



Thailand's Capital Market Reforms Signal a Shift Toward Modernisation and Flexibility

Thailand's capital market regulators are preparing a broad set of reforms aimed at revitalising market activity and strengthening long-term investor confidence. Key initiatives led by the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) include the introduction of the Thailand Individual Savings Account (TISA), the Jump+ programme, and a comprehensive overhaul of electronic securities laws. These reforms reflect a strategic effort to modernise the legal and regulatory framework while enhancing accessibility and participation in the capital market.

TISA is envisioned as a permanent savings vehicle without a sunset clause, signalling a move toward policy continuity and long-term capital formation. Complementary measures include enabling retail investors to purchase government bonds through brokerage accounts and use such instruments as collateral, thereby improving liquidity and portfolio flexibility. In parallel, regulators are exploring the expansion of permissible assets on the Thailand Futures Exchange (TFEX) to include emerging instruments such as cryptocurrencies and carbon credits, bridging traditional finance with digital and sustainable investment trends.

The SEC has also indicated a shift toward a “targeted” or proportionate regulatory approach, allowing for selective relaxation of rules to better accommodate new-economy businesses while maintaining investor protection. This includes streamlining access to financial products through digital channels and revisiting outdated regulatory constraints. At the same time, enforcement remains a priority, with stricter scrutiny of initial public offerings and ongoing review of market practices such as high-frequency trading and short selling to ensure market integrity.

From a legal perspective, these reforms represent a significant evolution in Thailand's capital market regulation, moving away from a rigid, one-size-fits-all framework toward a more adaptive and innovation-driven model. The introduction of new financial instruments, enhanced investor access, and regulatory flexibility is likely to increase market competitiveness and attract both domestic and foreign capital. However, the success of these initiatives will depend on achieving a careful balance between liberalisation and oversight, ensuring that legal reforms support innovation without undermining investor protection or market stability.