RUTS | SDG 2025

SDG 11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

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Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



https://sdgs.rmutsv.ac.th/evidence-2025/sdgs-11

Cultural Heritage Conservation and Urban Regeneration

Rajamangala University of Technology Srivijaya (RUTS) supports heritage conservation and urban regeneration through the Culture Smart City: Songkhla Old Town initiative. In 2025, the Faculty of Architecture collaborated with local communities and public agencies on architectural surveys, participatory urban sketching, a prototype online heritage database and map, and creative products inspired by local landmarks.

The Songkhla Old Town International Art Workshop 2025 brought together 70 artists from eight countries to reinterpret Nora, a UNESCO-recognised cultural heritage tradition, through contemporary art. The three-day “Roi Rai: 100 Light – Roi Nai Roo” festival transformed streets and alleys into free public cultural spaces featuring performances, art installations, traditional textiles, and more than 60 community food and craft shops.







Public Access to Cultural and Educational Facilities

RUTS provides public access to cultural and educational facilities to promote community learning and engagement with local heritage. In Songkhla Old Town, the university-supported heritage building Baan Rattanaphruek Saw hosted a public exhibition of southern textiles and community-based creative works.

At Trang Campus, the Rajamangala Trang Aquarium serves as a public educational facility showcasing more than 100 marine and freshwater species, with educational displays on aquatic biodiversity and conservation. In 2025, the aquarium welcomed 85,288 visitors, providing learning opportunities for students, residents, and tourists.







Public Art and Accessible Urban Spaces

RUTS contributes to the improvement of public spaces through community-based art and creative placemaking. Following the November 2025 floods in Hat Yai, Visual Arts students participated in the HATYAI RISE UP campaign, contributing to the creation of 33 artistic crosswalks at 10 locations. In Songkhla, students transformed eight bus stops into public art spaces subsequently handed over to Songkhla City Municipality.





Other initiatives included redesigned Cat and Mouse sculptures at Chalatat Beach, public sand sculptures at the Seamila Sandwalk Festival, and artworks made from reused fibre-optic cables in Songkhla Old Town. The university also supported public engagement with the arts through the free month-long “Sa-Prang” exhibition at the Songkhla Art Center.

Public Access to Open Spaces and Recreational Facilities





RUTS supports community well-being by providing public access to open spaces and recreational facilities. At Trang Campus, Rajamangala Beach serves as a publicly accessible coastal area for outdoor recreation and engagement with the natural environment.

The university also provides free public access to sports facilities, including a football field, athletics facilities, and a rubberised running track, supporting physical activity and recreational opportunities for surrounding communities.

Safeguarding Traditional Crafts and Living Heritage

RUTS collaborates with local craftspeople and community groups to preserve Southern Thailand's traditional knowledge and cultural practices. In 2025, lecturers and students participated in traditional Lak Phra ceremonial boat decoration and banana-trunk carving in Pak Phanang. Other activities included developing Malay Pateh batik with community masters in Pattani, collaborating with the Waepa Batik group, and providing natural and seawater indigo dyeing training for the Ban Khao community in Ranot District.

Research initiatives further supported cultural preservation through studies of Manora bead crafts and cultural resources in the Songkhla Lake Basin, alongside documentation of traditional ventilation blocks in Songkhla Old Town. These activities connected heritage conservation with community livelihoods, creative production, and traditional architectural knowledge.









Inclusive Urban Planning, Community Safety and Disaster Resilience

RUTS contributes technical expertise to local planning and community development through partnerships with provincial and municipal authorities. In collaboration with the Songkhla Provincial Administrative Organisation, lecturers and students surveyed 162 homes of persons with disabilities and bedridden patients across five districts to support housing adaptation planning. The university also participated in provincial housing-development initiatives and contributed design expertise for vulnerable residents.

Following the November 2025 floods in Hat Yai, Urban Planning students worked with the Songkhla Provincial Office of Public Works and Town & Country Planning to inspect flood-damaged buildings. RUTS also collaborated with the Thai Health Promotion Foundation and the Association of Siamese Architects on the “Design for Change Road Safety” initiative, while students developed designs for safer school routes.

Additional collaboration with local authorities addressed pedestrian infrastructure, urban walkways, public parks, and community facilities in Songkhla and Hat Yai, supporting safer and more inclusive urban environments.



