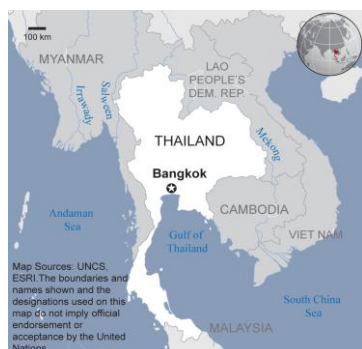


# Improvement of health conditions of migrants in Ranong and Samutsakorn provinces in Thailand



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



## Fast Facts

**Country:** Thailand

**Duration:** September 2005 to September 2009

**Implementing UN Agencies:** WHO

**Other Implementing Partners:** IOM; Ministry of Public Health; provincial health offices; Department of Health Service Support; Bureau of Health Service Systems Development

**Budget:** \$1,524,312.41

**Key Words:** Access to health care; migrants; capacity-building

## BACKGROUND

At the outset of this project, the Thai provinces of Ranong and Samutsakorn hosted large populations of migrant workers, primarily from Myanmar, the vast majority of whom arrived through irregular migratory channels and hence lacked legal documentation. Poverty, overcrowding and unsanitary living and working conditions were common and many lacked access to basic social services, clean water and safe

means of disposing waste. At the same time, sick migrants often refrained from seeking medical care due to fear of deportation, financial constraints or simply language barriers. As a result, these populations experienced growing health problems and improving their ability to access health-care services was of great concern to the host communities as well as the local authorities.

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project sought to enhance the overall health status of migrant workers in Ranong and Samutsakorn. To this end, the project set out to (i) increase the use of basic health-care services among migrants; (ii) build the capacity of host

communities and local authorities to deliver improved health-care services to migrants; and (iii) provide capacity-building and technical support to health workers at the community level.

### BENEFICIARIES

The project reached 40,000 migrants through upgraded health services and educational activities on health. Migrant children benefited from school vaccination campaigns and

community health workers and health-care providers participated in trainings on primary care, reproductive health and disease control and prevention.