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KINGDOM OF THAILAND | PROFILE 2023

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS



CONTENTS

OBJECTIVES // 5

INTRODUCTION // 6

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK // 8

KEY FINDINGS // 10

COVID-19 ANALYSIS // 25

ANNEX // 27

KEY SOURCES // 29

OBJECTIVES

The MGIs aim to help governments, upon request, take stock of their migration policies and strategies to identify good practices and areas with potential for further development.

The MGIs open dialogues with governments and other relevant stakeholders to identify priorities on the way forward. With a focus on government ownership of the process, the MGIs offer support at the national and local levels to gradually improve migration management systems.

INTRODUCTION



Migration has been part of the human experience throughout history, and we recognize that it is a source of prosperity, innovation and sustainable development in our globalized world, and that these positive impacts can be optimized by improving migration governance.¹

The need to maximize the opportunities and to face the challenges that mobility brings has been recognized with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. The incorporation of target 10.7 into the 2030 Agenda created the need to define "planned and well-managed migration policies". This is why, in 2015, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance² Framework (MiGOF). This Framework³ offers a concise view of an ideal approach that allows a State to determine what it might need to govern migration well and in a way that suits its circumstances. That same year, IOM in collaboration with Economist Impact developed the Migration Governance Indicators (MGIs), a standard set of almost 100 indicators that help States assess the comprehensiveness of their migration governance structures.

The indicators constitute a starting point to engage governments in a consultative process that allows them to identify areas that are well developed and others that would benefit from further development, and most importantly priorities that are in line with the specific challenges and opportunities that a given country is facing.

The MGIs are characterized by three main fundamental attributes:

- 1. The MGI process is a **voluntary** exercise: The MGIs are conducted in countries that have requested to be part of the process.
- 2. The MGIs are **sensitive to national specificities**: The MGIs recognize the different challenges and opportunities of each context, and therefore, do not propose a one-size-fits-all solution, but rather aim to spark a discussion on what well-governed migration can mean.
- 3. The MGIs constitute a **process**: The MGI process is not a static tool to collect data on countries' migration frameworks. It is rather the first step of a dynamic exercise that can enable governments to identify areas of their migration policy in need of further development, or that could benefit from capacity-building.

The MGIs recognize that all countries have different realities, challenges and opportunities in relation to migration. Therefore, the MGIs do not rank countries on the design or implementation of their migration policies.

Finally, the MGIs do not measure migration policy outcomes or institutional effectiveness. Instead, they take stock of the migration-related policies in place and operate as a benchmarking framework that provides insights on policy measures that countries can consider as they further progress towards good migration governance.

This country profile presents a summary of the well-developed areas of the migration governance structures of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as Thailand), as well as the areas with potential for further development, as assessed by the MGI.^{4,5}

¹ United Nations, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/RES/73/195 of 11 January 2019), paragraph 8.

² "Migration governance" refers to the system of institutions, legal frameworks, mechanisms, and practices aimed at regulating migration and protecting migrants. It is used almost synonymously with the term "migration management", although the latter is also sometimes used to refer to the narrow act of regulating cross-border movement at the State level.

³ IOM Council, Migration Governance Framework, 106th Session, C/106/40 (4 November 2015), page 1, footnote 1.

The MGI initiative is a policy-benchmarking programme led by IOM and implemented with the support of Economist Impact. Funding is provided by IOM's Member States.

⁵ Please see the *Thailand Migration Report* (2019) for more details on the context of migration in Thailand.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

MiGOF

IOM's MiGOF sets out the essential elements to support planned and well-managed migration. It seeks to present, in a consolidated, coherent and comprehensive way, a set of three principles and three objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane and orderly, and benefits migrants and society.

PRINCIPLES

At the basis of

- Adhere to international standards and fulfil migrants' rights.
- **2. Formulate** policy using evidence and a whole-of-government approach.
- **3. Engage** with partners to address migration and related issues.

OBJECTIVES

- **1. Advance** the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society.
- **2.** *Effectively address* the mobility dimensions of crises.
- **3. Ensure** that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

→ MGIs

WHAT THEY ARE



A set of indicators that offers insights on policy levers that countries can use to strengthen their migration governance structures



A tool that identifies good practices and areas that could be further developed



A consultative process that advances dialogues on migration governance by clarifying what "well-governed migration" might look like in the context of SDG target 10.7 and the Global Compact for Migration implementation*

WHAT THEY ARE NOT



Not a ranking of countries



Not an assessment of policy impacts



Not prescriptive

Which support the measurement of





The MGIs consist of almost 100 indicators grouped under the six different dimensions of migration governance that draw upon the MiGOF categories:



MIGRANTS' RIGHTS PAGE 11 Indicators in this domain look at the extent to which migrants have access to certain social services such as health, education and social security. They look at family reunification, access to work, and access to residency and citizenship. The international conventions signed and ratified are also included.



WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH PAGE 14 Indicators in this area assess countries' institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks related to migration policies. This area also looks at the existence of national migration strategies that are in line with development objectives and overseas development efforts, as well as institutional transparency and coherence in relation to migration management.



This category focuses on countries' efforts to cooperate on migration-related issues with other States and relevant non-governmental actors, including civil society organizations and the private sector.



WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS PAGE 18 Indicators in this area assess countries' policies on the recognition of migrants' educational and professional qualifications, provisions regulating student migration and the existence of bilateral labour agreements between countries. Aspects of diaspora engagement in the country of origin and migrant remittances are also under this domain.



MOBILITY DIMENSION OF CRISES PAGE 20 This category looks at the type and level of preparedness of countries when they are faced with mobility dimensions of crises. The questions look at the processes in place for nationals and non-nationals in relation to disasters and climate change, including if humanitarian assistance is equally available to migrants as it is to citizens.



SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION PAGE 22 This area looks at countries' approach to migration management in terms of border control and enforcement policies, admission criteria for migrants, preparedness and resilience in the case of significant and unexpected migration flows, as well as the fight against trafficking in persons.





ADHERE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FULFIL MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

1.1. International conventions ratified

Table 1. Signature and ratification of international conventions

Convention name	Ratified (Year)
International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)	No
United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (also known as the Refugee Convention), 1951	No
United Nations conventions on statelessness, 1954 and 1961	No
ILO Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143)	No
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989	Yes (1992)
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW), 1990	No

1.2. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

In practice, all migrants, regardless of their migratory status, may access public health-care services. Migrant workers with regular status not working for sectors subject to the Social Security Act (1990),6 including border pass migrants,7 have access to Government-funded health services through the Migrant Health Insurance Scheme (MHIS).8 The MHIS is a self-contributory health-care scheme for migrant workers and their dependants up to 18 years of age. Under the MHIS, eligible migrants must register at the specific hospital where they receive their health screening on arrival, to then be linked to this service provider for the whole year. This health insurance scheme covers various medical services such as general medical examination, high-cost medical care, emergency accidents, and control, prevention and surveillance of communicable diseases. Furthermore, migrant health workers (MHW) and migrant health volunteers (MHV) are trained in public health knowledge and skills to reach migrant workers in community areas, provide care and report public health situations promptly and efficiently. These MHW and MHV are also trained in language skills as well as understanding of the religious and cultural context of migrants.

⁶ These include, for example, farmers, fishers, animal husbandry workers, stall workers or seasonal workers.

⁷ Section 64 on border pass of the Royal Ordinance Concerning the Management of Employment of Foreign Workers (2017) regulates the entry and work permits of non-Thai workers from Cambodia and Myanmar residing in a limited number of Thai border provinces to find seasonal work. Migrant workers under this scheme need a border pass with a stamped visa inside and a temporary work permit. The visa in the border pass booklet gets stamped upon entry to Thailand. Border pass holders cannot travel freely in the country. They are not allowed to go outside of the province that they entered for work.

⁸ The benefits of the MHIS include an annual health check-up, general medical treatment (including maternity care), dental care, vaccinations for children (aged 0–18 years old), emergency medical treatment, communicable diseases prevention, and HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis medications.

Migrant workers recruited under the terms of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) can enrol for the Social Security Fund (SSF)⁹ and are eligible for the Universal Health Coverage scheme on the same basis as citizens.

Thailand provides Government-funded education services to all migrants, regardless of their migratory status. According to the National Education Act (1999), the first nine years of "basic education" are compulsory and "all individuals shall have equal rights and opportunities to receive basic education provided by the State for the duration of at least 12 years". Basic education is free of charge, and the Act does not distinguish between citizens and migrants. Additionally, Thailand's National Scheme of Education 2017–2036 (2017) aims to promote access to quality education for all, including migrants.

The Social Security Act and its amendments state that employees of migrant workers who are 18 to 55 years of age shall be insured, and thereby provided with seven benefits, relating to non-work-related injury or illness, maternity, disability, death, children, old age (retirement pension) and unemployment. Migrant workers recruited through an MoU and registered for the SSF have access to the same social protection as citizens over time, based on the number of months they have contributed to the fund. There are no citizenship-based restrictions with regard to eligibility for pensions under the Social Security Act, or invalidity benefits under the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act (2007). The Workmen's Compensation Act (1994) and its amendments provide all workers, including migrants, with benefits¹⁰ should they experience occupational injuries or illnesses. The 2018 amendment of the Act extended the protection and coverage to employees from State agencies, non-profit organizations, and local staff working at embassies and international organizations. The announcement by the Ministry of Labour on 21 February 2019 extended the Act's coverage to workers in the agriculture, fishery, forestry and livestock sectors. However, domestic workers and employees of street vendors or mobile vendors are still excluded.

According to Thailand's Nationality Act (1965), foreign residents may become nationals after five years of continuous residence in the country.¹¹ They must also be "sui juris"¹² in accordance with Thai law and the law of their country of origin, be employed, and have knowledge of the Thai language.

Thai citizens living abroad are able to vote in national elections, as established by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand (2017). They are able to vote via postal ballots, mobile voting booths, or a voting booth at a Thai embassy or consulate. Thailand's last general election took place in 2019, where an estimated 101.003 nationals voted from abroad.¹³

1.3. Areas with potential for further development

There are some limitations on migrant workers' access to public health services. For instance, migrant workers with irregular status may not be able or willing to access formal health insurance. Furthermore, while insurance costs are relatively low, health service fees as well as other associated costs such as passport, visa or work permit fees are higher compared to migrant workers' income levels. This may lead to them remaining in the informal sector and contribute to making health services inaccessible.

Thailand does not have agreements with other countries on the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits, including old-age pensions. However, as of August 2023, agreements on the portability of social security entitlements between Thailand and other countries, such as Cambodia,

⁹ The employee, the employer and the Government contribute to the SSF. The employer and the migrant worker each pays a monthly contribution of 5 per cent, and the Government pays 2.5 per cent, based on the income level of the worker.

These include cash benefits and coverage of medical and rehabilitation expenses.

However, in practice, temporary migrant workers are usually required to return to their country of origin after they complete a four-year employment term.

¹² In civil law, "sui juris" refers to an adult who has the legal competency to manage their own affairs.

¹³ For more information, see this 2019 article on the results of organizing elections outside Thailand, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

are under discussion. Other neighbouring countries – for instance, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam – are also being considered.

Migrants do not have equal access to employment as nationals. According to the Notification of the Ministry of Labour, titled "Prescription of the prohibited occupations for foreigners" (2020), there are 27 occupations that are reserved for Thai nationals and inaccessible to migrants. The Foreigners' Working Management Emergency Decree (2018) does not allow migrants to change jobs under the same work permit.

Migrants can apply for an indefinite residence permit under specific conditions. The Notification of Immigration Commission criterion and conditions of foreign nationals' residential permit consideration (2003) lays out the eligibility criteria for foreign nationals to apply for permanent residency. According to this, foreign nationals must hold a passport that bears a non-immigrant visa, ¹⁴ have been living in Thailand for at least three consecutive years, are at least 14 years of age, have been subjected to a criminal record check and are able to understand and speak the Thai language. There are five categories of application, each with its own additional requirements. ¹⁵ Furthermore, according to the Immigration Act (1979), only 100 persons of each nationality and 50 stateless persons are able to apply for indefinite residence permits every year.

Thailand does not have a specific policy or strategy to combat hate crimes, violence, xenophobia or discrimination against migrants. However, the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights 2019–2022 (2019) recognizes that migrant workers are vulnerable to human rights abuses by businesses, and it states that Thailand aims to eliminate discrimination in employment and the workplace. Some of these measures include better grievance mechanisms, reviews of discrimination laws, supporting awareness campaigns and supporting employers to hire employees without discrimination based on gender, pregnancy, HIV/AIDS status, nationality, race, religion or sexual orientation.

This visa type is issued to foreign nationals who have family relationships with Thai nationals – namely the parents, the spouse and the children of Thai nationals – and intend to enter Thailand. This allows the visa recipient to enter the country with a maximum stay of 90 days per entry.

The five categories of application are (a) investment of no less than THB 10 million (USD 303,000), (b) employment with a capital of at least THB 10 million, (c) humanitarian reasons, (d) expert and (e) extra circumstances on a case-by-case basis.



FORMULATE POLICY USING EVIDENCE AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

2.1. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

The National Working Group on the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was established in 2021. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Working Group includes several other line ministries. In 2020, the country developed its first National Implementation Plan of the Global Compact for Migration (2020–2022). Some measures in the National Implementation Plan include objectives to minimize the adverse drivers that compel people to move, enhance the availability of regular migration pathways, and facilitate fair and ethical recruitment conditions to ensure decent work, among others. A new plan covering the period from 2023 to 2024 is under preparation as of August 2023. There are also several other national strategies that contain provisions related to migrants. For example, the Illegal Immigration Solution Strategy (2012) focuses on border control, while the National Security Policy and Plan 2019–2022 (2020) focuses on domestic and foreign policies to ensure national security. Finally, the national Immigration Management Action Plan (2020–2022) focuses on irregular migration.

Thailand's Overseas Employment Administration Office, under the Ministry of Labour, is responsible for the management and protection of Thai migrant workers going abroad. The Office is mandated to develop systems, mechanisms and operations related to sending Thai workers abroad; monitor the emigration of Thai workers in accordance with the law; and protect and assist workers in the fulfilment of their rights. It also acts as an information centre providing guidance for Thai citizens on employment abroad and works with or supports the operations of other relevant agencies as assigned.

Thailand's migration-related policies include gender considerations. The national Immigration Management Action Plan states that it "aims to help disadvantaged people in society to access welfare according to their rights", and women are included as a priority group within this objective. The National Security Policy and Plan 2019–2022 (2020) includes a strategy to "[assist, protect and safeguard] target groups of women, children, Thai workers and alien workers against human trafficking".

The national Immigration Management Action Plan includes measures to promote migrant integration. It states that there is a need to "support harmonious living in a diverse society", which includes "support in terms of languages, culture, and awareness on rights and responsibilities".

The National Strategy 2018–2037 (2019) aims to "attract specialists, both foreigners and Thais who live abroad, to migrate to Thailand to build and develop technology and innovation for Thailand". It recognizes that "with Thailand being an ageing society, there might be increasing demand for foreign labour to replace the decreasing Thai labour". It also states that "the liberalization factor in the region and the advancement of regional transportation would make labour mobility and immigration more convenient, resulting in more immigration of foreigners and nationals in and out of Thailand". The Ministry of Labour implements an annual plan that is in line with the National Strategy.

Thailand regularly collects and publishes data on migration. The Royal Thai Police Immigration Bureau collects and publishes monthly data on the number of arrivals and departures, disaggregated by nationality. The Department of Employment, under the Ministry of Labour, collects and publishes data on an annual basis, such as on the number of Thai nationals working abroad, disaggregated by

¹⁶ The most recent published data are from 2020, and the earliest data available are from 2003.

sex and country of destination. The data also include the number of work permits applied for and granted to migrant workers, disaggregated by region and province. Since 2002, the National Statistical Office (NSO) has conducted an annual Migration Survey. The latest survey was conducted in 2020, to collect data on the number of migrants in Thailand disaggregated by sex, the migration rates disaggregated by sex, and the causes and types of migration, among other data points.

There are several questions in Thailand's Population and Housing Census that relate to migration – namely, questions asking for the respondent's nationality, spoken language, place of birth, countries of residence prior to Thailand and reasons for migration. The NSO conducted the last census in 2010. The next census, initially scheduled for 2020, has been postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rules and regulations pertaining to migration are available to the public on the websites of the Office of the Council of State, the Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labour. The website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs outlines visa requirements in English and Thai, and the official Thai e-Visa website outlines visa requirements in English, Thai and Chinese. These websites present information on all types of visas available – their validity, fees and the documents required.

2.2. Areas with potential for further development

Thailand does not have a dedicated government entity responsible for enacting diaspora policy or coordinating efforts to engage with its diaspora population. The Department of Employment under the Ministry of Labour, and the Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are responsible for promoting the overseas employment and protection of Thai workers but not for engaging with the diaspora.

Thailand has ad hoc processes in place to ensure vertical policy coherence in migration issues. For instance, the Ministry of Justice organizes consultations with the private sector at the national and provincial levels as part of its implementation of the business and human rights agenda, including for migrant workers. The Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with IOM and the United Nations Development Programme, organized a national consultation on promoting the fair and ethical recruitment and employment of migrant workers in Thailand, in June 2021. The event hosted 67 participants representing Thai business, recruitment agencies, civil society and workers' organizations.



ENGAGE WITH PARTNERS TO ADDRESS MIGRATION AND RELATED ISSUES

3.1. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

Thailand adopted the Global Compact for Migration and is committed to promoting policy dialogue, cooperation and partnership on migration issues among various stakeholders through stakeholder workshops organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.¹⁷ During the opening session of the Asia–Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration on 10 March 2021 in Bangkok, the Government highlighted the progress made by Thailand. This included the adoption of the National Plan of Action and the establishment of an inter-agency working group to follow up on its implementation. The Government also recognized the essential role of migrant workers in sustainable economic growth.

Thailand participates in regional consultative processes (RCPs) and interregional forums on migration. It is a member of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT Process), 18 which seeks to promote member States' cooperation in combating trafficking, protecting victims and prosecuting criminals. Furthermore, Thailand is a member of the RCP on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process), alongside 11 other Asian countries. The Colombo Process aims to share best practices and concerns regarding overseas employment and contractual labour and monitor the implementation of ministerial recommendations. In addition, Thailand participates in the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, a forum for policy dialogue, information-sharing and practical cooperation to help the region address these challenges. Thailand is a member of the Asia–European Union Meeting's Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows, which addresses political, economic and cultural issues, with the aim of strengthening the relationship between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and European Union member States. The country is also a member of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD),19 which seeks to "enable safe, orderly and regular labour migration in some of the world's largest temporary labour migration corridors [t]hrough multi-lateral dialogue and cooperation on the joint development of labour mobility-related programming, implementation, and reporting".

As a member State of ASEAN – a regional intergovernmental organization promoting the free movement of skilled labour, goods and capital – Thailand participates in the ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour. The Forum is a tripartite regional platform for the review, discussion and exchange of good practices between governments, workers' and employers' organizations, and civil society on key issues that migrant workers face in South-East Asia. Thailand also signed the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration in 2019, and actively promotes and implements the Regional Plan of Action on Implementing the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration (2021).

Thailand has signed bilateral memorandums of understanding (MoUs) related to migration with several countries. It has MoUs with Cambodia (2003), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (2016), Myanmar (2003) and Viet Nam (2015) on cooperation in the employment of migrant workers of the States Parties. The country also signed MoUs with the Lao People's Democratic Republic (2005), Myanmar (2003, same as previously mentioned MoU on labour) and Cambodia (2003, amended in 2014) on combating and eliminating trafficking in persons. Furthermore, in 2019, Cambodia and Thailand

 $^{^{\}rm 17}\,$ Three such workshops were held in Tak, Ranong and Bangkok.

¹⁸ The member States of the COMMIT Process are Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.

¹⁹ The members of the ADD are Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, IOM and the Migrant Forum in Asia.

signed a memorandum of understanding on strengthening the management of the repatriation and reintegration of human trafficking victims from both countries. In 2022, the two countries officially adopted a set of standard operating procedures on law enforcement cooperation on combating and eliminating trafficking in persons. Finally, in 2005, Thailand signed a multilateral MoU with Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam on cooperation against trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion.

The Government also participates in ongoing bilateral consultations on migration issues such as labour migration, cooperation on trafficking cases, and the safe return and reintegration of victims, as well as testing, quarantine and vaccinations in the context of COVID-19 with Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar.

3.2. Areas with potential for further development

Thailand engages civil society organizations (CSOs) and social partners in agenda-setting and the implementation of migration-related issues only on an ad hoc basis. For instance, CSOs dealing with migration issues established a Migrant Working Group in 2006, but there is no regular coordination with the Government. Nonetheless, the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights 2019–2022 (2019) states that "the Ministry of Justice initiated the drafting process of the [National Action Plan] in 2015 with participation from all sectors: governmental, State enterprise, business and civil society" and that "the State should initiate a pilot project with the private sector to set an example for various operators in the implementation of human rights principles", including respect for migrants' rights.

The National Referral Mechanism (2020) emphasizes the need for a reflection period for victims of trafficking (VoTs) and presumed VoTs in Thailand to reflect on their needs, including their willingness to cooperate with Thai authorities to further investigate the case through the criminal justice system. Assistance is then provided through Welfare Protection Centres, but engagement with CSOs could be strengthened to mitigate budgetary constraints and ensure the provision of comprehensive assistance to each victim.

As of August 2023, Thailand seeks to engage with the Employers' Confederation of Thailand and its members to resume initiatives to promote labour migration through MoUs with Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar.

The United Nations Country Team consists of 21 United Nations agencies with specific programmes and activities being carried out in Thailand. However, there has been no concrete engagement with non-governmental organizations and international organizations for the development of the National Implementation Plan of the Global Compact for Migration (2020–2022) nor for the review process of the country's implementation of the Global Compact. There is also limited coordination with the United Nations Thailand Network on Migration Working Group.²⁰

Thailand does not formally engage members of its diaspora and expatriate communities in agenda-setting and the implementation of development policy.

As a follow-up to the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration, the United Nations established the global Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to member States. To support the Network's initiatives at the regional level, the Regional Migration Network was established in Bangkok in 2019. The Thailand Network on Migration Working Group, formerly known as the United Nations Thematic Working Group on Migration, contributes to the global and regional United Nations Migration Networks. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Country Team to facilitate the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration, as well as accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda.



ADVANCE THE SOCIOECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY

4.1. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

The Labour Market Information Administration Division, under the Ministry of Labour's Department of Employment, collects and publishes monthly data on the domestic labour market demand. These include the number of vacancies, disaggregated by occupation in each province, the number of jobseekers and job placements, and data on the top five job vacancies for certain occupations. The Ministry of Labour also regularly releases estimates of migrant worker shortages. In October 2021, it estimated that over 400,000 additional migrant workers would be needed to respond to existing shortages in labour-intensive sectors, including agricultural goods and food processing for exports, construction, and tourism and services.

While the majority of migrant workers in Thailand are employed in low-skilled sectors, there are measures to attract migrants with specific skills. The Smart Visa, launched in 2018, aims to attract skilled workers in target industries²¹ by offering more privileges than the regular Non-Immigrant "B" Visa for business. There are four types of Smart Visa aiming to attract various categories of workers to Thailand: Type T for highly skilled workers/specialists, Type I for investors, Type E for high-level executives and Type S for start-up entrepreneurs. When applying for a Smart Visa, migrants must show proof of skills and qualifications – factors that are not assessed in the application for any other visa that permits employment.

Thailand collects some data on the labour market, disaggregated by migration status and sex. The Labour Market Information Administration Division publishes a monthly *Thai Labour Market Journal* with data on both emigration and immigration. It contains monthly data on the number of Thai nationals working overseas and lists the top five countries of destination for Thai migrant workers, classified by continent. It also presents data on the number of migrant workers in Thailand and classifies them into four categories, not linked to visa types: skilled labour, general labour (specifically from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam), lifetime work permits and minorities/highlanders. In addition, the annual *Thai Labour Market Journal* presents data on the labour migration of Thai and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) workers and the work conditions of migrants.²²

Measures in place to promote gender equality for workers also apply to migrants. The Labour Protection Act (2019) states that workers are to be paid equally regardless of gender and does not distinguish between citizens and migrants.

Thailand participates in the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF), which enables comparisons of educational qualifications across ASEAN member States.²³ Thailand also participates in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA), established in 1998 and under which countries agree to mutually recognize harmonized standards of employment, qualifications and technical regulations. The Ministry of Education is responsible for implementing the AQRF, while different ministries are in charge of their relevant MRAs. For example, the Ministry of Labour is responsible for the issuance of work permits to qualified professionals under the MRAs. Thailand has measures in place that promote the ethical recruitment of migrant workers. For instance, in 2018, the Government revised the

²¹ The targeted industries are next-generation automotive; smart electronics; affluent, medical and wellness tourism; agriculture and biotechnology; food processing; automation and robotics; aviation and logistics; biofuels and biochemicals; digital industry; medical industry; alternative dispute resolution; human resource development in science and technology; and environmental management and renewable energy.

²² The most recent issue dates from October 2021.

²³ Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations include Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Royal Ordinance Concerning the Management of Employment of Foreign Workers (2017), which eliminated worker-borne recruitment service fees in Thailand. Additionally, in 2019, Thailand adopted the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights 2019–2022 (2019), which outlines mandatory and voluntary measures for the Government and businesses to implement fair and ethical recruitment processes.

Thailand has developed mechanisms to protect the rights of Thai nationals working abroad through three main entities that coordinate among one another – namely, the Ministry of Labour's International Cooperation Bureau, the Department of Employment's Overseas Employment Administration Office, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Department of Consular Affairs' Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division, which also has units within embassies abroad. These three entities seek to help overseas Thai workers and their children maintain their rights before, during and after working. The Overseas Employment Administration Office is responsible for developing systems, mechanisms and operations related to sending Thai workers abroad, and protecting jobseekers who go to work abroad and assisting them in complying with the law.²⁴ The offices abroad of the Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division seek to protect Thai nationals working overseas in relation to various issues, such as breach of contract or cases of arrest or imprisonment, and ensure that Thai nationals receive just treatment during trials.

4.2. Areas with potential for further development

International students can access public university education provided that they obtain an Education Visa, but they are charged higher fees than nationals. Additionally, there are no provisions allowing international students to work in Thailand after graduation. International students on an Education Visa are also unable to work during the course of their studies unless they obtain a work permit.

Thailand is not actively involved in promoting the creation of formal remittance schemes despite the high flow of remittances in the country. Member States of the Colombo Process²⁵ have committed to promoting cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances for migrants. At the last Thematic Area Working Group on Remittances Meeting in 2022, member countries gathered to discuss remittances, including reducing costs of remittance transfers, in line with the Sustainable Development Goal target; improving access to formal remittance channels; and maximizing the use of remittances through building financial literacy among migrant workers and their families. However, Thailand is not a member of and did not contribute to the discussions of the Thematic Area Working Group on Remittances.

Thailand does not have any programmes in place to promote the financial inclusion of migrants and their families. In practice, migrant workers are able to open bank accounts. Those without work permits or have irregular status use other channels, such as financial services companies.

The Division also acts as an information centre for Thai workers who wish to work abroad; provides funds for Thai nationals who seek overseas work in cases where assistance is requested and there are no such provisions from labour agencies in the host country; and controls, supervises and monitors the transportation of Thai workers abroad by the recruitment licensee in accordance with the law.

²⁵ The Colombo Process has 11 member States: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The eight observer States include Bahrain, Italy, Kuwait, Malaysia, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.



EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE MOBILITY DIMENSIONS OF CRISES

5.1. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation developed the National Disaster Risk Management Plan (2015),²⁶ which contains measures to assist migrants during and after crises. The Plan focuses on applying integrated emergency management systems and specifically refers to "aliens" under its categorization of "vulnerable group".²⁷ The Plan further contains guidelines for emergency evacuation, including providing temporary shelters and assisting affected populations in moving their property from affected areas, and states that vulnerable groups "will have the first priority of evacuation". It also mentions the coordination and facilitation of assistance to "foreigners affected by disaster and their relatives" as an emergency response measure.

The Department of Employment's Overseas Employment Administration Office keeps a record of nationals who are working abroad. Based on this information, there are evacuation plans and protocols in place to assist Thai nationals living abroad in times of crises, ²⁸ in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Thai nationals may appeal for assistance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cases of personal crisis, death, employment fraud/breach of work contract, or when a woman has been deceived or a worker on a fishing fleet arrested. The Department of Consular Affairs' website includes an online form for Thai nationals living abroad who wish to appeal for consular assistance.

Thailand has some measures in place to make exceptions to the immigration procedures for migrants whose country of origin is experiencing crisis. According to the regulations of the Office of the Prime Minister on aliens in Thailand who are unable to return to their country of origin (2019), both refugees and migrants who are in Thailand and unable to return to their country of origin due to danger may appeal to the Thai Government to be granted the status of "protected person". This is decided on a case-by-case basis, and protected persons who are granted permission to stay in Thailand are exempt from deportation; they receive aid to return to their country of origin, education for their children and fundamental health benefits.

5.2. Areas with potential for further development

Thailand does not have a national disaster risk reduction strategy with specific provisions for preventing and addressing the displacement impacts of disasters. The National Disaster Risk Management Plan makes no reference to displacement when discussing evacuations.

There is no strategy in place for addressing migration linked to environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change. The Environment Quality Management Plan (2017–2021) contains no such provisions, and while the National Disaster Risk Management Plan acknowledges that rapid climate change has increasing influence on the rising trend of natural disasters, it makes no reference to migration as a result.

²⁶ The Plan is still in use as of September 2022.

The Plan defines this group as "people that has limited capacity in coping with disasters and requires special attention and assistance".

The countries and areas with evacuation plans in place categorized by region are as follows: (a) East Asia – Brunei Darussalam, China, Hong Kong SAR, Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam; (b) South Asia, Africa and the Middle East – Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates; (c) Europe – Belgium, Czechia, France, Germany, Greece, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom; and (d) the Americas and Oceania – Argentina and Mexico.

Thailand has communications systems in place for the public to receive information on both the evolving nature of crises and how to access assistance. The National Disaster Risk Management Plan states that there is a process for "disseminating information related to the threat or an actual occurrence of hazards to government agencies and general public" through television, radio and community news broadcasting towers. According to the Plan, the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology has the "responsibility to arrange for interoperable emergency communications systems, install two-way radio communications system for communications between the National Disaster Command Headquarters, the Disaster Management Centre at each level, government agencies and general public; and has the additional responsibility to arrange for emergency notification system/emergency call centre services and provision of disaster-related information to [the] general public." However, these communications systems are available only in Thai and do not take into consideration the specific vulnerabilities of migrants.



ENSURE THAT MIGRATION TAKES PLACE IN A SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MANNER

6.1. Migration governance: examples of well-developed areas

The Royal Thai Police Immigration Bureau is responsible for integrated border control and security and providing immigration services to migrants in Thailand. It reports directly to the Prime Minister's Office, manages immigration detention facilities and maintains national security. It is also tasked with developing strategies in planning, controlling, inspecting, advising and providing consultation with regard to immigration; implementing criminal law related to immigration; and finally, improving logistics and capacity regarding immigration, including cooperation and exchange of information with neighbouring countries. Thailand's Immigration Act (1979) regulates and controls immigration into the country, covering the requirements, criteria and rules regarding entering and exiting the Kingdom, conveyance, temporary stay in Thailand, taking residency in Thailand, repatriation of migrants from Thailand, penalties, and fees and expenses. The Royal Ordinance Concerning the Management of Employment of Foreign Workers (2017) makes provisions for residents who are on temporary work visas, covering the legislation on requirements, criteria and rules for foreigners who are working in Thailand, including general rules and those concerning work permits, penalties and fees.

The Immigration Commission, ²⁹ under the Ministry of Interior, is responsible for prescribing the criteria for migrants' applications for residence in Thailand and assisting the Ministry of Interior in designing regulations for border control officials. The Immigration Commission meets as needed. Furthermore, the National Security Council, established in 1910 and comprising over 10 ministries, ³⁰ has responsibility for "illegal immigrant management" and "maintaining border security". It is also responsible for the drafting of the National Security Policy and Plan.

Thailand's border control staff are regularly trained by the Immigration Training Centre under the Royal Thai Police Immigration Bureau. The courses offered include passport examination, foreign language training, capacity enhancement for police officers stationed at screening points, and promoting morals and ethics to prevent and suppress corruption. Most of the training courses take place online and are readily available on the Immigration Bureau's portal. However, these courses do not yet include a cultural or gender component.

In 2019, the Royal Thai Police and the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the determination of measures and approaches alternative to detention of children in immigration detention centres. The MoU acknowledges that children should be detained only as a measure of last resort and that any detention period should be as brief as possible. It affirms the Government's responsibility to ensure that children remain under their family's care or other community-based care arrangements rather than being transferred to privately run shelters or government custody. The MoU includes several measures, such as screening, determination of appropriate care, prescribing an assistance plan on an individual basis, coordinating and referring children to appropriate services, determining standards of foster care and processing return to family and society.

The Immigration Commission comprises representatives from the Ministry of Interior, the Police Department, the Labour Department, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Security Council, the Tourism Authority of Thailand, the Public Prosecution Department, the Office of the Board of Investment and the Immigration Division

³⁰ Key ministries include the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Public Health.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website (available in Thai and English) and the e-Visa website (available in Thai, English and Chinese) clearly outline visa options, including information on types of visas, required documents, validity of visas, period of stay, extension of stay, benefits and conditions, and fees. ³¹ Additionally, rules and regulations pertaining to migration are available to the public on the websites of the Office of the Council of State, the Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labour.

The Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, established by the Anti-Human Trafficking Act (2008), is responsible for introducing measures for the prevention and suppression of human trafficking, supervising the observation of international obligations relating to trafficking, and making recommendations to the Council of Ministers concerning the policies on prevention and suppression of human trafficking, among other responsibilities.³² Additionally, the Anti-Human Trafficking Act prohibits the buying, selling, vending, bringing or sending, receiving, detaining or confining of any woman or child, or arranging for any woman or child to partake in any act for the sexual gratification of a third person.

Thailand publishes information about its counter-trafficking activities monthly and annually. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, through its Department of Anti-Trafficking in Persons, publishes the Royal Thai Government's country report on anti-human trafficking efforts quarterly and annually. The reports include data on the number of offences against the Anti-Human Trafficking Act, which have been adjudicated by courts in Thailand, and the number of defendants convicted. The annual reports also outline key achievements in terms of prosecution, victim protection and prevention of human trafficking, such as the prosecution rate of cases, financial assistance for victims, and budget allocation for the prevention and suppression of trafficking. The latest report was published for 2021.

Thailand has adopted measures aiming at the timely identification of migrants in vulnerable situations and the provision of adequate referral and protection services. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security's Department of Anti-Trafficking in Persons, in collaboration with IOM, developed in 2020 a strategic document providing guidance on the establishment of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for victims of trafficking in Thailand, as well as its structure and operationalization. The NRM seeks to identify presumed victims of trafficking, including both nationals and migrants who experienced trafficking, labour exploitation and forced labour regardless of their nationality or migratory status, and assistance is then provided through Welfare Protection Centres. In 2021, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security set up the Steering Committee of the NRM to lead the development of the mechanism and its operationalization.

There are measures in place to combat migrant worker exploitation. The Labour Protection Act (2019) generally provides for the equality of treatment for all workers, including migrants.³³ Under the Maritime Labour Act (2015), shipowners are obliged to "ensure that a seafarer is protected in respect of social security and compensation in accordance with rules, procedures and conditions as prescribed by the Minister of Labour" and to pay employees no less than the minimum wage. The Royal Ordinance Concerning the Management of Employment of Foreign Workers outlines migrant workers' labour rights and includes several provisions addressing the risks of exploitation, such as the need for migrant workers to always have access to their identity documents and possessions, as well as protection from abusive practices during recruitment and employment, namely through the reduction of recruitment fees and costs.

³¹ Visit the Thai e-Visa official website for more information.

³² Members of the Anti-Human Trafficking Committee are as follows: the Prime Minister as the Chairperson; the Deputy Prime Minister, who is the Chairperson of the Coordination and Supervision of Anti-Human Trafficking Operation Committee, as Vice Chairperson; the Minister of Defence; the Minister of Foreign Affairs; the Minister of Tourism and Sports; the Minister of Social Development and Human Security; the Minister of Interior; the Minister of Justice; the Minister of Labour; and four qualified persons appointed by the Prime Minister.

³³ The Act sets a legal minimum wage; maximum working hours and minimum rest periods; paid sick leave, annual leave and maternity leave; and prohibitions against discrimination and workplace harassment and child labour. Some sectors such as domestic work and seasonal and temporary employment have only limited coverage, according to the Act, and are governed by separate ministerial regulations.

The MoUs signed with different countries of origin and destination³⁴ also address the risks of migrant worker exploitation. Furthermore, the local offices of the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare operate State-based grievance mechanisms that are available to migrant workers. The Department also organizes a series of networking meetings with migrant workers across the country, with support from IOM. In addition, Migrant Workers Resource and Assistance Centres provide post-arrival orientations. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and the NRM also include measures to combat migrant worker exploitation as well as forced labour.

6.2. Areas with potential for further development

The operationalization of the NRM for the assistance and protection of victims of trafficking is still at the initial stage as of August 2023. Further support and guidance to the provincial governments to implement the NRM Operational Guidelines and adapt existing legislation is needed. This includes the provision of technical assistance, budget allocation, as well as resource mobilization and training for local authorities to enhance their knowledge and skills in victim identification processes.

There is no programme or policy in place focusing on attracting nationals who have migrated from Thailand or facilitating the reintegration of returning nationals.

Thailand does not have systems in place, including formal cooperation agreements or arrangements with other countries, to trace and identify missing migrants within the national territory.

The Immigration Act does not mention the use of detention only as a measure of last resort. It stipulates that any "alien" entering or staying in Thailand without permission, or with permission that is expired or revoked, may be repatriated from the Kingdom; and that upon the order to repatriate such alien, the competent official shall have the power to allow the alien to stay in the Kingdom on the condition that such alien shall report to the official on the date, time and place as prescribed, or detain such alien for a necessary period of time.

³⁴ See Section 3.1 of the report.

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS





PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

These pages summarize key national COVID-19 policy responses in Thailand from a migration governance perspective. It is based on 12 questions that were added to the standard Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment in the country in order to effectively assess national migration governance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Insured migrants had access to COVID-19-related health services. Those who had to pay to receive COVID-19-related treatments were able to appeal to the Government for financial aid in the form of reimbursement, and those who could not afford treatment received full financial aid.¹

The National Vaccination Programme was launched in February 2021 and officially targeted all persons on Thai soil. All migrants, including migrants with irregular status, had access to the free vaccination programme against COVID-19 on the same basis as nationals.²



In the context of COVID-19, Thailand provided some financial support and social security benefits to migrants, with some measures applicable only to citizens. For example, until May 2021, the Government offered financial support through We Win (*Rao Chana*) and Half/Half (*Khon La Kreung*) – projects accessed on mobile apps and website platforms where people could sign up to receive a certain amount of relief money from the Government.^{3,4,5} The Cabinet also approved a fiscal package amounting to THB 15 trillion (USD 450 billion).⁶ However, there was no evidence that these measures were extended to migrants.⁷ Nonetheless, migrant workers who are members of the Social Security Fund were entitled to benefits for loss of income due to job loss or job suspension because of the pandemic.⁸



The Thai Government did not specifically take into consideration the needs of migrants in key policy measures in response to COVID-19, although it implemented some measures without distinction, such as providing support through food and health care, in areas where the number of migrants is high, such as Samut Songkhram Province and Samut Sakhon Province.

¹ Government of Thailand, National Health Security Office, Government takes care of people: all COVID-19 treatment free, patients will not be charged. 29 April 2021.

 $^{^{2}\,\,}$ TAT News, New vaccine registration website opens for foreign residents. 1 August 2021.

³ Bangkok Biz News, We Win vs Half/Half: What's the difference? 29 January 2021.

⁴ Government of Thailand, Ministry of Finance, We Win (n.d.).

⁵ Government of Thailand, Ministry of Finance, Half/Half (n.d.).

⁶ This includes health-related spending; assistance for workers, farmers and entrepreneurs affected by COVID-19 (THB 5,000 (USD 156) per month per person); support for individuals and businesses through soft loans and tax relief; lower water and electricity bills; and social security contributions.

⁷ International Monetary Fund, Policy responses to COVID-19 (2021).

⁸ Migrant Working Group, Migrant situation report in Thailand on COVID-19 response (2020).



PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



There were measures in place in Thailand to ensure that migrant visas did not expire during the COVID-19 crisis. According to the Immigration Bureau, between September 2020 and March 2022, regularization windows allowed migrants to extend their existing visas. Additionally, certain types of migrants were permitted to remain in Thailand as special cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic and could apply for a COVID visa, which granted them an extension of up to 60 days.9 For example, migrant workers under memorandums of understanding, scheduled to return to their respective countries of origin upon expiration of their contracts, were allowed an extended legal stay in Thailand. These measures benefited over 1.5 million migrant workers as of August 2022.

In April 2020, the Thai Government allowed migrant workers from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam who have overstayed or unlawfully entered the country to continue residing and working in Thailand legally until November 2023.¹⁰



The Ministry of Public Health's Department of Disease Control provided COVID-19-related information in languages most migrants understand (English and Thai), including regular updates on confirmed cases and travellers' screening at ports of entry, updates on relevant laws and regulations, and press releases. All information was available in English and Thai, while recommendations and general information about COVID-19 were available in Chinese as well. Recommendations for migrant workers whose jobs were affected by COVID-19 were available in Burmese, Khmer and Laotian.¹¹



In response to COVID-19, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directed Thai embassies and consulates to oversee the safe return of nationals who were stranded abroad, but no measures were put in place to ensure their sustainable reintegration.

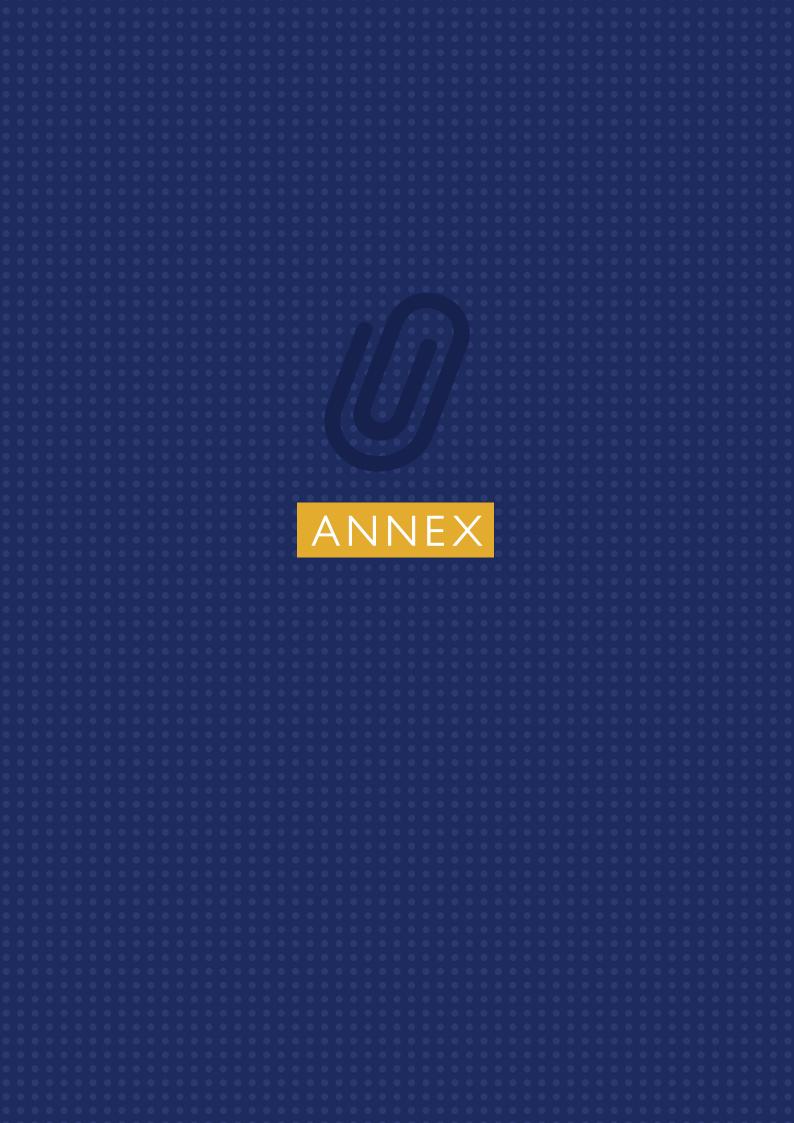




Government of Thailand, Royal Thai Police Immigration Bureau, Permission for aliens in Thailand to apply for extension until 31 October 2020 (2020).

¹⁰ Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, Cambodia: Thai govt. allows migrant workers from Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar to overstay and work till November due to COVID-19 pandemic. 17 April 2020.

¹¹ Ministry of Public Health, Department of Disease Control, Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (n.d.).



The MGI process



Launch of the MGI process

The first step of the process is to explain what the MGIs entail to key government officials, in order to ensure full understanding of the project and complete buy-in.



Data collection

The second step of the process is to start the collection and analysis of data, based on about 100 indicators grounded in the six dimensions of the MiGOF. A migration governance profile based on the analysis of the findings is then drafted and shared with the government counterparts.



3

Interministerial consultation

The third step of the process is to convene an interministerial consultation where all relevant ministries and other stakeholders discuss the good practices and main areas that could be developed further as identified in the draft migration governance profile, as well as priorities on the way forward. It is also an opportunity for them to comment and provide suggestions on the draft profile.



4

Publication of the report on the Global Migration Data Portal

After the migration governance profiles are finalized and vetted by government counterparts, they are published on the Migration Data Portal and the IOM Publications Platform.

After the MGI assessment

IOM would like to thank the Government of Thailand for its engagement in this process. IOM hopes that the results of this assessment can feed into the Government's strengthening of its migration governance. After an MGI assessment, the following are recommended:



The MGI report can be used to inform policy work with the support of IOM (if desired).



A follow-up assessment can be conducted after three years to verify progress.



The findings can feed into capacity-building activities, which may connect to other IOM initiatives.



Governments can exchange best practices and innovative solutions with other governments that have conducted the MGI process.



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