# Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance in Thailand

## 1. Understand Thailand’s ESG Framework:

Thailand has its own regulatory framework for ESG, particularly through agencies like the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), which promotes sustainability reporting and ESG guidelines. Many companies in Thailand are expected to comply with the Corporate Governance Code (CG Code) and the Thailand Sustainable Development Guidelines.

## 2. Adopt International ESG Standards:

Align your business with internationally recognized ESG standards such as:

* Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) for sustainability reporting.
* ISO 14001 for environmental management systems.
* ISO 45001 for occupational health and safety.
* UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to frame your company’s ESG initiatives.

## 3. Comply with Environmental Regulations:

In Thailand, environmental regulations are governed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE).

Specific actions include:

* Monitoring and reducing carbon emissions.
* Implementing waste management systems, particularly for hazardous waste.
* Adhering to water usage and pollution control standards under the Factory Act and Hazardous Substances Act.

## 4. Corporate Governance:

Corporate governance is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in Thailand.

Companies are expected to:

* Ensure transparency and ethical business practices.
* Maintain strong internal controls, risk management, and anticorruption policies.
* Follow the CG Code as outlined by the SET.

## 5. Social Responsibility:

Social aspects are key to ESG compliance. Focus on:

* Ensuring fair labour practices and worker welfare, in accordance with Thailand’s Labor Protection Act.
* Upholding community relations and corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities.
* Promoting gender equality, diversity, and human rights in your organization.

## 6. Third-party Audits and Certifications:

Engage third-party auditors to assess your compliance with ESG standards.

This could include:

* Environmental and social audits from organizations like Bureau Veritas, SGS, or local Thai certifiers.
* ESG rating agencies like Sustainalytics or MSCI can provide assessments for international transparency.

## 7. Sustainability Reporting:

Publish regular sustainability reports detailing your company’s ESG efforts. These reports should outline goals, practices, and progress on environmental impact, social initiatives, and corporate governance. The SET encourages companies listed in Thailand to follow its sustainability reporting guidelines.

## 8. Engage with Local Initiatives:

Participate in local ESG-related initiatives or join networks like Thailand Responsible Business Network and Sustainable Development Network. These groups can offer insights and partnerships that will help in staying compliant.