

# ANNUAL REPORT

year ending  
**2020**

In the midst of a global pandemic, great things are done by a series of small things brought together. Through solidarity, humanity will overcome.



**FED**

Foundation for Education  
and Development

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**Education Program**

*Goal*

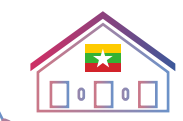
Marginalized Burmese migrant youth gain access to educational opportunities in Thailand and can continue education when they return to Myanmar.

2020

**508** Burmese students currently studying at **42** Thai government schools.



**420** students enrolled at FED's learning centers.



*Program Impact*

**90** students studying Thai and English in the Non-Formal education program.



**1,288** Burmese youth studying as a result of the FED Education Program in 2020



*Education Projects*

Primary Education Supports FED Learning Centers and helps students to continue studying in Myanmar.

Thai School Integration Helps Burmese students to enroll into the Thai education system for a better future in Thailand.

Non-Formal Education Facilitates Thai and English language classes on Sundays for out-of-school Burmese migrants.

## Migrant Learning centers

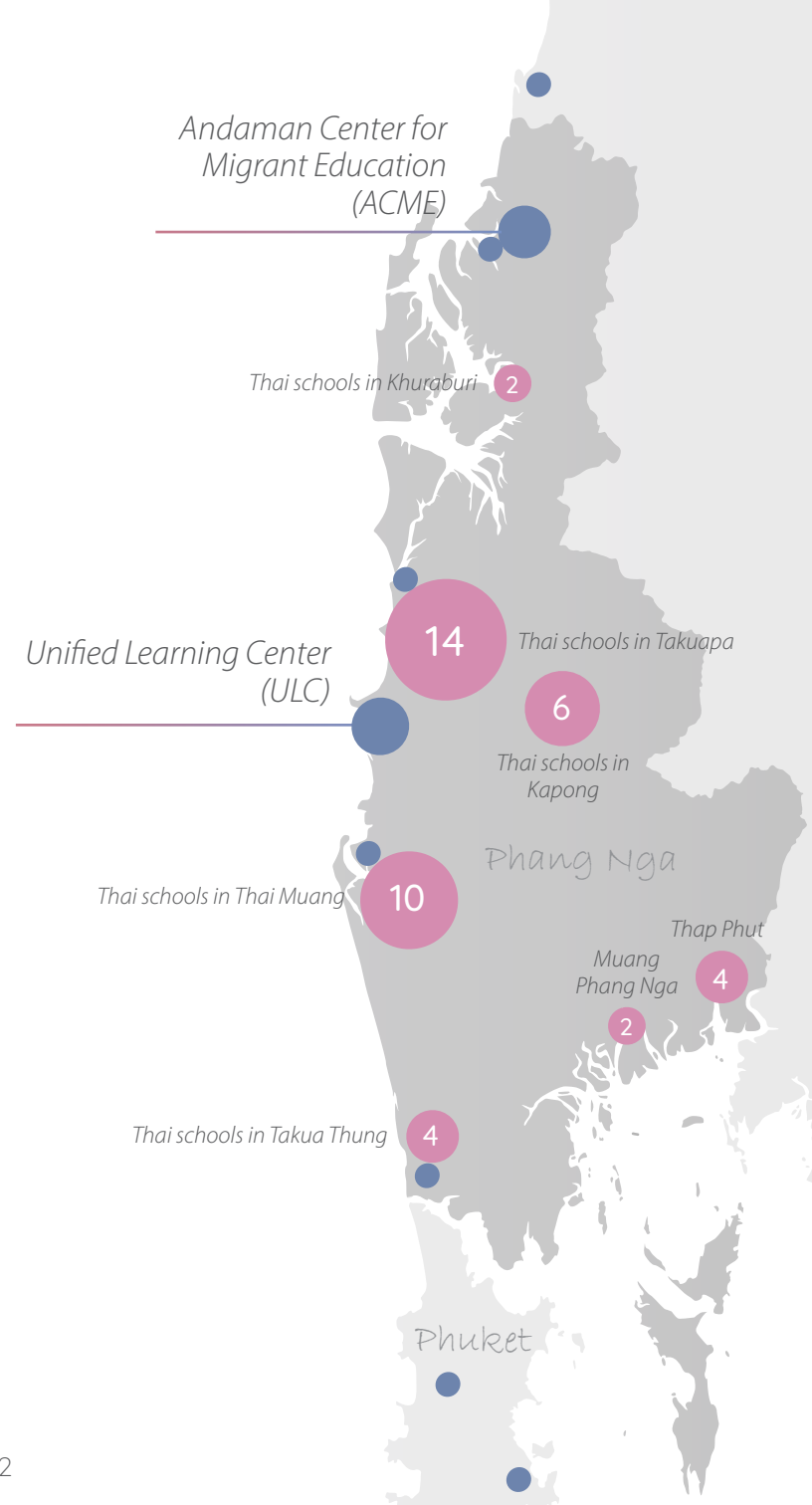
Despite having many difficulties, we were able to reopen two of our learning centers and support 8 other partner schools by coordinating the delivery of Burmese textbooks and curriculum training for teachers and providing transfer certificates for students returning to Myanmar.

### Our partner schools:

- Suk Samran Learning Center (Ranong)
- Happy World Learning Center (Bangkok)
- Wat Pa Tha Nun Learning Center (Khok Kloi)
- Good Shepherd Learning Center (Phuket)
- St. Eupharasia Learning Center (Phuket)
- Panya Alin Yaung (Taplamu)
- New Light Foundation (CDC) (Nam Khem)
- Panya Pyo Kin (Khuraburi)

## Thai school network

Over the years we have set up a network of 42 schools in 7 of the 8 districts in Phang Nga. So that students all over the province can attend school even if there is no learning center nearby.



## Primary Education

The epidemic that started in 2019 has caused much suffering to humanity from all nations. This pandemic almost eliminates all the daily routine functional mechanisms in all sectors. Everyone has to accept that 2020 was a year full of sadness and unpleasantness as a serious consequence of COVID-19.

It slowed down all the educational activities' implementation and shaped our planning. We had to cancel/postpone most of the student exchange programs and activities that had been carried out in collaboration with international schools and partnered organizations in the previous years. We also could not send our students to attend leadership training organized by the International School of Asia Karuizawa (UWC/ISAK) sponsored by the Project ERights students.

FED reopened its learning centers on 1st July after having to close early on the 18th of March, with precautions in place to guard against the coronavirus, ranging from temperature checks to wearing face masks and social distancing in classrooms. Normally our classrooms fit 30 students, but every school in Thailand had to apply the Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedure, therefore we could only accept 20 students per classroom for the year.

We could not admit Nursery, Kindergarten and Grade- 1 students for 2020- 2021 academic year, as they are not able to follow the general rules of social distancing and we faced a shortage of classrooms. We were able to accept 300 students at our learning centers at the beginning of the 2020- 2021 academic year. We then closely collaborated with local Thai authorities to get important government

announcements regarding the pandemic and to take necessary measures in time.

Our appreciation goes to those who have supported us to exist and implement educational related activities for the migrant children in Thailand. We are convinced that we could do anything without their contribution and kind assistance. We strongly wish to collaborate and cooperate with our donors, stakeholders, and communities for carrying on educating migrant children living in Thailand.

Mr. Saw Mu Doh  
Primary Education Coordinator





22  
Feb.

### Yearly Student Exchange with ASH

Student exchanges offer broad benefits and outcomes for students. Since 2012, we have organized yearly trips with the American School of The Hague (ASH). On 22nd February, a new group of ASH students arrived. Due to the threat of the coronavirus, some students could not come for this year's trip and the group totaled 21 students and 5 teachers. The ASH group visited community homes, were lectured on buddhism, joined several student activities and more. As always, it was very educational and fun. Unfortunately we had to cancel the 2021 trip due to the ongoing Covid-19 risks.



4  
June

### COVID-19 Prevention Training for Teachers

On 4th June, with the intention of providing clear and actionable guidance for safe operations through prevention, our Education staff attended one-day training provided by the Health team staff at ULC. At the training, teachers were carefully instructed to follow the basic principle of COVID-19 SOP that can help keep students, teachers, and other staff safe at learning centers and help stop the spread of the disease.



4  
Aug.

### Need for New School Buses

For the safety of our children and to decrease the total transportation time, during the pandemic, we had submitted a proposal for new school buses to the GGP Scheme (Japanese Embassy), and Ms. Takagi Misa (Second Secretary, Economic Section, Embassy of Japan) and Ms. Thanida Pawakho (GGP Scheme, Embassy of Japan) made a pre-survey on 4th August to our learning centers for collecting necessary information. Our proposal is under consideration and we hope it will get approved soon.



15  
Oct.

### Online Student Exchange with ISAK

Normally, students from the International School of Asia Karuizawa (ISAK) come to ULC once a year for the student exchange program, but due to the pandemic, they could not make this happen. Instead of having an in-person exchange program, the ISAK students organized a frequent online exchange with our students which started on 15th October.



22  
June

### Production of 300 Face Shields

To practice COVID-19 prevention procedures and create a safe teaching environment for the students at ULC, our education staff made 300 face shields for the students on 22nd June. Raw materials for making face shields were provided by FED's Migrant Development Program and it took 2 days to finish 300 face shields for 2 learning centers.



1  
July

### School Opening with COVID-19 SOP

We started the 2020-2021 Academic Year on 1st of July with precautionary measures in place to guard against the coronavirus, ranging from temperature checks to wearing face shields and social distancing in the classroom. Before we started we prepared a COVID-19 Standard Operation Procedure and submitted it to the relevant local authorities for getting approval to reopen our learning centers. Our appreciation goes to them for their great assistance during these unpredictable times.



1  
Nov.

### Student Exchange with Migrants in Thai Schools

On the 1st of November, the Integration Program organized a student exchange program for Myanmar migrant students studying in Thai Vocational Colleges, Thai Government Schools, and Kaw Saw Naw (NFE Program). This special event brings students to share educational related information, experiences, challenges, and successes while studying in the Thai education system. It helps students to gain the confidence to continue their studies while living in foreign country.



19  
Nov.

### 6-day Computer Training for our Teachers

We believe that effective teachers maximize the potential of technology to develop student's understanding and stimulate their interest to improve subject proficiency. With the purpose of improving the qualifications and skills of migrant teachers, a 6 days long computer training was organized at our ULC on 19th November. Teachers could study on internet research, creating and presenting slide shows for their lessons, basic photo editing and collaborating with Google Apps.

# Thai Integration & Non-Formal Education

In 2020, we were faced with the COVID-19 situation, which affected many sectors. Initially many migrants moved back to their country of origin. Many children followed their parents back home, and unfortunately many of them were not able to continue their education.

The integration project worked hard to promote understanding of the COVID-19 situation and the teaching and learning opportunities still available despite safety precautions. We work closely with schools and communities to ensure migrant students will not drop out and continue their studies.

We try to work closely with both the school and the parents. There are activities such as stakeholder meetings, raising awareness of parents, and parents and teachers meetings to communicate between organizations.

Schools and parents support and encourage migrant children to continue their education and study at the highest level as they can, in the best interests of the child.

The lesson learned from the COVID-19 situation let us know that proactive public relations and providing knowledge and understanding to the target group are extremely important. It gives us a quick and systematic understanding of the situation. This makes it possible to help the target group quickly, especially vulnerable groups like migrant students enrolled in the Thai school system.

The collaboration between schools, parents, and FED resulted in 508 migrant children attending school in the 2020-21 school year.

Many children and youth are still waiting for opportunities to access education in the Thai school system, and FED will be an important mechanism in promoting and encouraging migrant children and youth to access educational opportunities in the Thai school system, which remains an alternative for migrant parents and their children.

Phanupong Seehatab  
Integration Project Coordinator

*Phanupong*



## Mitigating the Risks of Covid-19

While we visit the community to follow up on migrant students enrolled in Thai schools, we distribute COVID-19 prevention equipment, survival bags, posters and share updated education management policies. The Integration project got 1,500 sets of hand washing gel and face masks and 80 survival bags to distribute to migrant students and parents. We are supported by a network of organizations, including the Foundation for Rural Youth (FRY) and Plan International.



## Reaching Out to Put Children in School

The Integration project surveyed migrant children and youth during school holidays and in the COVID-19 situation. In the search of new children entering the second semester, a migrant student leader at each school helped to explore the migrant children in the neighbourhoods. Because migrant children and their parents are well known enabling us to bring migrant children to school even during the COVID-19 situation.



## Working Group Expanding Rights of Migrant Children

In August, the Integration Project organized a working group meeting at a local hotel to expand the rights of migrant children that have succeeded in obtaining official registration numbers. Currently these children can easily access their right to education, but are denied healthcare and all other social protections. Bringing together local and regional players, the team finished the day with agreements to cooperate and a work plan to more fully support these children.



## Child Rights & Education for All Training

The Integration Project organized Child Rights & Education for all Training for Burmese students and officials of Thai schools with the objective to create a better understanding regarding the topic and improving leadership of immigrant children in Thai schools. Participants learned about child rights and the Education-for-All policy through games and activities. Participants learned about key principles of rights, basic principles in the work of the rights of the child and child protection, and the 4 aspects of children's rights.