

# Teaching Management Plan Thailand



## OVERVIEW

### Company Mission

Our mission is to encourage young people to volunteer for worthwhile work in developing countries. We expect that doing this kind of voluntary work will in time become the norm. As more and more people join us, we aim to create a multi-national community with a passion to serve, to learn, to understand, to teach, to inspire, and to be inspired.

### Teaching Programme Mission

Our Teaching programme mission is to provide sustainable educational support within disadvantaged schools and communities to reduce inequality in education. Through our volunteers, we aim to empower underprivileged students by improving their future prospects and equipping them with the skills needed to actively engage in a multi-national community.

### Background Information

Thailand, officially the Kingdom of Thailand, formerly known as Siam, is a country at the centre of the Indochina peninsula in Southeast Asia. Although Thailand is governed by a constitutional monarchy with King acting as the Head of State, there is still a long way to go in terms of equal education opportunity.

Recent political difficulties have stalled needed reforms in the education system, despite an increase in the national education budget<sup>i</sup>. With the very limited funding from the government, the shortage of teachers, the overcrowding of classes in the public schools and lack of resources, Thailand can be considered as having one of the worst education systems in the region<sup>ii</sup>. Many challenges remain in ensuring a quality basic education for all children in Thailand, especially in rural areas.

### Partners

Projects Abroad Thailand mostly works with rural schools that cannot afford to have a foreign teacher due to insufficient support and assistance from the government.

We work with the local communities to benefit students in areas where access to effective English learning is rarely possible.

In addition, we also work with Krabi Provincial Education Service and other local governments to organise training courses for adults such as local English teachers, local governors, etc. These can include a course to coach the local English teachers in innovative or effective teaching English, for example.

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## GOALS

In order to work towards our Teaching programme mission, we have set the following goals to achieve in the placements where we send our volunteers:

### **1. Improve English**

There are many obstacles in English language teaching and learning in Thailand, such as inadequately equipped classrooms and a lack of educational resources. Students often lack the confidence to speak English with their teacher and classmates. They also lack the opportunity to use English in their daily lives. Many Thai students could not put their English skills to use effectively, especially listening and speaking. Volunteers, in particular native speakers, can offer invaluable help in improving not only the student's but also the teachers' phonetics, pronunciation and grammar. Therefore, the classes are regularly set up in a 100% English teaching environment so as to improve the students' oral skills and capacity to participate in "real life" conversations.

### **2. Increase literacy**

Though the literacy rate in Thailand is high, at 95%, there remain disadvantaged groups that do not have access to the same level of education as the average. Reading and writing are essential skills for every person to master. Building these basic skills at a young age can greatly increase a student's ability and interest later on. We aim to assess the literacy levels of different students to hold remedial classes for those identified as needing extra support. Reading clubs at schools, allowing a regulated time-period per week to implement spelling tests, pronunciation review and reading practice in the classroom with volunteers not only help strugglers improve their reading and writing skills, but also encourage students to take more pleasure in reading and to broaden their mind.

### **3. Improve classroom support**

With classes of 30-50 students and very limited resources, it is difficult for teachers to maintain discipline, deliver creative teaching methods and offer personalised support to students struggling to keep up. We aim to introduce new classroom rules and effective discipline methods, developing lesson plans in line with the school as well as supporting the teachers in delivering lessons on phonetics in line with the current lesson plan that the English teacher is focusing on. Teaching and classroom management have been increased considerably over years by Projects Abroad Thailand. To make this possible, improved teaching methodology and a better learning environment need to be created and supported together by school, teachers, volunteers and our organisation to ensure all children can reach their learning potential.

### **4. Encourage learning through creativity**

Problem-solving and creative thinking have become essential skills for entrepreneurs to master to be able to run successful, innovative businesses. Building up these skills during a child's education will increase their likelihood of becoming academically successful and economically productive. We educate and run creative activities that will motivate students in their learning as well as encourage them to think for themselves and become more innovative. Original teaching methods and activities help increase students' concentration as well as their participation in class. This has a perceptible and positive impact on students' personal development, and on their preparation for life beyond school.

## RESOURCES

<b>Human Resources</b>	Average 30-35 volunteers per year Projects Abroad global staff teams Placement staff support
<b>Physical Resources</b>	Projects Abroad offices Placement materials
<b>Online Resources</b>	Volunteer Resources Database Myprojectsabroad webpages
<b>Financial Resources</b>	Monthly budgets for overall operations Donations to specific projects or placements
<b>Intangible Resources</b>	Reputation in destination communities Goodwill; genuine desire to help Expertise

Projects Abroad provides a range of resources for each of our programmes. These fall into four interdependent categories:

**Human:** Volunteers themselves are our most crucial asset in achieving our goals. Through their creativity and energy, all of our ambitions can be realised. Another central support team is our extensive network of Projects Abroad staff worldwide, dedicated to supporting volunteers and achieving our company mission. We also depend greatly on the staff in all of our placements; whose support guides volunteers through their daily activities.

**Physical:** Projects Abroad has offices in all of our destinations, where volunteers can come to speak to staff or attend workshops. There are also office materials and placement supplies available to volunteers.

**Online:** The Volunteers Resources Database and myprojectsabroad webpages all provide vital support before, during and after their placements.

**Financial:** Funds for all of Projects Abroad's work come solely from volunteer placement fees. These are distributed via monthly budgets, to ensure fair allocation of funds for each destination. Occasionally volunteers may also send donations directly for a specific placement or project.

**Intangible:** The good reputation of volunteers in local communities is what makes our work possible. This reputation has been earned over years of dedicated volunteer contribution. This is supported by the combined knowledge of our extensive staff network. With over 700 staff across every continent, we are proud to be a diverse and accomplished team.

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Placement visits  
Volunteer workshop sessions  
Staff meetings  
Volunteer Resources Database  
Feedback evaluation

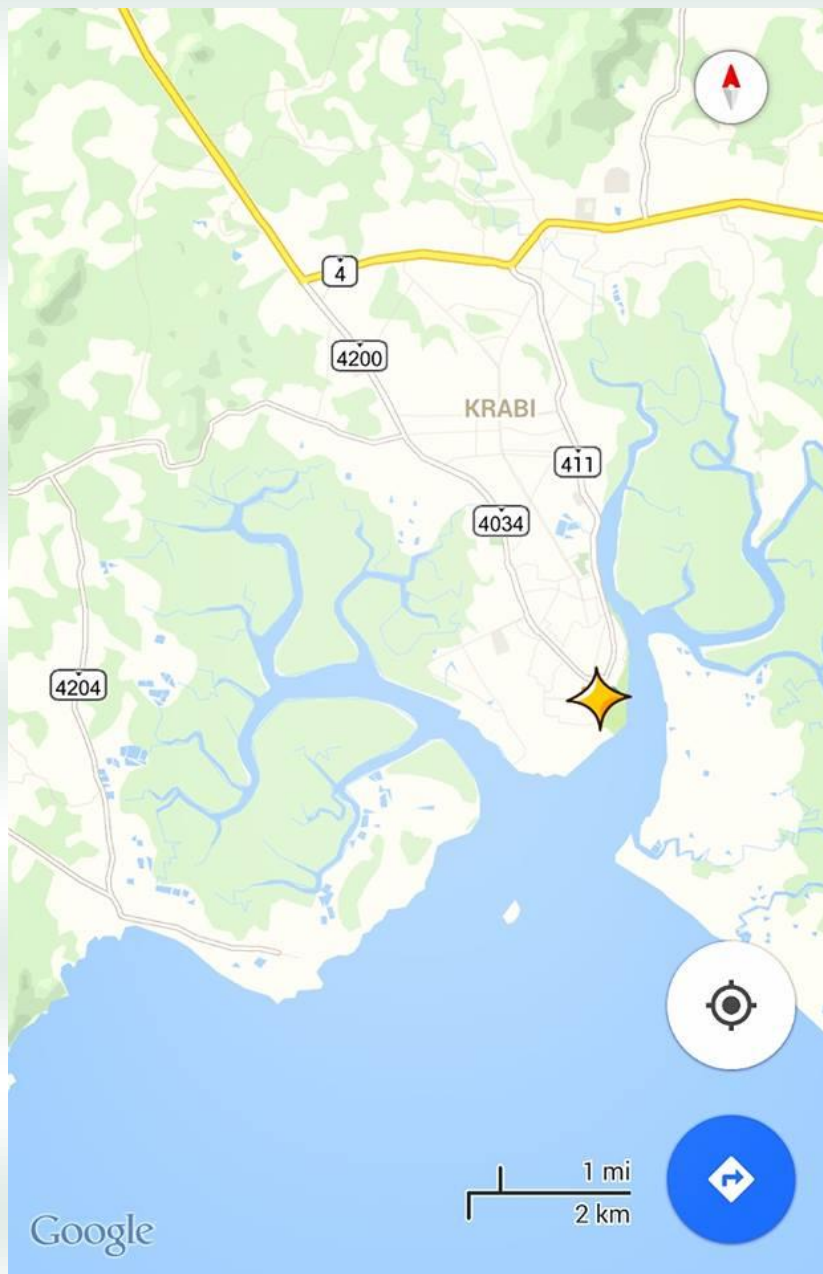
**Physical monitoring:** Through placement visits and volunteer workshops, volunteers are in frequent contact with staff members, who will observe and advise volunteers in action. Staff participate in regular meetings to discuss best practices within and between destinations.

**Online monitoring:** The Volunteer Resource Database is platform for staff and volunteers to share and develop ideas.

**Feedback evaluation:** Feedback from placement staff, Projects Abroad staff and volunteers is continuously gathered and used to inform future plans.

## LOCATION OF PLACEMENTS

Projects Abroad Thailand is currently based in Krabi, a town on the West coast of Southern Thailand (Thailand's Andaman seaboard). Our Teaching placements can be found in the public primary schools in Krabi Province which are located in various locations within 20 minutes to 1 hour drive from Krabi town.



<sup>i</sup> <http://wenr.wes.org/2014/03/education-in-thailand/>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-985267>

Projects Abroad Teaching programme			
	INDICATORS	MONITORING (MEANS OF VERIFICATION)	ASSUMPTIONS
<b>Company Mission: (the change we want to see in greater society)</b>			
Our company mission is to make it the norm for men and women from developed countries to live and work as volunteers in a developing country; they should work on projects which have a clearly favourable impact on host-communities. In this way, we will continue to create a multi-national community with a passion to serve and to inspire.			
<b>Teaching Programme Mission: (the change we want to see for the target group)</b>			
Our Teaching programme mission is to provide sustainable educational support within disadvantaged schools and communities to reduce inequality in education <b>and create more opportunity for their further carrier life</b> . Through our volunteers, we aim to empower underprivileged students by improving their future prospects and equipping them with the skills needed to actively engage in a multi-national community.		1. Onsite visits 2. Placement feedback 3. Projects Abroad staff feedback 4. Volunteer feedback (DOs & EOPF) 5. <b>Children Development evaluation (evaluate from teachers, family, competition)</b>	1. Number of volunteers does not drop considerably 2. Number of volunteers with with a good grasp of English does not drop considerably 3. Political and civil stability in the countries we work 4. No natural disasters that could affect our work
<b>Goal 1: (what we want to achieve)</b>			
<b>Encourage to improve fundamental English Skill</b>			
<b>Actions: (the tasks that need to take place to achieve the goal)</b>			
1,1	Attract learner by using alternative method of teaching and effective activity (focus on activity based learning method)		
1,2	Set up a pen pal initiative in at least 4 placements in 12 months.		
1,3	Create and manage a Projects Abroad Library of English language story books and resource centre at Projects Abroad office. Volunteers can sign books in and out for when they want to borrow and use them on placement.		
1,4	Create English events such as singing contest, spelling bees or story telling contest based on English skill improvement in cooperation with local school English Club at least once per semester		
1,5	Corroborate with local government organisation to organise an English course (local teacher, local communities)		
1,6	Organise 'Word of the day' for volunteer to introduce sight word, basic word in English with example of sentences in the morning ceremony of each school.		
<b>Goal 2:</b>			
<b>Increase literacy</b>			
<b>Actions:</b>			
2,1	Organise workshops with volunteers to help them understand techniques for working with slow learners		
2,2	Conduct English Clinic for children who have been identified as needing extra support. Volunteers run English Clinic as afternoon task for one on one remedial practices to help student improve English literacy.		
2,3	Incorporate different types of grammar exercises (don't always use the same style), interrogation and method of explanation (using examples that can be incorporated in daily life, etc).		
2,4	Allow a regulated time-period per week to implement spelling tests/pronunciation exercises/reading practice in the classroom.		
2,5	Organise forth-nightly workshops with volunteers to help them identify areas of weakness in literacy among the children		
<b>Goal 3:</b>			
<b>Improve classroom support</b>			
<b>Actions:</b>			
3,1	Work with teachers to improve classroom rules and methods of effective discipline by not discourage learner's interest		
3,2	Hold weekly meetings with teaching staff to discuss roles and activities for the coming week by using weekly lesson plan as a main tool for volunteer to plan for class.		
3,3	Help guide teachers with correct pronunciation and grammar (English)		
3,4	Develop lesson plans in line with the school which would focus on effective learning way by using activity to lead the class		
3,5	One to one tutoring for the strugglers either during school hours or after; keep a weekly records of these students to check their progress		
3,6	PRO teachers to lead teacher training sessions focused on how to plan lessons, different learning style, positive discipline		
3,7	Volunteers to agree with teachers a list of tasks that will support the teacher during the one or two months the volunteer will be there.		
3,8	Volunteers to support the teachers in delivering lessons on phonetics in line with the current subject the English teacher is focusing on.		
<b>Goal 4:</b>			
<b>Encourage learning through creativity</b>			
<b>Actions:</b>			
4,1	For a minimum of 1 hour per week research and document new teaching aids		
4,2	Volunteers to work with the placements to make learning environments visually appealing and educational to the students e.g. "word of the day wall" -whereby the volunteer displays a new word each day along with a definition and the students are tested on it the following morning		
4,3	Initiate story writing competitions/poem writing which can then be presented to the class		
4,4	In break times engage children in regular games and activities to improve their attention span, stimulate their brains and encourage team work.		
4,5	Volunteers to do a presentation to their class on their home country, and divide class into groups to prepare a presentation on a topic of their choice.		