

Raising Awareness on Sexual and Gender Based Violence among Underprivileged Youth in Mae Hong Son, Thailand

PROJECT VENUE

Ban Nai Soi, Mae Hong Son, Thailand

GROUP MEMBERS

Akira Hokamura, Aya Kanai, Chathuri Jayawardena Kankanamge, Mika Inomata, Wisitthapong Yangyuentawee

ABSTRACT

The project conducted a peer-to-peer workshop to raise awareness on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) among refugee, migrant and stateless youth (hereafter, "underprivileged youth") in Ban Nai Soi Community Learning Center (BNSCLC) in Mae Hong Son province, Thailand. Through a community/participatory approach, this project aimed to reduce potential gendered threats and risks and empower the youth by promoting gender equality as its objective.

The project carried out sessions with peer-to-peer activities with participants at BNSCLC on gender-related issues, outlining the principles of human rights and concepts of SGBV and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). The project developed a facilitator's guide on raising awareness on SGBV which the organization intends to incorporate into their curriculum in the future. In addition, by promoting the understanding of SGBV, the project aimed to build a better support network for the youth in their community with SGBV service providers as its purpose.

The success of project implementation are many: increased average score from pre-test (67%) to post-test (90%); qualitative feedback received from participants during sessions and reflections of their desire to share the knowledge gained with the community; increased participation and engagement as the sessions progressed; trust building with community and participants; commitment of students, teachers and BNSCLC to the workshop; excellent team work of project group; and better management of resources.

