



## COVID-19 VACCINATION SUPPORT

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Supporting COVID-19 vaccination efforts along the Thailand-Cambodia border. © IOM 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the disproportionate impact on migrants and the difficulties they face when it comes to accessing testing, treatment and vaccination. These challenges have exacerbated their pre-existing vulnerabilities and resulted in continued disparities in access to vaccination for both documented and undocumented migrants, due to language barriers and security concerns.

Through its COVID-19 Vaccination Support Project, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been working to protect the health of migrants in Thailand by involving migrants in the pandemic response, ensuring that they are kept well-informed have access to vaccination.



Migrants in Mae Sot talk about their COVID-19 experience. © IOM 2021

### KEY FACTS

**Donor:** Government of Australia via the World Health Organization and U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)

**Duration:** November 2021 – October 2022

**Areas Covered:** Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Pattani, Pathum Thani, Samut Prakan and Songkhla

**Project Beneficiaries:** Migrant health volunteers (MHVs), migrant communities, migrants

**Project Stakeholders:** Government agencies, public health officials, vaccination centers, civil society organizations (CSOs) and academia.



Myanmar migrants receiving COVID-19 vaccine dose in Bangkok. © IOM 2022



## Project activities implemented during an 11-month period fostered migrant health promotion and assistance through:



**Strengthening the capacity and network of Migrant Health Volunteers (MHV)** to conduct outreach activities to promote vaccine safety and post-vaccine monitoring (adverse-events-following-immunization, AEFI) systems for migrant populations.



**Launching a COVID-19 vaccine perception survey** to better understand migrant hesitations and sentiments towards the vaccine and generate evidence-based recommendations to inform the development of targeted messaging.



**Enhancing data systems to improve vaccination against COVID-19**, with focus on vulnerable migrant populations in six target locations (Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani, Pattani, Samut Prakarn and Songkhla).



**Promoting the government's 1422 COVID-19 Hotline in migrant languages**, allowing migrants to access the information about COVID-19, its vaccines and AEFI.



**Assisting vulnerable and affected migrants** with relief items, personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID-19 antigen self-testing kit (ATKs).



**Conducting outreach activities in the languages of migrants** to facilitate access to vaccination and information-sharing.

## KEY RESULTS (November 2021 – December 2022)

**320**

Migrant Health Volunteers (175 female, 163 male) trained



to conduct vaccine information outreach sessions and support post-vaccine monitoring/adverse-events-following-immunization systems for migrants.

**21**

government and civil society stakeholders engaged



in initiatives to promote the inclusion of migrants in vaccination efforts

**22,294**

migrants equipped



with COVID-19 information, antigen test kits (ATKs), alcohol gel, and surgical masks

**5,670**

migrants supported



to receive COVID-19 vaccination.

**270**

calls through 1422 COVID-19 Hotline



offered support in migrant languages (167 Myanmar, 55 Cambodian and 48 Lao).

**46,180**

individuals reached



with information, education and communication (IEC) materials or community outreach activities in migrant languages

**3**

rounds of the COVID-19 Vaccine Perception Survey conducted



to better understand the hesitations among migrant communities towards the vaccine. Data was received from 4,062 respondents (Round 1), 2,725 respondents (Round 2), and over 2,000 respondents (Round 3) in Chanthaburi, Chonburi, Greater Bangkok, Ranong, Rayong, Tak and Trat provinces.



## FEATURED RESOURCES



### COVID-19 VACCINE PERCEPTIONS OF MIGRANTS IN THAILAND

This survey provides information to help strengthen the national COVID-19 response efforts. The findings serve to better gauge the prevalence of vaccine acceptance among migrant communities and understand the reasons for vaccine hesitancy.



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### IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MIGRANTS IN THAILAND

These are monthly situation reports that monitors the impact of COVID-19 and vaccination coverage among migrants in Thailand.



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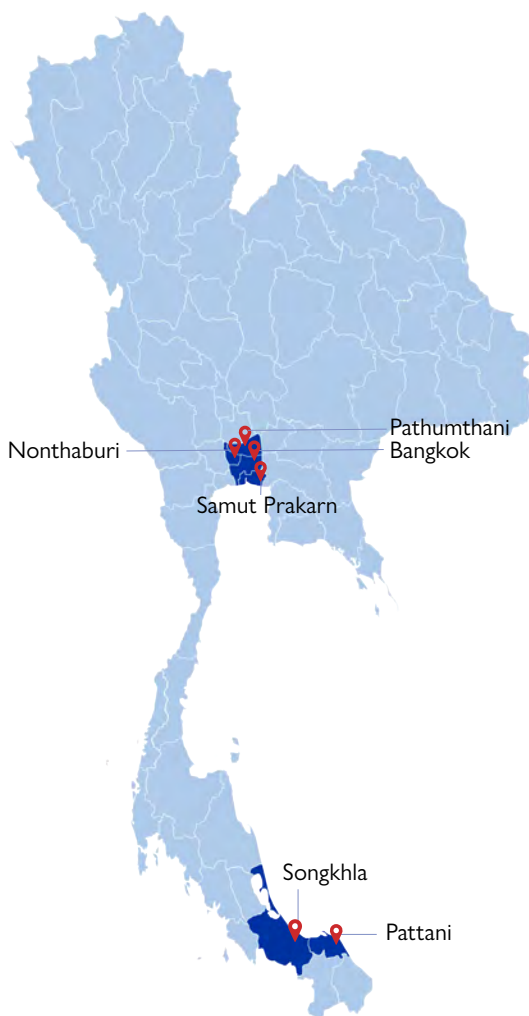
### SUPPORTING COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT PROGRAMME IN THAILAND

These videos provide a glimpse of our support to the Royal Thai Government's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, with a focus on ensuring the meaningful inclusion of migrants.



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## GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE



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## ABOUT IOM

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization and a member of the United Nations System. For over 70 years, IOM has been working with government, civil society, the international community and private sector to promote safe, orderly and regular migration – including in global supply chains. In 2021, IOM had USD 2.5 billion budget globally and 17,761 staff operating in 523 locations, covered by offices in over 100 countries.

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