieved by such related programs. Also the extra-curriculum, and related outreach programs and as well as other non-curriculum activities will be looked at. The analysis will be drawn from the surveys, questionnaires and also from the archival records and the annual reports from those selected universities. Discussion will be made among these universities, with some common similarities or differences on the success and failure of such role and implementation will be compared, in which some notable cases will be concluded. Also, some recommendations and limitations for the future role of the universities in fostering and implementing the SDGs will be suggested.