

Country Profile Thailand



STOP CHILD EXPLOITATION!

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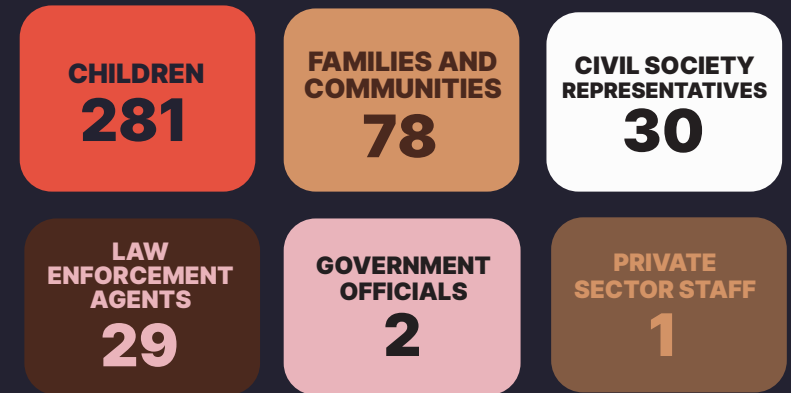
In Thailand, large in-migration involving children makes them vulnerable to trafficking, other forms of sexual exploitation and forced labour.

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.¹

¹"Disrupting Harm in Thailand", 2022, UNICEF, ECPAT and INTERPOL

² 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.

Stakeholder Reach
2023



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 Alliance², the project works to take children in Thailand out of sexual abuse and exploitation (online and offline) through reporting and referral services with support from the civil society, government and law enforcement officials. Children vulnerable to and affected by sexual exploitation access education, counselling, vocational and life skills training through a day care shelter called the Hub. Children and youth are also empowered to raise awareness and advocate for systemic changes which enable effective protection of children from sexual exploitation.

Major Donor : Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands



Achievements 2023

1. There has been a shift in the general mindset of communities from victim blaming to empathising with the child. Government and law enforcement agencies are more actively involved in increasing their learning on child protection.
2. Children and youth partner with schools and a social media platform to establish reporting and prevention mechanisms.
3. There has been a 20% increase in the reporting of cases of sexual exploitation of children since 2022, highlighting increased awareness of reporting mechanisms and increased participation of communities in reporting concerns.

Implementing partners : Childline Thailand Foundation, Thai Hotline Foundation

• “As part of the national Children and Youth Council in Thailand,³ I advocate strongly for the allocation of a budget to address Online Child Sexual Exploitation or OCSE as part of the implementation of the National Child and Youth Development Promotion Act.”⁴

Nattakan Kudwila (Ice)

Youth Advocate

We fight against Child Labour, Sexual Exploitation of Children and Humanitarian Crises.

³ The largest youth network in Thailand established by law in 2007 which represents young people’s voices to policy makers

⁴ An Act of 2007 which encourages children and youth to participate in development activities

Key Figures

157

Peer to Peer learning sessions (by and to children)

116

Children out of school are renrolled into the education system

19

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

68

Successful case referrals

130

Vulnerable children and youth participate in life skills and vocational training

About

Terre des Hommes Netherlands

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is a global child protection 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 tackle issues at the roots by enabling systemic change with the support of grass-roots-level implementing partners. We ensure that children are at the centre of our initiatives.

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