



IOM • OIM

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

THE UN MIGRATION AGENCY



Photo: IOM 2017

Promoting Stability, Wellbeing and Harmony for Myanmar Muslim and Host Communities in Thailand

OVERVIEW

Thailand has been a destination and transit country for marginalized Myanmar Muslims for decades, particularly after violence erupted in Myanmar’s Rakhine state in 2012. IOM estimates that up to 21,000 Myanmar Muslims (including Rohingya) are believed to be residing in 21 host communities spread across Tak, Ranong and Phang Nga provinces.

Myanmar Muslims residing in such communities face highly insecure situations due to their irregular status and varying degrees of documentation. In addition to the constant threat of arbitrary deportation, their vulnerabilities are exacerbated by high levels of poverty, an overall lack of access to public services such as healthcare and education and lack of livelihood opportunity. Myanmar Muslims in Thailand also face difficulties to get the Certificate of Identity due to their religion.

In order to address these gaps and provide support to this group, IOM has developed a number of interventions relating to five key sectors, namely, education, protection, health care, environmental health and water and sanitation as well as livelihood.

OBJECTIVES

- To improve the stability and empowerment of marginalized Myanmar Muslims as well as disadvantaged Thais in host communities through interventions to improve the living working and access conditions pertaining to health education, legal aid protection and livelihoods.
- To increase the awareness of interventions and strengthen the standardization of approaches by international and local humanitarian community and local and religious leaders, in their effort to assist the communities and the wellbeing of its members
- To decrease the vulnerability of marginalized Myanmar Muslims and disadvantaged Thais in host communities through relationship building, and advocacy/awareness-raising with all relevant stakeholders (international humanitarian community, local and religious leaders, neighboring Thai communities, NGOs, CBOs and the Royal Thai Government).

KEY FACTS

Donor: EU Delegation to Thailand, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)

Project Duration: February 2016 - January 2020

Areas Covered: Mae Sot (Tak), Ranong and Phang Nga

Management Site: Bangkok, Thailand

Project Partners: Provincial and Municipal Level Government Administrations; Community Health Centres, Community Leaders, Religious Leaders; NGOs and CBOs

Target Beneficiaries: Myanmar Muslims (including Rohingyas), Other Migrants in Vulnerable Situations and Disadvantaged Thais



International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission in Thailand

18th Floor Rajanakarn Building, 3 South Sathorn Road, Sathorn, Bangkok 10120 Thailand

Tel: +66 2 343 9300 | Fax: +66 2 343 9399, +66 2 286 1818 | Web: <http://thailand.iom.int/> | E-mail: iomthailand@iom.int



HEALTH



EDUCATION



LEGAL AID



PROTECTION



LIVELIHOOD

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Flowcharts for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in all five key sectors on referral and response protocols with all the stakeholders in providing assistance and services have been developed.
- 18,413 Myanmar Muslim migrants in Mae Sot, Ranong and Phang Nga have benefitted from community outreach activities on several migration-related topics including safe migration, health, public welfare, trafficking and legal status.
- NGO partner Help Without Frontiers is covering transport costs and school uniforms for 90 students in three Thai schools under the third party financial mechanism.
- NGO partner Foundation for Women is providing legal counselling services to 46 women and children who are victims of domestic violence under the third party financial mechanism.
- Garbage management mechanisms have been enhanced through the installation of garbage bins and organization of big cleaning day activities in three communities. Basic hygiene training are continuously conducted for vulnerable communities in coordination with provincial public health offices.
- Access to clean water has been improved with the distribution of water tanks as well as construction of dug wells.
- The Legal Clinic at Mae Sot General Hospital has been in operation since March 2016 with 98 per cent of all children born receiving birth certificates.
- Grants have been provided to CBOs to carry out community stabilization activities. This includes the Kampuan Model vocational workshop in Ranong where migrant women are trained in fish snack production to help increase household income for disadvantaged Muslim and Thai families in the communities.
- Greater dialogue and increased coordination is being promoted between government and non-government actors by supporting capacity-building activities, such as media training for CBOs (Migrant Working Group) and the publication of a bi-monthly policy briefing note and the organization of an annual strategic meeting.



Beneficiaries provide their comments on the flowcharts showing access to public services. Photo: IOM 2017



6 trainings on hygiene were organized for 234 students in six migrant learning centers in Mae Sot. Photo: IOM 2017



Water shortages have been mitigated by introducing rainwater harvesting systems in four communities in Kura sub-district, Phang Nga province. Photo: IOM 2017



Funded by the EU Delegation to Thailand and
US Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission in Thailand

18th Floor Rajanakarn Building, 3 South Sathorn Road, Sathorn, Bangkok 10120 Thailand

Tel: +66 2 343 9300 | Fax: +66 2 343 9399, +66 2 286 1818 | Web: <http://thailand.iom.int/> | E-mail: iomthailand@iom.int