



Country card
Thailand





General data of the country

a. General Data

Country ¹	Thailand	Neighboring country (Myanmar)	France
Population	69.799.978	54.409.794	67.391.582
IHDI	0.78	0.581	0.90
Maternal mortality	37	250	8
Gender Development Index	1.008	0.954	0.987
Population under HCR mandate	102.245	-	368,352
INFORM index	4	6.3	2.2
Fragile State Index	70.81	76.86	30.48
GINI Index	36.4	94	31.6
Public Social Protection	3.7	1	31.7

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified in 1998
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Not signed
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified in 2008

¹ https://hinside.hi.org/intranet/jcms/pl1_2540344/fr/2020-update-country-indicators-2ndary-data/-/donnees-secondaires-mises-a-jour



c. Geopolitical analysis

1. Social/cultural/demographic elements

Thailand is a unitary state, the only Southeast Asia country never colonized by a European power. The majority of the population is Buddhist. Religion is of a great influence in Thai's everyday life². The Thai culture is a mix of Indian influences, Chinese traditions and elements that are uniquely Thai. Despite a strong unity of the Thai culture, each of the four regions composing Thailand has its own unique cultural and geographic features (Thailand is a country of some 70 ethnic groups). Thailand is the 50th largest country in the world and the 20th most populated country, with half of its population living in urban areas.

2. Economic elements³

With a well-developed infrastructure, a free-enterprise economy, and generally pro-investment policies, Thailand historically has had a strong economy, but experienced slow growth in 2013-15 as a result of domestic political turmoil and sluggish global demand. Thailand's economic fundamentals are sound, with low inflation, low unemployment, and reasonable public and external debt levels. Tourism and government spending - mostly on infrastructure and short-term stimulus measures - have helped to boost the economy, and the Bank of Thailand has been supportive, with several interest rate reductions. Economic growth is projected to reach 4.3% in 2019, as inflation is expected to reach 1.4%.

Thailand faces labour shortages and has attracted an estimated 3.2 million migrant workers from neighbouring countries, including Myanmar⁴. The Thai Government in 2013 implemented a nationwide 300 baht (roughly \$10) per day minimum wage policy and deployed new tax reforms designed to lower rates on middle-income earners.

² <https://www.reachtoteachrecruiting.com/guides/thailand/culture-in-thailand/>

³ The CIA factbook

⁴ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/genericdocument/wcms_614383.pdf



HI Team and intervention areas

HI Thailand has 142 staff members





Summary of HI presence in the country

HI operations in Thailand started in 1982 in the Cambodian refugee camps and operates along the border with Myanmar since 1984. The main activities since then have been: fitting refugees with locally-produced prostheses and adapted devices (orthoses, crutches, walkers, etc.), community-based rehabilitation⁵, empowerment of people with disabilities and their inclusion in local communities (villages, neighbourhoods, etc.), and the prevention of mine accidents through risk education activities.

Since January 2016, the site is managed within the MyTh program (created in January 2016 with its regional office in Yangon), in line with the refugees' repatriation process, and aims at strengthening the coordination between HI activities in Myanmar and in Thailand around refugees' reintegration. MyTh Regional Strategy 2018-2020 has been developed and approved in November 2017.

⁵ Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) consists in involving and training the friends and family of disabled people in rehabilitation exercises and care to ensure their self-reliance.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and donors
Rehabilitation	Improve access to physical rehabilitation and assistive technology services (Including, emergency preparedness and response to the influx of new refugees outside of 9 temporary shelters in Thailand)	Assistive technology workshops producing orthoses, prostheses and technical devices; Rehabilitation centres providing physiotherapy and occupational therapy to people with disabilities and advice to their families/caregivers; Community volunteers supplying occupational therapy and physiotherapy at home; Development of rehabilitation return kits (consumables and counselling, with referral to HI Myanmar) Promotion of early detection of disabilities in children in partnership with other NGOs Chronic pain support for elderly	People with disabilities (adults and children, including landmine survivors) Caregivers / family members Refugee health workers from partner INGOs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Malteser International; •International Rescue Committee; •Siridohorn National Medical Rehabilitation Centre and School; •Mae Sot General Hospital; • Mae Tao Clinic; •Phrae Hospital; • Karen Women Organization KWO; 	Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon Refugees Camps	UE = 15/05/2021-14/05/2023 UNHCR = 01/01/2021-31/12/2021



		<p>Promotion of delay development among education system</p> <p>Capacity building trainings for NGOs, CBOs and Community Leaders on disabilities, early detection and referral mechanism.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Rangsit University • Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) 		
Disability Social Inclusion	<p>Promote and improve inclusive local development at refugee camp level to facilitate access for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) to services provided to refugees (including care, vocational training and preparation for Voluntary Repatriation) and foster their self-reliance and involvement in the social life of refugee camps ((Including emergency preparedness and response to the influx of new refugees outside of 9 temporary shelters in Thailand)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Help Groups (SHG) of people with disabilities are supported and trained in raising awareness on people with disabilities' rights, 	<p>Advising Persons with Disabilities and their caregivers to access VolRep and facilitated return</p> <p>Support and empower DPO/Self-Help Groups</p> <p>Peer support and psychological support to PwD and their caregivers.</p> <p>Vocational Training</p> <p>Training of mainstream agencies and camp management structures on disability inclusion</p> <p>Awareness raising on disability inclusion</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities and their caregivers</p> <p>Self Help Groups</p> <p>Mainstream INGOs/Agencies</p> <p>Camp management Structures</p> <p>Community</p>		<p>UNHCR</p> <p>COERR</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>IRC</p> <p>Foundation of Empowerment of Persons with Disability Thailand</p>	<p>Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon Refugee Camps</p>	<p>UNHCR = 01/01/2021-31/12/2021</p> <p>PRM = 15/09/2021-14/09/2022</p>





	<p>advocating for their inclusion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons with disabilities are empowered through a personalized approach towards social and economic inclusion. All people with disabilities benefit from social inclusion activities through public events and other mass-awareness activities – including COVID-19 prevention outreach. Peer support and psychosocial support is provided to most vulnerable persons with disabilities and their caregivers 						
Explosive Ordnance (EO) Risk Education	<p>Encouraging safe mine / explosive ordnance (EO) practices along the Thai Burma border Encouraging people at risk's knowledge on Risk Education (RE) to further adopt safe Explosive Ordnance (EO) related practices along the Thai Burma border.</p>	<p>Provision of RE trainings, briefings and sessions to the vulnerable target groups Mass awareness raising Integration of RE into KnED school' curricula Pre-departure mine awareness refresher sessions in the 9 temporary shelters in the framework of UNHCR</p>	<p>All camp population with focus on most at risk groups (children, travellers, boarding students and refugees willing to return)</p>		<p>UNHCR KnED FilmAid</p>	<p>Ban Nai Soi, Ban Mae Surin, Mae La Oon, Mae Ra Ma Luang, Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Ban</p>	<p>UNHCR = 01/01/2021-31/12/2021 PRM = 15/09/2021-14/09/2022</p>



	(Including, from 2021, emergency preparedness and response to the influx of new refugees outside of 9 temporary shelters in Thailand)	facilitated Voluntary Repatriation process				Don Yong and Tham Hin Refugees Camps	
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Donors

 <p>UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency</p>	<p>European Union</p> 
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