



Country card
Thailand





HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Thailand program has 211 staff members.





General data of the country

a. General Data

Country ¹	Thailand	Neighbouring country (Myanmar)	France
Population	69.62 Millions	54.05 Millions	67.05 Millions
HDI	0.765	0.584	0.891
IHDI	0.635	0.448	0,891
Maternal mortality	12	320	10
Population under UNHCR mandate	102.245	UNHCR is currently addressing IDP in Kayin, Kachin, Shan and the whole Muslim population in Rakhine.	368.352
Gender-development Index	1	0.95	0.98
INFORM Index	4.1	6.3	2.2
Fragile State index	70.8	94	30.5
Mine victims	The Landmine Monitor recorded 3865 mine/ERW casualties (52 killed; 331 injured; 360 unknown) through the end of 2018. 2017 = 11 (2 Killed & 9 injured)	The total number of casualties in Myanmar is unknown. The Landmine Monitor recorded 4,623 mine/ERW casualties (616 killed; 3,889 injured; 118 unknown) through the end of 2018.	

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



		2018 = 430 (79 Killed & 351 injured) vs 202 (48 killed and 154 injured) in 2017	
GINI index	36.4	30.7	31.6
Development aid (in million USD)	228M US	\$1,542,800,000 in 2017	
Humanitarian Mine Action Aid (in million USD)		\$2,872,606 in 2018 vs \$6,225,762 in 2017	

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

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



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.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI operations in Thailand started in 1982 and operates along the border with Myanmar since 1984. The main activities since then have been: fitting refugees with locally-produced prostheses, 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.

³ The CIA factbook

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

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	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 Promotion of delay development among education	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; • Rangsit 	Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon Refugees Camps	EU = 15/05/2019-14/05/2021 UNHCR = 01/01/2020-31/12/2020



		system			University		
Disability Social Inclusion*	<p>Promote and improve inclusive local development at refugee camp level to facilitate access for 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</p> <p><i>* Create opportunities for children with disabilities and other vulnerable children, in particular children at risk of developmental delays and psychological distress (0-12 years old) in displacement contexts, to learn and develop safely while having fun.</i></p>	<p>Advising PwD and their caregivers to access VolRep and facilitated return Support and empower DPO/Self-Help Groups Peer-to-peer support to PwD Vocational Training Training of mainstream agencies and camp management structures on disability inclusion Awareness raising on disability inclusion</p> <p><i>Develop the opportunity to play, learn and develop safely in playgroups and parenting crèches Promote equal participation, safety, protection and well-being of children of primary school age Ensure child-development service providers are more inclusive, accessible and responsive to the needs</i></p>	<p>Persons with disabilities and their caregivers Self Help Groups Mainstream INGOs/Agencies Camp management Structures Community</p>		<p>UNHCR COERR ADRA TBC Foundation of Empowerment of Persons with Disability Thailand KWO, KRCEE, KRC</p>	<p>Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon Refugee Camps</p>	<p>UNHCR = 01/01/2020-31/12/2020 PRM = 15/09/2020-14/09/2021 IKEA Foundation (GT)= 01/06/2016-30/11/2020</p>
Explosive Ordnance (EO) Risk Education	<p>Encouraging safe mine/EO 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</p>	<p>All camp population with focus on most at risk groups (children, travellers,</p>		<p>UNHCR KnED FilmAid</p>	<p>Ban Nai Soi, Ban Mae Surin, Mae La Oon, Mae Ra Ma</p>	<p>UNHCR = 01/01/2020-31/12/2020 PRM = 15/09/2020-14/09/2021</p>



		Pre-departure mine awareness refresher sessions in the 9 temporary shelters in the framework of UNHCR facilitated Voluntary Repatriation process	boarding students and refugees willing to return)			Luang, Mae La, Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, Ban Don Yong and Tham Hin Refugees Camps	
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Donors

<p>Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration</p>  	<p>European Union</p> 	<p>Fondation de France</p> <p>Projet soutenu par</p> 
<p>UNHCR</p> 	<p>IKEA Foundation</p> <p>GROWING TOGETHER</p> 	