Enactment of the National ECD Act and ECD Operational Plan will benefit over 4 million children up to 6 years old in Thailand by providing improved access to quality ECD services and guidance for the development of ECD plans at provincial level.


Inter-ministerial MoU on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers was adopted in Jan 2019, establishing a practical link between Thai migration and child protection law.

Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Education for Out-of-School Children and Youth adopted in October, a step towards a flexible education approach.

UNICEF IN NUMBERS

- 10 million young people reached online through ‘Dare to Dream’ Campaign on skills and employability.
- 9 million people reached through the end violence against children (EVAC) campaign.
- Over 1 million children up to six years old receive the expanded Child Support Grant.
- Almost 1,000 youth out of school from disadvantaged groups accessed job readiness skills.
- 1.8 million young people accessed information, referral and counselling services on sexual, reproductive and mental health through Lovecarestation.com.
- 66,000 young children attending model ECD centers supported by UNICEF.
- Over 10,000 children engaged in UNICEF’s first literacy campaign “Every Child Can Read” in 14 schools nationwide.

NEW POLICY & LEGISLATION

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**UNICEF THAILAND 2019: YEAR IN REVIEW**

### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
- Enacted and implemented in 2019, the National ECD Act will strengthen delivery of quality ECD services to more than 4 million children aged 0-6, and up to 600,000 pregnant women.
- Capacity development and training for over 1,800 teachers and caretakers in model ECD centres, including on new Nutrition and Hygiene Guidelines, will mean improved quality care for up to 66,000 children.
- 18,000 parents of children aged 0-6 receive daily parenting tips and advice on the UNICEF-MoPH platform “Early Moments Matter on Mobile”

### DATA FOR CHILDREN
- The results of the Child Multidimensional Poverty Index (CMPI) showed that more than 1 in every 5 children (22 percent) is multidimensionally poor, highlighting the importance of continued investment in children to achieve Thailand’s 20-year National Strategic objectives.
- Data collection for the sixth round of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) completed thanks to a partnership between UNICEF and the National Statistical Office of Thailand.
- Results from the 4th National Disability survey highlighted disadvantages faced by children with disabilities, including the need for a review of the disability grant system which currently only services 52 per cent of the 139,000 children in Thailand living with a disability.

### SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AND THE SECOND DECADE OF LIFE
- UNICEF’s first ever literacy campaign “Every Child Can Read” reached over 10,000 children nationwide.
- Together with partners, UNICEF advocated for the introduction of a competency-based curriculum using feedback from children and young people.
- A scalable model for training young people in practical skills for job readiness and future employment was developed and promoted.
- The UNICEF-supported online health platform Lovecarestation.com offering information, referral and counselling services on sexual, reproductive and mental health increased its reach to over 1.8 million young people.

### CHILD PROTECTION
- Detection and reporting of abuse cases helped by an innovative public health surveillance and case management system known as “ChildShield”.
- A campaign for the use of the government’s 24-hour Helpline 1300 resulted in the number of calls increasing from 6,000 per month to over 14,000.
- Capacity development of public prosecutors and judges nationwide resulted in an increase of pre-trial alternatives to detention in qualified cases from 34% in 2018 to 47% in 2019.

### CHILD SUPPORT GRANT (CSG)
- Expanded Child Support Grant increased the age threshold from under 3 years to 6 years of age, and an increased annual income threshold rose from 36,000 THB to 100,000 THB (USD 3,000).
- Number of grant beneficiaries rose from 600,000 in 2018 to over 1 million in 2019. The scheme is projected to reach 1.8 million children by 2024.

### SUPPORT FOR MIGRANT CHILDREN
- More than 1,300 migrant children were enrolled in public schools in Chiang Mai and Ranong with direct UNICEF support to inform policy reform and implementation.
- Access to a low-cost community-based health insurance scheme in Tak was provided to more than 13,000 migrants including some 3,500 children.

### PUBLIC ADVOCACY AND SUPPORTER ENGAGEMENT
- UNICEF celebrated 30 years since the signing of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), a milestone marking the enormous progress made by Thailand in improving children’s lives over that time.
- UNICEF Thailand continued to reach and engage the public, with an estimated 70 million online reaches and 2,600 media mentions. A campaign to End Violence against Children recorded over 9 million reaches.
- The I Am UNICEF volunteer platform became the second largest in the country with approximately 13,000 people registered to volunteer in support of children.
- The second annual fundraising Blue Carpet Show for UNICEF reached 66.3 million people garnering public support for UNICEF’s efforts to improve the lives of children and raising awareness of issues facing children in Thailand and beyond.