



EDLC

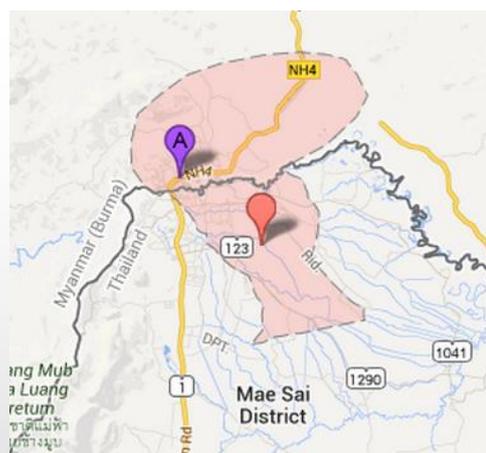
ETHNIC DEVELOPMENT LEARNING CENTRE

Thai-Myanmar border

Caught in one of the world's longest running civil wars, the people of Myanmar have yet to experience peace and stability since its independence from the British colonial rule in 1948. Since the democratically elected government was displaced in 1962, Myanmar was ruled by the iron fist of the military junta which has been considered by many to be one of the most oppressive and abusive regimes in the world. Due to heavy conflicts involving the country's myriad ethnic group, there has been a mass exodus of people from Myanmar to neighbouring Thailand. Today, more than 140,000 refugees are still living in temporary camps located along the Thai-Myanmar border, some for over 20 years already. In addition, approximately two million others have migrated to Thailand for work, many of whom are still unregistered and undocumented. Although the migrants can earn at least ten times more in Thailand than in Myanmar, the jobs available are mostly limited to low-paying, unskilled labour that are in the construction, agriculture and fishery sectors.

Challenges

Against this background of ongoing conflict and ethnic-based prosecution, many people in Myanmar are still struggling on a daily basis for their livelihood. Even though the Myanmar government does offer lower quality higher education, it is a luxury which most families cannot afford, especially those from ethnic minority groups. Hence, many have crossed into Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province of Thailand in the hope of finding better opportunities in life. Unfortunately, they are mostly involved in illegal activities, working as drug dealers or sex workers in this area. Lacking the opportunities to pursue higher education and develop their job skills, it is almost impossible for these young migrants to find better and safer employment or pursue higher education.



The two centres are located close to the Thai-Myanmar border in Mae Sai, Thailand (red marker) and Tachileik, Myanmar (purple marker)



EDLC - Training Centre in Mae Sai



Students in class

Contact us:

Child's Dream Foundation
238/3 Wualai Road, T. Haiya, A. Muang
Chiang Mai 50100, Thailand

www.childsdream.org
info@childsdream.org

Tel +66 (0)53 201 811
Fax +66 (0)53 201 812



EDLC –Ethnic Development Learning Centres

The objective of EDLC is to provide Myanmar youths along the Thai-Myanmar border with opportunities to access higher education, enhance their job skills and improve their employability. More educated and equipped with better and more relevant job skills, these Myanmar youths will be able to access more and better job options and may even be able to set up their own small businesses. EDLC runs two programmes, which are tailored based on the different learning needs of the Myanmar youths.

Post-ten Programme in Mae Sai, Thailand – Located in Mae Sai district of Chiang Rai province of Thailand, this programme is designed for Myanmar youths, (i) who have either completed their middle school education (grade 10) in Myanmar or in one of the refugee camps along the Thai-Myanmar border or (ii) who have migrated to this part of Thailand for work. The curriculum of this two-year programme includes classes in Thai, English and Chinese languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Computing, Gender Issue and Community Development and Management as well as two-month apprenticeship with a business preselected by EDLC.

Vocational Training Programme in Tachileik, Myanmar – For Myanmar youth who still live in Tachileik district of Shan State in Myanmar, EDLC provides non-formal education workshops on specific vocational job skills, each for a period of three months. The courses are tailored for young adults who have received limited to no education. A total of three courses are offered each year in specific skills such as Cooking & Bakeries, Computing, Accounting or Teaching. Each course will also cover general language skills such as English, Thai and Chinese.



Language classes in Thai, English and Chinese are essential, not only to improve trainees' communication skills but also to enhance their employability and integration into the Thai society

Budget & Reporting

The annual running cost of both EDLC's centres is approx. USD 20,000, which will cover the salaries, school equipment, stationery and other office costs and costs for monitoring and administrative overhead. To improve its sustainability, EDLC will supplement the funding from Child's Dream by collecting a small amount of tuition fee from its trainees.

As with all our projects, reports to donors will be provided on a semester basis, including the programme's activities for the year and a detailed financial reconciliation.

Contact us:

Child's Dream Foundation
238/3 Wualai Road, T. Haiya, A. Muang
Chiang Mai 50100, Thailand

www.childsdream.org
info@childsdream.org

Tel +66 (0)53 201 811
Fax +66 (0)53 201 812