

## Youth Connect Mae Sot, Thailand



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Vocational Skills Training
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Mar 2017

Achievements	2014 (Mid-Year)		2015 (Mid-Year)		2016 (Mid-Year)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
In-School Training	58	24	52	30	39	43
Intensive Training	6	8	16	8	8	7
Apprenticeships Completed	17	8	19	6	15	12
Graduates Employed/Studying	8	4	15	5	13	11

### Project Description

Youth Connect provides both school classes and youth courses for migrants. The classes are required for all final year students and are integrated into the school schedule. Students who complete the In-School Training are eligible to apply for the Intensive Course that provides training and a paid apprenticeship. The YC Career Centre provides services to assist graduates to find suitable full-time work.

### Objective

YC provides much needed training courses for migrants to better prepare them for work. The courses overcome the barriers to entry into the Thai workforce due to lack of work skills, documentation and unfamiliarity with Thai language and culture. The courses equip students with life skills and critical thinking for better decision-making and communication.

### Impact

Every year, YC works with 200-300 students, through the in-school training. Up to 40 students are selected for intensive training & apprenticeships, and helped to secure permanent work.

YC's impact is demonstrated by the graduates' success in gaining genuine employment. 35 of the 45 students who completed in the 2010-11 intensive programs are now employed, with 18 hired by their apprenticeship organisation. 6 have continued studying to improve their employment options.

### Background

Mae Sot is one of only two border crossings into Myanmar. Up to half of the city's population are Burmese migrants, both legal and illegal. Conditions are difficult for many who end up working in poor conditions for little pay with limited or no access to government education or health care.