

# Country Profile Thailand



## STOP CHILD EXPLOITATION!



**In Thailand, large in-migration involving children makes them vulnerable to trafficking, other forms of sexual exploitation and forced labour.**

Thailand is a regional hub of Asia and a popular tourist destination. This makes way for large in-migration specifically involving children. As a result, children are vulnerable to trafficking, other forms of sexual exploitation and forced labour. Children living on the street are also exposed to substance abuse which often forces them into sex work. Online grooming by foreign tourists is another major child protection concern. Approximately 400,000 children aged 12-17 are affected by online sexual exploitation per year in Thailand.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>"Disrupting Harm in Thailand", 2022, UNICEF, ECPAT and INTERPOL

## Stakeholder Reach 2024

CHILDREN  
**771**

FAMILY AND  
COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS  
**51**

CIVIL SOCIETY  
REPRESENTATIVES  
**121**

LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
AGENTS  
**64**

GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIALS  
**82**

PRIVATE  
SECTOR STAFF  
**30**

## Our Projects

### Step Up the Fight Against Sexual Exploitation of Children (SUFASEC)

Project locations : Bangkok, Rayong, Chon Buri, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Bueng Kan, Nong Bua Lamphu, Khon Kaen, UdonThani, Phuket, Songkhla, Mae Hong Son

As part of the Down to Zero Alliance<sup>2</sup>, the project supports children in Thailand vulnerable to and affected by sexual exploitation (online and offline) through reporting and referral services in collaboration with civil society, government, and law enforcement. At The Hub, a day care shelter, children receive education, counselling, and life skills training. Youth are empowered to raise awareness and advocate for systemic change to strengthen child protection.

**We build capacities of youth advocates to raise awareness of online safety and advocate with authorities to prioritise effective action against online child sexual exploitation in Thailand.**



<sup>2</sup> Down to Zero (DtZ) alliance is a global initiative of a group of International NGOs (Terre des Hommes Netherlands, Plan International Netherlands, Defence for Children- ECPAT, Free a Girl, CRC Asia and Conexión) to address sexual exploitation of children.



**“At The Hub, I am excited to meet friends.  
I also attend the learning centre  
once a week.”**

## Lupeng\*

A 15-year-old boy with a hearing impairment, once out of school and vulnerable to exploitation on the streets of Bangkok, is now safe at The Hub, a child protection centre in the city. With support from our project, he has gained access to a nurturing environment that enables his learning and development, reducing his risk of exploitation.

*\*name changed to protect identity*

## Key Figures 2024

**78**

Children vulnerable to exploitation gain life skills training

**38**

Children out of school are re-enrolled into the education system

**15**

Initiatives taken by children & youth to defy harmful norms contributing to sexual exploitation

**38**

Successful case referrals enabling empowerment of child survivors of sexual exploitation

**19**

Duty bearers trained on laws and regulations against sexual exploitation of children

## Our Achievements

Advocacy efforts toward legal reform in Thailand to address online child sexual exploitation taken forward to the house of representatives.



Through improved multi-stakeholder coordination, the average processing time per case of sexual exploitation against children has significantly reduced.



More than 70% of participants of our training for civil society organisations reported to be more confident in dealing with cases against online child sexual exploitation.



Successful development of a draft on guidelines for digital platform regulation and the penal code on online child sexual exploitation.



### Implementing Partners

Childline Thailand Foundation  
Thai Hotline Foundation

### Funding partners

Netherlands Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs

Learn more



### About

#### Terre des Hommes Netherlands

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is a global child rights organisation that works in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe. We prevent and stop child exploitation, and empower children to make their voices count. We catalyse systemic change with the support of grassroots-level implementing partners. We ensure that children are at the centre of our initiatives.

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