

STEP INTO EDUCATION



Third Party Mechanism Activity Implemented by **Help without Frontiers Foundation Thailand**

Project time frame: 8 May 2017 – 7 May 2019 (2 Years)

Key Features

Under IOM's "Promoting Stability, Well-being and Harmony for Myanmar Muslims and Host Communities in Thailand" project, funded by the European Union, a Third Party Mechanism is available to provide sub-grants to third parties. This enables selected NGOs/CBOs to implement projects to tackle challenges faced by Myanmar Muslim communities.

As a recipient of a sub-grant, **Help without Frontiers Foundation Thailand (HWF)** aims to promote, educate and allow an integrated environment for marginalized Muslims from Myanmar in and around Mae Sot through its *Step into Education* project, which has two key aims;

- Engage with Myanmar Muslim communities on the importance of education and its benefits through awareness raising campaigns;
- Increase the enrolment of children from marginalized Myanmar Muslim communities as well as for other vulnerable children into Thai public schools or Migrant Learning Centers (MLCs) in and around Mae Sot area.

The project activities aim to enable increased integration of Myanmar Muslim children into Thai host communities. This facilitates community cohesion among different ethnicities and religious groups, decreases potential tension and increases the Thai language abilities of the migrant children, thus offering them improved long term opportunities.



Achievements

Throughout the first year of implementation, the Step into Education project has accomplished the following.

- 90 Myanmar Muslim primary school students (38 females, 52 males) were assisted in enrollment into three Thai government schools in academic year 2017—2018. They were provided with school uniforms, stationary supplies (pens, pencils, exercise books, and water bottles) as well as transportation arrangements to school.
- 900 parents in six target communities (810 Myanmar Muslims and 90 others, including Burmese) were reached through 24 community visits and family visits to increase their awareness of the availability of educational services and promote understanding of the importance of child education.
- 800 marginalized migrants, including out-of-school children and their caregivers, were reached through a large outreach activity to promote the importance of education.



Way Forward

- 109 disadvantaged students (54 females, 55 males; 87 Myanmar Muslims and 22 Burmese) will be supported with costs associated with their schooling for academic year 2018 -2019.
- Assist migrant parents in filling out enrollment documents for submission to selected schools.
- Conduct a large scale outreach event to promote the importance of education among target communities.
- Conduct family visits with the aim of reaching 300 families between May 2018 and May 2019.
- Engage with Education Service Area Offices, informal education and schools (including MLCs) in the planning and implementation of interventions related to education.



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