

History

Peace Corps has been collaborating with the Royal Thai Government (RTG) and Thai communities since 1962. For nearly 50 years, Peace Corps has been providing Volunteers with the opportunity to cooperate with Thai counterparts in various sectors on a diverse range of programming activities. These have included education, health, water/sanitation, agriculture, environment, and rural community outreach and development. Throughout Peace Corps' relationship with the RTG, some of the most successful and compelling projects have been in the areas of English education and community development.

Peace Corps reduced the number of Volunteers serving in Thailand from over 150 in 1995 to about 50 volunteers in 2002. That number has increased slowly in recent years to approximately 100 as one group of about 50 TCCO (Teacher Collaboration and Community Outreach) and CBOD (Community-Based Organizational Development) PCVs enters service each year.

Thai Partners

Our RTG collaborating agency is the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation (DTEC) and our implementing partners include the Office of the National Primary Education Commission (ONPEC) under the Ministry of Education (MOE), and the Department of Local Administration (DLA) under the Ministry of the Interior (MOI).

Cultural Exchange

Peace Corps was established to promote world peace and friendship, and never were such values more important than in today's world. Volunteers provide requested technical assistance to Thai partners in the above projects, but they also focus on Peace Corps goals two and three! Better understanding between Thai and American people is a major focus of all PC/Thailand projects and is accomplished through the establishment of important relationships. During the two-year term of service, Volunteers and Thai Counterparts learn and share different information and viewpoints and impact each other's lives in the most beautiful, and often profound, ways. Peace Corps partnerships in the kingdom allow both parties to share cross-cultural understanding and form enriching and long-lasting relationships.