

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON
ALTERNATIVE CARE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR CHILDREN IN THE CONTEXT OF
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN THE
ASIA PACIFIC

PARTICIPANT PACK

*Bangkok, Thailand
21-22 November 2019*



Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Department of Children and Youth

ASIA DIALOGUE

ON
**FORCED
MIGRATION**

**International
Detention Coalition**
Human rights for detained refugees,
asylum seekers and migrants

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Regional roundtable on alternative care arrangements for children in the context of international migration in the Asia Pacific

Bangkok, Thailand | 21-22 November 2019

Centra by Centara Government Complex Hotel and Convention Centre

Date: Thursday 21 November – Friday 22 November 2019

Venue: Centra by Centara Government Complex
Hotel and Conference Centre
Chaeng Watthana
120 Mu 3 Convention Centre Building
Bangkok 10210, Thailand
+66 2 143 1234

Should you have any questions please contact:

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As a part of the Royal Thai Government's commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Department of Children and Youth under the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the International Detention Coalition (IDC) and the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM) are co-hosting a closed-door Roundtable on Alternative Care Arrangements for Children in the Context of International Migration in the Asia Pacific.

The Roundtable brings together around 30-35 representatives from implementing and policy agencies within government from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as well as non-governmental agencies and international organisations in the region for constructive discussion on developing alternative care mechanisms for children and their families in the context of migration.

Participants will exchange positive practices and recent developments in alternative care arrangements for children in their countries, while identifying common challenges and opportunities to support the development of an ongoing regional program of engagement, learning and action towards ending child immigration detention in the region.

The last time governments in the Asia Pacific were brought together to discuss this issue in person was at a roundtable convened by IDC and partners in Bangkok in 2015. Building on the progress made since then, including discussions at the seventh and eighth ADFM meetings, now is the time to come back together to share positive experiences and challenges and build a regional platform for ongoing engagement and peer learning.

Objectives of the Roundtable

Objective 1: Exchange regional positive practice and latest developments in alternative care arrangements for children in the context of international migration, and respond to challenges states are facing.

Objective 2: Build a regional platform and ongoing program of engagement, peer-learning and practical action on working towards ending child immigration detention, and implementing effective alternative care arrangements, involving government, inter-governmental, civil society and faith-based organisations.

Provisional Site Visit Agenda

Thursday 21 November

Time	Topic
8:00-8:30am	Welcome and introduction (<i>Room BB 203, Floor 2</i>)
8:30-9:45am	Travel to Phayathai Home for Babies, Nonthaburi
9:45-10:00am	Welcoming remarks by Nonthaburi Province Social Development and Human Security
10:00-10:30am	Overview of 'Law Policy Mechanism and Alternative Care for Refugee Children and Families' (DCY)
10:30-11:00am	Discuss challenges in providing support for refugee children by Bangkok Shelter for Children and Families and Songkla Shelter for Children and Families
11:00-12:00pm	Case Management for refugee children in shelters by Phayathai Home for Babies
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch (provided)
2:00-3:30pm	Visit Wat SaoThong Hin School to discuss 'services for refugee children' with school headmaster, religious leader and Host International
3:30-4:30pm	Travel back to hotel
4:30-5:00pm	Break
5:00-6:30pm	Group reflection and brainstorm on main findings of the site visit and make any final preparations for roundtable country presentations
6:30-8:30pm	Welcome dinner (<i>Friendly Piano Bar, on Floor 1</i>)

Provisional Roundtable Agenda

Friday 22 November | Room BB 406, Floor 4

Time	Topic
8:30am	Arrival and registration
9:00-9:30am	Welcoming remarks from the Royal Thai Government and Ambassador Allan McKinnon PSM, Australian Ambassador to Thailand
9:30-9:50am	<u>Session 1:</u> International and regional context, and reflections from the site visit <i>Plenary</i> • International Detention Coalition • Asia Dialogue for Forced Migration
9:50-11:00am	<u>Session 2:</u> Taking stock of where we are now: national context <i>Sit in country groups</i> • Country group presentations (Thailand and Indonesia) – small groups • Country group discussions – small groups • Plenary reflections
11:00-11:30am	Morning tea (provided)
11:30-1:00pm	<u>Session 2:</u> Continued. <i>Sit in country groups</i> • Country group presentations (Malaysia and Australia) – small groups • Country group discussions – small groups • Plenary reflections
1:00-2:30pm	Lunch (provided) and Friday prayers
2:30-4:00pm	<u>Session 3:</u> Identifying common challenges as a basis for future proposals for program of learning and action <i>Small group discussion (mixed country groups)</i> • Breakout groups to discuss challenges • Plenary reflections
4:00-4:15pm	Afternoon tea (provided)
4:15-5:00pm	<u>Session 4:</u> Next steps: proposals for program of learning and action <i>Plenary</i>
5:00-5:15pm	Closing remarks and next steps

Session 2: National Context Presentations

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Instructions:

Please nominate one (1) representative from your country to spend a maximum of 10-15 minutes presenting an overview of national laws, policies and practices in relation to non-citizen children and families.

The questions below are intended as guidance on areas to cover during the presentation.

PowerPoint slides are not required, however if you choose to use these, kindly share your slides with adfm@cpd.org.au no later than 20 November 2019.

1. Are children in your country detained or their freedom of movement restricted because of their immigration status? Are there any groups of non-citizen children that are not detained? (e.g. children who are trafficked)
2. If yes, where are they detained? (e.g. immigration detention centers, lock-down/closed shelters, reception centers, hotels)
3. Are children detained together or separated from their families?
4. Are there procedures to screen and assess non-citizen children and their families for vulnerabilities and risks, and to refer them to services (legal advice, health, education, etc) as needed? If there are, who conducts this screening and assessment?
5. Are there any action plans/policies/laws to prevent or phase out the use of immigration detention for children?
6. What are the alternative care programs and supports for non-citizen children and their families? Do these allow children to access education, health care, housing, and other basic rights? Who runs these programs?
7. Are legal guardians appointed for unaccompanied and separated children?
8. Are unaccompanied and separated children integrated within the national child protection system? Or are there separate care systems e.g. run by NGOs?
9. If children are detained for immigration reasons, what are the biggest challenges in ending child immigration detention?
10. What are the biggest challenges when strengthening, developing and implementing alternative care arrangements for non-citizen children (whether accompanied or unaccompanied) and their families?
11. If all, or some groups of children are no longer detained for immigration reasons, what were the biggest challenges in phasing out child immigration detention and how were they overcome?

Provisional Participant List

Name	Organisation	Country
Anderson Selvasagaram	Executive Director, SUKA Society	Malaysia
Annabel Brown	Program Director, Centre for Policy Development	Australia
Aonpay Ploytubtim	Chief of Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Atsuko Furukawa	Senior Community-Based Protection Officer, UNHCR Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific	International
Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia	Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Indonesia
Caitlin McCaffrie	Policy Adviser, Centre for Policy Development	Australia
Chomboon Phansrisak	Plan and Policy Analyst, National Security Council	Thailand
Chomrudee Nathasiri	Chief of Songkhla Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
David Keegan	CEO, Host International	Australia
Deepa Nambiar	Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator, International Detention Coalition	International
Farida Wahid Muchtar	Head, Sub-Directorate Instrument Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Directorate General of Human Rights, Ministry of Law and Human Rights	Indonesia
Gading Gumilang Putra	National Legal Service Officer, Jesuit Refugee Service	Indonesia
Gatot Subroto	National Immigration Task Force, Coordinating Ministry for Political and Security Affairs	Indonesia
Jason Spierings	Thailand Country Manager, Host International	International
Josef Szwarc	General Manager, Community and Sector Development, Foundation House	Australia
Kantasorn Methasakunwong	Social Development Officer, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Komson Tupsean	Deputy Superintendent Sub-Division 4, Immigration Bureau	Thailand
Kulchira Chomsawai	Chief of the Samut Songkhram Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Lauren Richardson	Director, Status Resolution Support Services Program Management, Department of Home Affairs	Australia
Lyn-Ni Lee	Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF Malaysia	International
Min Yamada Park	Asia Pacific Programme Officer, International Detention Coalition	International
Naiyana Thanawattho	Executive Director, Asylum Access Thailand	International
Nathalie Hanley	Program Coordinator, Migrant Assistance and Counter-Trafficking Unit, IOM Thailand	International
Nazuha Binti Yusof	Assistant Secretary, National Strategic Office, Council for Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants, Ministry of Home Affairs	Malaysia
Nicola Brandt	Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office	International
Noor Aziah Hj. Mohd. Awal	Children's Commissioner, Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)	Malaysia
Nor Hanisah Binti Ishak	Senior Deputy Director of Immigration, Depot and Detention Management Division, Department of Immigration	Malaysia
Onnucha Mongkonrattanachai	Head of Phayathai Home for Babies, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Ourina Ritonga	Deputy Director of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Indonesia
Parinya Boonridrerthaikul	Child Protection Officer (Children Affected by Migration) UNICEF Thailand	International
Patsiri Sriprapa	Foreign Relations Officer, Bureau of International Cooperation, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education	Thailand
Piyanart La-Ongthong	Social Worker, Protection System Development Sub-Division, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Rafidah Binti Abdul Aziz	Principal Assistant Director, Children's Division, Department of Social Welfare	Malaysia
Rassamee Buaban	Superintendent, Pakkret Reception Home for Boys, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Serge Berthomieu	Field Officer (Protection), UNHCR Thailand	International
Shellie Carr	Director, Child Wellbeing Operations, Immigration Detention Group, Department of Home Affairs	Australia

Somluck Subinnaparat	Superintendent, Pakkret Babies Home, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Soramongkhon Mangalasiri	Director for Displaced Persons Policy Coordinating and Illegal Migration Unit, Ministry of Interior	Thailand
Sriprapha Petcharamesree	Lecturer, Mahidol University , former Thai Representative, AICHR and Co-Chair Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism	Thailand
Tanyakan Daengsubha	Justice Officer, Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice	Thailand
Thanawat Pornnithidolwat	Chief of Bangkok Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth Ministry of Social Development and Human Security ,	Thailand
Thienthong Prasanpanich	Director of Protection System Development Sub-Division, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan	Assistant Secretary, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Children's Policy Unit, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development	Malaysia
Vivienne Chew	Asia Pacific Coordinator, International Detention Coalition	International
Wassana Thongsom	Chief of the Nonthaburi Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Thailand
Yuyum Fhahni Paryani	Indonesian Representative on Children's Rights to ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)	International
Zconglod Khawjang	Foreign Relations Officer, Professional Level Ministry of Interior	Thailand

Roundtable on Alternative Care Arrangements for Children in the Context of International Migration in the Asia Pacific

Bangkok | 21-22 November 2019

Background Paper

As a part of the Royal Thai Government's commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Department of Children and Youth under the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the International Detention Coalition (IDC) and the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM) are co-hosting a closed-door Roundtable on Alternative Care Arrangements for Children in the Context of International Migration in the Asia Pacific. The Roundtable will take place on 22 November 2019 in Centra by Centara Government Complex Hotel and Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand.

The Roundtable brings together around 30-35 representatives from implementing and policy agencies within government from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as well as non-governmental agencies and international organisations in the region for constructive discussion on developing alternative care mechanisms for children and their families in the context of migration. Participants will exchange positive practices and latest developments in alternative care arrangements for children in their national contexts, while identifying common challenges and opportunities that can support the development of an ongoing regional program of engagement, learning and action towards ending child immigration detention in the region.

Detention is Always Harmful to Children

Around the world, millions of children are affected by immigration detention each year. Whether detained alone, or alongside a parent, carer or family member, and regardless of the conditions and duration of their detention, detention causes profound and long-term harm to a child's well-being.

Studies show that children are particularly vulnerable to abuse and neglect in immigration detention facilities. Unaccompanied or separated children are particularly at risk without the protection of a parent or other adult.

Immigration detention has "undeniable immediate and long-term mental health impacts on asylum-seeking children and families"¹. Heightened rates of suicide, suicide attempts and self-harm, mental disorder, and developmental problems, including severe attachment disorder are observed among children locked in immigration detention. Symptoms they experience can include insomnia, nightmares, mutism and bed-wetting. Child detention has a significant impact on the independence and health of parents as well, limiting their ability to fulfil their parental duties.

¹ Dudley, M., et al. (2012) "Children and young people in immigration detention". *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, 25(4): 285-292; von Werthern, M., K. Robjant, Z. Chui, R. Schon, L. Ottisova, C. Mason, and C. Katona. 2018. "The impact of immigration detention on mental health: a systematic review." *BMC Psychiatry* 18 (1):382

Global Developments on Ending Child Detention

There is a growing international consensus that detention of children in the context of migration, even for a short period of time, is a harmful practice, is not an appropriate protection mechanism, and is a violation of their rights:

1. In November 2017, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child issued a Joint General Comment with the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families affirming that the detention of children because of their or their parents' migration status **constitutes a child rights violation** and **always contravenes the principle of the best interests of the child**. It called for States to cease the practice and allow children *"to remain with family and/or guardians in non-custodial, community-based contexts while their immigration status is being resolved"*.²
2. In the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) adopted in December 2018, States have recognised the need to fully protect and respect the rights of migrant children by giving primary consideration at all times to their best interest. They have agreed under Objective 13 h) to directly address child detention *"by ensuring availability and accessibility of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts"* and *"by working to end"* this practice. The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) reiterates the importance of developing *"non-custodial and community-based alternatives to detention, particularly for children"*.
3. UNHCR makes a clear position in the note issued by Division of International Protection in 2017³ stating that *"children should not be detained for immigration-related purposes, irrespective of their legal/migratory status or that of their parents, and detention is never in their best interests. Appropriate care arrangements and community-based programs need to be in place to ensure adequate reception of children and their families"*.
4. The United Nations Network on Migration recently highlighted in their press release that the States that are already implementing alternatives to detention for children found it not only more cost-effective but also resulted in higher compliance with status determination processes: *"Detention is expensive and burdensome to administer, and there is no evidence that it deters individuals from migrating or claiming asylum"*.⁴

Recent Positive Developments in the Asia Pacific

Government commitment and the political will to end child immigration detention has grown in the region in recent years.

- In 2017, **the Royal Thai Government** pledged to move towards ending the immigration detention of children. In January 2019, the government signed the "Memorandum of

² Joint general comment No. 4 (2017) of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and No. 23 (2017) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on State obligations regarding the human rights of children in the context of international migration in countries of origin, transit, destination and return, 16 November 2017, CMW, accessed on 21 October 2019

³ UNHCR (Jan 2017) *UNHCR's position regarding the detention of refugee and migrant children in the migration context*. Accessed at: <https://www.unhcr.org/protection/detention/58a458eb4/unhcrs-position-regarding-detention-refugee-migrant-children-migration.html>

⁴ IOM Press Release (Sept 2019) *Child Immigration Detention is Not Only Wrong, It Is Ineffective*. Accessed at: https://www.iom.int/news/child-immigration-detention-not-only-wrong-it-ineffective?utm_source=IOM+External+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=c6daf1a9eb-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_09_16_04_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9968056566-c6daf1a9eb-43611353

Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centres".

- In July 2018, the Directorate General of Immigration of **Indonesia** issued a circular emphasizing that the function of immigration detention centres is only to temporarily host undocumented migrants subjected to administrative measures, and not to hold refugees and asylum-seekers. Since then, there have been coordinated efforts with IOM to release all the remaining refugees and asylum-seekers from detention to community accommodation – resulting in the numbers in detention reducing dramatically. As of August 2019, there were no children in immigration detention in Indonesia.
- In June 2019, the Deputy Prime Minister of **Malaysia** and the Minister of Home Affairs publicly affirmed the government's commitment to release unaccompanied and separated children from immigration detention into a pilot alternative to detention.
- The **Australian Government** has made significant inroads in reducing the number of children held in immigration detention. Since February 2019, there has consistently been less than ten children in held immigration detention in Australia. For most of this time, that number has been less than five. If immigration detention is required, minors are generally managed in an alternative place of detention (e.g. a hotel) or through a residence determination placement in the community, supported by contracted service providers.

Alternatives to Child Immigration Detention

Evidence shows that migration governance without resorting to child detention, and instead utilising child-centered, community-based alternatives is achievable, effective and more humane. A number of States are taking positive practical steps, often with the support of international and civil society organisations, to end the practice of detention and to progressively develop alternatives to child immigration detention. Some of the good practices of the different states are set out below.

NON-DETENTION OF CHILDREN IN LAW

A number of countries have introduced the prohibition of the immigration detention of children into their domestic legislation.

Ecuador

In January 2017, the Ecuadorian government approved a new *Human Mobility Law* that directly prohibits immigration detention of children.⁵ The law also mandates that the right to personal liberty be protected for parents or caregivers, implementing alternatives for the family, if it is in the best interests of the child to maintain family unity.

Turkey

In 2014, Turkey adopted legislation prohibiting the detention of unaccompanied minors seeking international protection. Article 66 specifies that the unaccompanied children shall be placed in suitable accommodation facilities, in the care of their adult relatives or, a foster family, taking the opinion of the unaccompanied child into account.

⁵ Ley Orgánica de Movilidad Humana Ecuador, Suplemento – Registro Oficial N° 938. Accessed at: <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/58a41f864.pdf>

RECEPTION / PLACEMENT

It is of vital importance that unaccompanied children are protected through appropriate housing and care arrangements. Accommodation options include family-like foster care, kinship care, child-headed households, and reception/institutional care. For children travelling with families, a range of options can be explored including supported community placement, guarantors and sponsors and placement with host families.⁶

Emergency reception in Germany

For the most part, unaccompanied children in Germany are integrated into mainstream youth care systems. In the first instance, children are placed in an emergency reception centre, where they are visited by a social worker. After this first assessment is complete, they are transferred to a 'Clearingstelle', or initial reception centre, and assigned a guardian and a case manager.

The case manager (from the youth office) and the guardian, with input from the child, then work to find suitable long-term accommodation within two to four months. This can include supervised accommodation centres with other children, independent accommodation with other children or foster care with relatives or unrelated families.

CASE MANAGEMENT

The majority of successful alternatives globally rely on case management to support children and their families to meet their complex needs and work towards case resolution, while maintaining high levels of compliance. Case managers are generally social workers or psychologists and are responsible for assessing the child's situation, identifying solutions to problems, and providing advice and support.

Community Placement and Case Management (CPCM) program in Malaysia

The Community Placement and Case Management (CPCM) Program run by SUKA Society uses a holistic case management approach centered around the well-being and rights of unaccompanied and separated children at risk of arrest and detention in Malaysia. They provide comprehensive case management and community placement in the form of informal foster care, kinship care and independent living arrangements. An independent evaluation conducted in 2018 found that SUKA's CPCM program significantly improved the overall well-being of the children in the program and resulted in no child absconding from community placements - while costing 90% less than immigration detention.

⁶ UNICEF (Feb 2019) *Working paper: Alternative to immigration detention of children*. Accessed at: [https://www.unicef.org/media/58351/file/Alternatives%20to%20Immigration%20Detention%20of%20Children%20\(ENG\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/media/58351/file/Alternatives%20to%20Immigration%20Detention%20of%20Children%20(ENG).pdf)

Collaborative Case Management Program in Thailand

The Department of Children and Youth (part of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security) collaborates with an NGO, Host International Thailand, to provide a child-focused, community-based, case management program. This program is for refugee children and their families before, during, and after their transition from immigration detention to the community in Bangkok. Children and their families benefit from a comprehensive case management plan and are able to access legal, medical and material supports.

ACCESS TO SERVICES / BASIC NEEDS

It is important for States to ensure that all children and families in their territory have access to their fundamental rights and basic needs, as it supports migrants stay engaged with the authorities while improving the safety and security of both migrant and local populations. Basic needs include adequate accommodation, healthcare, education, legal advice, legal status and documentation, access to employment (depending on age), and an allowance or access to food, clothing, hygiene and other basic needs.

Access to public school for asylum-seeking and refugee children

Turkey

International protection applicants⁷ and their family members have access to elementary and secondary education (8 years in total from age 6-14) services in Turkey. The Ministry of National Education instructs public schools to facilitate the asylum-seeking child's access to school even where the family has not yet completed their international protection registration process. Unaccompanied children who are accommodated in state shelters are offered Turkish language classes provided in the shelters before they are enrolled in schools. In mid-2018, the Ministry of National Education launched an Accelerated Learning Program (Hızlandırılmış Eğitim Programı, HEP) to reach children aged 10-18 who have missed three or more years of schooling.

Thailand

The 2005 Cabinet Resolution on Education for Unregistered Persons provides access to 15 years of basic public education for all children, regardless of their legal status. In 2018, a Ministerial Proclamation was enacted to eliminate the obstacles that prevented children without documentation from being enrolled. Public schools in Thailand now have the responsibility of admitting children and creating a 13-digit identification number for them if they do not already have one. They are thus able to obtain an accredited certificate of education, with learning opportunities provided until tertiary level.

Possible Responses

Below are some possible avenues to achieve effective implementation of alternatives to detention at the national level. These can be discussed at the Roundtable. It is the aim of the Roundtable to share positive practice from across the region, and to begin an ongoing process of sharing and learning.

⁷ This category includes those seeking asylum for not only refugee status but also 'conditional refugee status' and 'subsidiary protection status' as defined in Turkey Law No 6458 on Foreigners and International Protection 2013.

1. Legal

- a. States to review their laws to ensure compliance with international obligations.
- b. Prohibit child immigration detention in law.

2. Policy and Practice

- a. Develop and implement child-sensitive alternatives to immigration detention.
- b. Conducting pilot projects is one avenue for governments to test possible alternatives and to ensure that children are being adequately protected before upscaling to national systems.
- c. Incorporating a strong monitoring and evaluation process will ensure that the pilots are as effective and useful as possible.
- d. National Action Plans for ending child immigration detention can also be developed to outline how to implement changes in policy and practice, including designation of the roles different stakeholders can play to achieve change.
- e. Publicly report on the number of children held in immigration detention. Reporting could include a range of demographic information to assist with the development of appropriate alternatives
- f. Regional peer-to-peer learning and sharing could amplify and support efforts towards ending child immigration detention

Administrative Note and Logistics Information

Date & Venue

21 November

Before **the site visit** on 21 November, please meet **at Room BB 203, Floor 2**. We will depart by bus for the site visit from there. *Participants are advised to dress comfortably (smart casual) with walking shoes.*

The **welcome dinner** will take place after we return from the site visit, from 6:30pm-8:30pm on 21 November, at Friendly Piano Bar, on Floor 1 of the hotel.

22 November

The **roundtable** on 22 November will be held at **Room BB 406, Floor 4**. Dress code for the roundtable is business/traditional attire.

Transportation from Airports

The hotel is close to Don Mueang International Airport, only 10 minutes by car, and a 45-minute drive from Suvarnabhumi Airport via the expressway. Please note that participants are asked to organise their own transport to and from their respective airports and the hotel. It is recommended that you take a taxi. Taxi transport expenses within a reasonable margin of the indicated estimates below will be reimbursed by the organisers.

- From Suvarnabhumi Airport to the venue:
 - **Taxi** is the fastest and the most convenient way to get to the venue from Suvarnabhumi Airport. The public taxi stand is located on Level 1 (Ground Level). The taxi fare will be metered plus a 50 Baht airport surcharge, and expressway fees. The total should be about 350-400 THB.
- From Don Mueang Airport to the venue:
 - **Taxi** is the fastest and the most convenient way to get to the venue from Don Mueang Airport. The public taxi stand is located next to the arrival hall. The taxi fare will be metered plus a 50 Baht airport surcharge. The total should be about 150-200 THB.

Accommodation

Accommodation for most participants has been arranged at the roundtable venue: **Centra by Centara Government Complex Hotel** during the event.

Hotel Contact Information

Chaeng Watthana, 120 Mu 3 Convention Centre Building,
Bangkok 10210, Thailand
Phone: +66 (0) 2143 1234
Fax: +66 (0) 2143 1235
Email: cgc@chr.co.th



Check-in time is 3pm, however you are welcome to drop your baggage off at any time. As part of your accommodation you have access to complimentary Wi-Fi and daily breakfast. The organisers will not be able to cover any incidental costs such as the bar, room service and phone use.

Facilities at / around the Venue

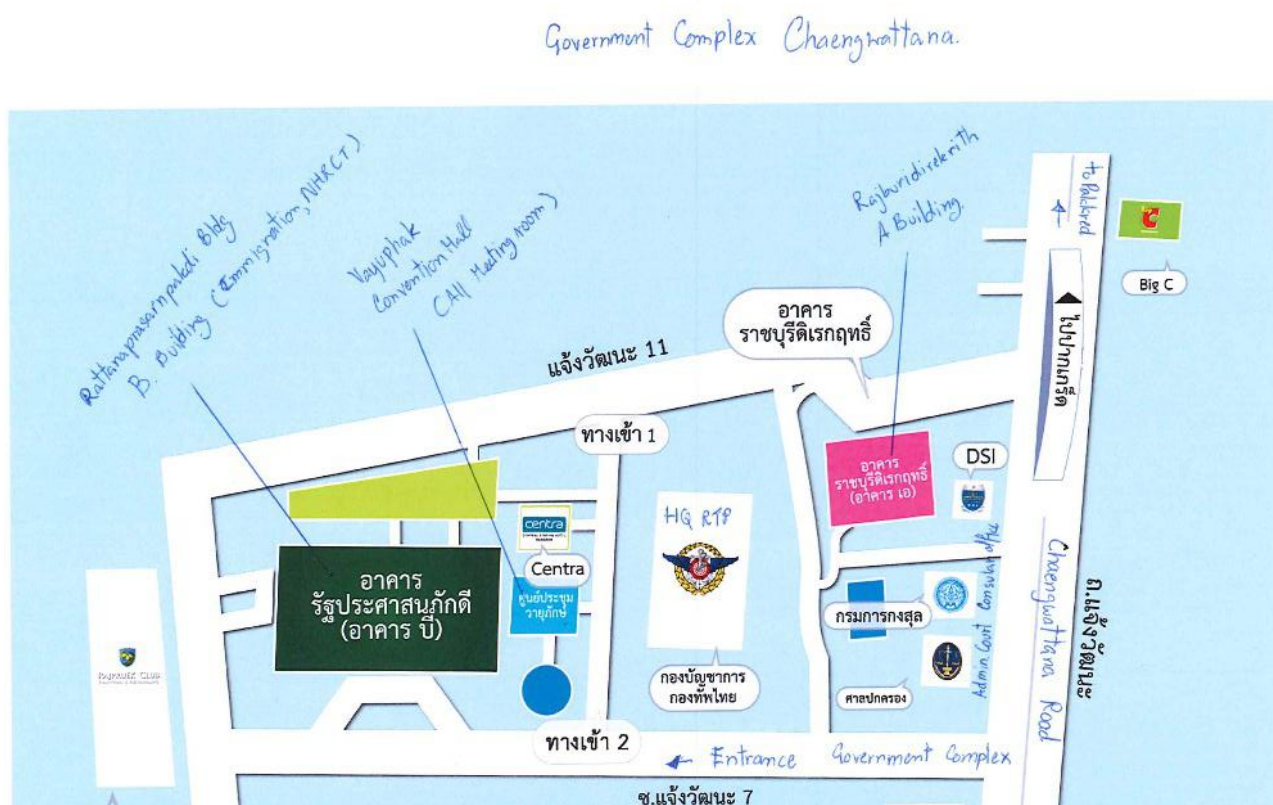


At the Venue

Breakfast, lunch, and coffee break/refreshments will be provided between the 21 and 22 November, as well as the welcome dinner on 21 November. For those participants arriving before 21 or leaving later than 22 November, there are a few restaurants within the hotel. **Bistro 4** on the fourth floor provides an international buffet option as well as Thai, Japanese and Hong Kong cuisines. **Friendly Piano Bar** on the first floor also

provides international and Thai cuisine. For a light snack and coffee, there are **Mix Coffee Corner & Bar** on ground floor and **Mezz** on third floor.

The hotel also provides a free shuttle service connecting the hotel with Chaeng Watthana road.



Around the Venue

The Government Complex Chaeng Watthana is five-minute drive from the hotel and is a home to more than 50 official departments and agencies, thus functions as a small town. It has a large number of amenities such as banks, retail shops, restaurants and clinics.

The closest BTS train station is Mo Chit station and 18km away from the Hotel. Next to the station, the famous Chatuchak Weekend Market is located. From Mo Chit Station, you can easily catch trains to go to downtown Bangkok.

General Information

- **Weather forecast during the event period**

At the end of the year, Bangkok is at its driest. In November, temperatures generally settle between 24°C and 31°C.

- **Currency**

National Currency in Thailand is called “Baht,” coded as “THB.”

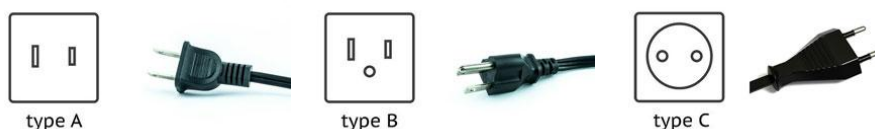
1 US Dollar is approximately 30.8 Thai Baht (as of 15 August 2019 by Bank of Thailand)

- **Time zone**

Thailand local time is GMT+7.

- **Electricity supply**

The power supply in Thailand is 220V. Participants are advised to bring their own electrical adaptors if required. Thailand power plug (socket) types are illustrated as follows;



Useful Telephone Numbers

Please note that all numbers are local.

Topic	Number	Topic	Number
Ambulance and Rescue	1554	Medical Emergency Call	1669
Bangkok Metropolitan Administration	1555	Thai Association of Emergency Medicine	0 2354 8224
Crime	1195	Time Service	181
Highway Police	1193	Travel Agency	0 2674 5555
Immigration Department	0 2287 3101	Tourist Police	1155
National Disaster Warning Centre	1860	Tourist Assistance	1337 ext 9
Police (General Emergency Call)	191	Telephone Directory Service	1133
SOS - Police and Fire Department	199	Weather & Climate	02 399 4566

Secretariat Contact

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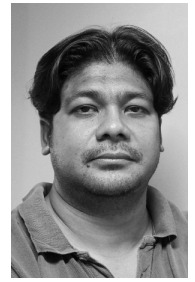
PARTICIPANT PROFILES



Mr Anderson Selvasagaram

Malaysia

Mr Anderson Selvasagaram is the Executive Director of SUKA Society. He founded the organisation in 2010 as a solution focused organisation in the area of protecting and preserving the best interest of children. The organisation works on the following key areas – creating access to education for Indigenous children, protecting victims of human trafficking and advocating for alternatives to detention for children affected by immigration arrest and detention. In 2015, SUKA Society won the UN Malaysia Award in conjunction with United Nations' 70th Anniversary.



Anderson holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Universiti Putra Malaysia. He was invited by the US State Department to attend the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) in 2013. In 2016, he was appointed as the International Detention Coalition (IDC) Regional Advisor for South East Asia. He is currently advocating with the government to initiate an alternatives to detention for unaccompanied and separated minors pilot program in Malaysia. He also currently a member of the National Project Advisory Committee (PAC) for the EU-UNICEF Initiative.

Ms Annabel Brown

Australia

Ms Annabel Brown is Program Director at the Centre for Policy Development (CPD), with oversight over CPD's migration and settlement related activities, including the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM). She is an experienced advisor and facilitator with over 18 years' experience supporting effective social and economic development in Australia and the Asia Pacific.



Ms Brown has particular expertise leading research and evaluation projects focused on understanding policy influence, advocacy, leadership development, governance, accountability and empowerment. Agencies and networks she has worked with include Transparency International, Oxfam, WaterAid, the Secretariat of Pacific Community, the Australian Public Service Commission and the Australian Aid Program.

Ms Brown has a Masters in International Development from RMIT University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia, majoring in philosophy. She is passionate about generating knowledge through collaborative processes, and using that to improve policy and practice.

Ms Aonpaya Ploytubtim

Thailand

Ms Aonpaya Ploytubtim is Chief of the Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Shelter for Children and Families, within the Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Welfare and Human Development, Thailand. In this role she provides support to children and families who are in need of protection.



At present, the Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Shelter also provides support to children and mothers who have been released from detention in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to the Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers. Her role also comprises basic needs provision, child development, counselling to the mothers and health care in collaboration with relevant agencies and service providers.

Ms Atsuko Furukawa

International

Ms Atsuko Furukawa is from Japan and currently serves as Senior Community-Based Protection Officer in UNHCR Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand. She started her career in the humanitarian field with an NGO focusing on refugee affairs.



Since joining UNHCR, Ms Furukawa has served in Kosovo, Thailand, Myanmar, Nepal and Egypt. She has worked primarily in the capacity of refugee protection including the protection of refugees in the mixed migration context as well as detention issues including alternatives to detention for unaccompanied children during her assignment in Egypt.

In her current capacity, she works with UNHCR's country operations in Asia and the Pacific region on issues related to child protection, sexual and gender-based violence, and community-based protection.

Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia

Indonesia

Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia has been a Foreign Service Officer in the Sub-Directorate of Vulnerable Group Rights at the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs since February 2019. Prior to this appointment, she was Second Secretary for Economic Affairs at the Indonesian Embassy in Tehran in the Islamic Republic of Iran. She has also worked in the Center for Policy Analysis and Development for America and Europe (2011-2015) and the Bureau for Law and Administration (2010-2011).



Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia holds a Bachelor of Economics from Mataram University, and a Masters Degree in Political Economy from the University of Sydney.

Ms Caitlin McCaffrie

Australia

Ms Caitlin McCaffrie joined CPD as a Policy Adviser in 2018. She works primarily on the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM), providing policy analysis, advice and research on topics including human trafficking, forced migration, migration governance and refugee resettlement. Ms McCaffrie has previously worked in Phnom Penh, Cambodia where she worked for a range of human rights organisations, including Stanford University's WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, managing programs on research, education, outreach and trial monitoring of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.



Ms McCaffrie holds a Masters of Public Policy and Management Degree from the University of Melbourne and a first class Honours degree in International Studies from the University of Adelaide.

Ms Chomboon Phansirak

Thailand

Ms Chomboon Phansirak is a Plan and Policy Analyst of the Internal Security Bureau in the Office of the National Security Council (NSC) in Thailand. In this role, she is in charge of issues related to irregular migrants in Thailand, including displaced persons from Myanmar, urban refugees and asylum seekers.



Ms Chomboon Phansirak has been part of the government team developing and evaluating the implementation of the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers.

Ms Chomrudee Nathasiri

Thailand

Ms Chomrudee Nathasiri is Head of Songkla Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. She works on both child welfare and child protection issues, including vulnerable youth and women, providing temporary shelter to those at risk, based on the Child Protection Act and Protection of Victim of Domestic Violence Act 2007 and Anti Trafficking Act 2008.



She also works to support basic needs, counselling, physical and psycho-social rehabilitation. Ms Chomrudee is also a member of Songkla Provincial Child Protection Committee as well as member of several child protection sub committees. Since 2014, she has been responsible for providing services for around 300 Rohingya women and children, Uighur and other migrant populations who are waiting for resettlement.

Mr David Keegan

Australia

Mr David Keegan is the founder and Managing Director of HOST International, a not for profit charity working across the Asia Pacific region to assist refugees to prepare for and find a new home. HOST International provides a range of direct aid and empowerment programs that build independence and encourage communities to be involved in solutions.



David is passionate about finding innovative solutions to complex problems and working with multiple stakeholders to implement approaches that build a fairer and more inclusive society. He is a qualified social worker and holds a Masters in Community Management along with a 20 year career leading projects supporting vulnerable groups in Australia, the Pacific and South East Asia. He has also co-authored publications that focus on resilience building and responsibility sharing in urban displacement contexts.

Ms Deepa Nambiar

International

Ms Deepa Nambiar is the Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator of the International Detention Coalition (IDC). In her role, she coordinates and builds the capacity of IDC members throughout the Asia Pacific region to advocate for alternatives to immigration detention and the prevention of unnecessary detention of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. Deepa has experience in policy advocacy, research, capacity-building, network development and program management in areas ranging from refugee protection, statelessness and alternatives to immigration detention, particularly in Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.



Prior to joining IDC, Deepa founded refugee-rights organisation Asylum Access Malaysia, and lead its programs and operations as National Director. She is the former Chair of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network's (APRRN) Southeast Asia Working Group and has worked with UNHCR conducting Refugee Status Determination. Deepa has a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the University of London, and received a Master of Laws (LL.M) in international human rights law from Columbia Law School as a Fulbright Scholar. She has been admitted to the Bar of England and Wales, and previously practiced as a corporate litigator in Malaysia.

Ms Farida Wahid Muchtar

Indonesia

Ms Farida Wahid Muchtar is the Head of the Sub-Directorate Instrument, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Directorate General of Human Rights within the Indonesian Ministry of Law and Human Rights.

Mr Gading Gumilang Putra

Indonesia

Mr Gading Gumilang Putra is National Legal Liaison Officer of Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Indonesia. JRS Indonesia has taken the role of assisting refugees and asylum seekers since 2009. JRS Indonesia initially accompanied Rohingya asylum seekers in Aceh and North Sumatra before developing assistance for refugees in Medan immigration detention centers (2012-2013 and 2018), Surabaya (2012-2015), and Manado (2015-2018) as well as assistance for urban refugees in Cisarua (2010 - present) and Jakarta (2018 - present). JRS Indonesia provides accompaniment, health services, cash-based assistance for food and housing, psychosocial, informal education, livelihood, protection and advocacy.



Gading graduated from the Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada in 2013 specialising in International Law and passed his bar exam in 2017. His main role is as focal point for advocacy, protection and legal aid for JRS Indonesia in Jakarta. Currently his work involves coordination and capacity building among refugee communities, the government, NGOs, and private sector for a stronger collaboration in realizing refugee rights in Indonesia and in the region.

Mr Gatot Subroto

Indonesia

Mr Gatot Subroto is part of the National Immigration Task Force within the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of Indonesia. He worked for Indonesian Immigration for 33 years before joining the Coordinating Ministry for Political and Security Affairs in 2019.



Before joining the Coordinating Ministry, Mr Gatot Subroto worked in various roles related to immigration within the Ministry of Law and Human Rights. He has previously served as the Head of the Sub-Directorate of Detention and Deportation, Director of Immigration Investigation, and Enforcement at the Directorate General of Immigration, and the Head of Immigration Division in Papua Province. Prior to retiring from Indonesian Immigration in 2015 he served as Director of Immigration Intelligence, Directorate General of Immigration since 2012.

Mr Gatot Subroto holds a Masters Degree from Tarumanegara University Faculty of Law.

Mr Jason Spierings

International

Mr Jason Spierings has been working with refugees and asylum seekers for eight years in Australia, Nauru, Malaysia and Thailand. His experience stretches across refugee settlement, community based protection, case management, psychosocial wellbeing, livelihoods and education. Currently Jason is the Country Manager of HOST International Thailand, overseeing an alternative to detention case management program, livelihoods & other community projects, and stake-holder capacity development. He is also a member of RedR Australia's Humanitarian Roster.



Prior to working in the area of forced migration, Jason worked for five years in Australia in the fields of homelessness and disability. He is a social worker by profession, graduating with First Class Honours from the University of Queensland in 2011. In 2018, Jason achieved a Master of Humanitarian Assistance through Deakin University.

Mr Josef Szwarc

Australia

Mr Josef Szwarc works with the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (Foundation House), which provides a range of services to people of refugee backgrounds, including those seeking asylum who are in immigration detention. Many of its clients in detention have been children of various ages, both with and without family members.



As well as providing direct services (eg counselling) to detained children, Foundation House has advocated to the Australian government to provide alternatives to detention. Prior to his current position, Josef worked on diverse social policy and human rights issues for government and non-government agencies in Australia and the UK.

Ms Kantasorn Methasakunwong

Thailand

Ms Kantasorn Methasakunwong has been working as an Social Development Officer at the Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security for eight years. She graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education (English Major and Special Education Major) and Master's Degree in Special Educational Needs and Inclusion. As a consequence, she specialises in working with children with special needs.



Her past work was on early childhood development, education and vocational training in the context of reception/foster homes, international youth Exchange and inter-country child adoption. Currently, she is in charge of issues within the child protection system.

Pol. Lt. Col. Komson Tupsean

Thailand

Pol. Lt. Col. Komson Tupsean is the Deputy Superintendent Sub-Division 4, Investigation Division of the Immigration Bureau of the Royal Thai Police. His main responsibility is the screening and protection of migrant populations who enter Thailand and are unable to return to their country of origin or to pursue resettlement.



Pol. Lt. Col. Komson Tupsean looks after migrants, children whom migrate with their parents or unaccompanied, and who apply for National Screening (once the National Screening Regulation is adopted and released by the Prime Minister).

Ms Kulchira Chomsawai

Thailand

Ms Kulchira Chomsawai is head of the Samutsongkram Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. She is responsible for both children and youth welfare and protection, and strengthening the family in order to provide appropriate care to the child.



Ms Chomsawai also works to develop and strengthen child protection networks at the local level. The Samutsongkram Shelter has supported the alternative care for children and mothers released from the detention as part of the implementation of the MOU on The Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers.

Ms Lauren Richardson

Australia

Ms Lauren Richardson is the Director of Status Resolution Support Services Program Management, Immigration Integrity and Community Protection Division, Department of Home Affairs, Australia. Lauren has responsibility for managing the Status Resolution Support Services Program, which provides support to families and children in a residence determination placement in the community.



She has oversight of the service provision to families and children in the community delivered by contracted service providers across Australia. Lauren manages a team who are responsible for assessing support services required by families and children. These are assessed on an individual basis and could include but are not limited to income support, case worker support, medical support, education for school aged children and housing where applicable.

Ms Lyn-Ni Lee

International

Ms Lyn-Ni Lee is a Child Protection Specialist at UNICEF Malaysia, where she has worked for the last two years. Her role consists of working on issues involving preventing violence against children, child marriage, children affected by migration and general child protection-related areas. Previously, she was a litigation lawyer in Kuala Lumpur, specialising in employment law, family law and Indigenous land rights, amongst others.



Lyn-Ni Lee holds a Bachelor's Degree in Comparative Politics from Wesleyan University and a Graduate Diploma in Law from City University London.

Ms Min Jee Yamada Park

Australia

Ms Min Jee Yamada Park has been with the IDC as the Asia-Pacific Programme Officer since April 2019. She has worked in the non-profit sector since 2011. Prior to joining IDC, she worked in the areas of detention monitoring, research, policy advocacy, and capacity building, particularly for government actors in Southeast Asia and Africa for 4 years. She has also published and spoken at various international and regional platforms on the experiences and challenges of vulnerable groups deprived of liberty, particularly women and their accompanying children, based on her extensive field research in detention facilities in Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and Kenya.

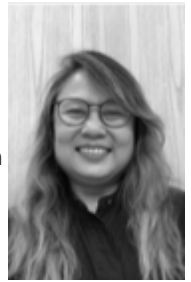


At IDC, she is responsible for supporting coalition members and partners in the region, working with donors and regional coordinators to implement various project activities in the region, and facilitating collaboration on the development, and implementation of national and regional strategies to promote alternatives to immigration detention. Min received a Master of Arts in Development Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Ms Naiyana Thanawattho

International

Ms Naiyana Thanawattho is the Executive Director of Asylum Access Thailand (AAT). She joined AAT in January 2019, and oversees overall operations, programming, and policy advocacy at AAT. Currently, she works closely with refugee networks on alternatives to detention and advocates the government to recognise refugees. Naiyana has over 12 years' experience working in child protection both in development and humanitarian aspects with UNICEF, UNHCR and Save the Children.



At UNHCR, Naiyana led the 'best interest determination' process for refugee children along the Thai-Myanmar border. She also provided child protection technical support to the program implementation team at Save the Children. Naiyana holds a Master's Degree in Women Studies from Thammasat University in Bangkok.

Ms Nathalie Hanley

International

Ms Nathalie Hanley joined IOM Thailand as Programme Coordinator for the Migrant Assistance and Counter-Trafficking Unit in September 2017. In this role, she oversees the coordination and implementation of both national and regional projects aimed at contributing to the protection and increased resilience of vulnerable migrant populations and survivors of human trafficking. Prior to this, Nathalie served as National Project Co-ordinator for the Caribbean in IOM's Regional Coordination Office for the Caribbean, based in Guyana.



Before joining IOM, Nathalie worked as a Programme Consultant for UNDP Guyana, primarily on Indigenous peoples' rights, environmental issues and sustainable development. She has equally held a number of roles in Brussels, Belgium, in both the think-tank and European public policy sectors. Nathalie holds a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and Modern Languages from the University of Oxford, as well as a Masters in International Public Policy from University College London.

Ms Nazuha Binti Yusof

Malaysia

Ms Nazuha Binti Yusof has more than 10 years of experience working as an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer at federal as well as state government level. Her experience includes working in fields such as land management, rural development as well as human resources particularly in the education and security sectors. Ms Nazuha has also been involved in several international events as part of the organising committee in charge of protocol. She is also the secretary for the Ladies Civil Servant Organisation (PUSPANITA) at the Ministry of Home Affairs.



Currently Ms Nazuha Binti Yusof is the Assistant Secretary in charge of policy and monitoring with the National Strategic Office Council for Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants (ATIPSOM), Ministry of Home Affairs. She holds a Masters in Strategic and Security Analysis from the National University Malaysia and a post graduate Diploma in Public Administration from the National Institute of Public Administration Malaysia.

Ms Nicola Brandt International

Ms Nicola Brandt is a Child Protection Specialist with the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok, where she coordinates the EU/UNICEF cross-regional programme "Protecting children affected by migration in Southeast, South, and Central Asia". Previously, she worked as a Child Protection Specialist with the UNICEF Refugee and Migrant Response in Germany, focusing on the development of minimum protection standards for refugee centres. She also worked as a Human Rights Specialist at UNICEF New York Headquarters, where she concentrated on advocacy in the UN human rights bodies on a wide array of topics, with specific attention to social accountability and discrimination issues.



Prior to joining UNICEF in 2007, Nicola worked as a human rights advisor to the German Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva during the intergovernmental negotiations on the UN Human Rights Council. She holds a European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation from the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation, and an Masters in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Prof. Dato' Noor Aziah Hj. Mohd. Awal Malaysia

Professor Dato' Noor Aziah Hj. Mohd. Awal was appointed the Children's Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia in August 2019. Professor Dato' Noor Aziah is a Professor of law at Faculty of Law, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and currently serves as Director of Institute Islam Hadhari, UKM and as Chairperson of Biro Kebajikan dan Tabung Pelajaran, Sukmanita UKM since year 2000.



Professor Dato' Noor Aziah is also a member of the Islamic Religious Council of Negeri Sembilan and was the first female to be appointed to such a post in Negeri Sembilan; the National Advisory and Consultative Council for Children since 2017; the Board of Directors for IKIM; the Editorial Board of Jurnal Kanun, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka; and the Disciplinary Panel for Bar Council Disciplinary Committee. In 2016 she was appointed as Malaysian Representative to the Asean Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Right of Women and Children for three years. She has written five books on women, family and the law, and has authored more than 100 articles.

Ms Nor Hanisah Binti Ishak Malaysia

Ms Nor Hanisah Binti Ishak is the Senior Deputy Director of Immigration, Depot and Detention Management Division within the Malaysian Department of Immigration. She was born in the city of Kedah, Malaysia and studied in the city of Alor Setar, Kedah. After graduating secondary school, she went to study at the University of Technology MARA, majoring in banking. After graduating at Diploma level, she went on to study a Bachelor's Degree in marketing.



Ms Nor Hanisah Binti Ishak began serving in 2005 as an Immigration Officer and began working in the Depot and Detainees Management Division in 2017.

Ms Onnucha Mongkolrattanachat

Thailand

Ms Onnucha Mongkolrattanachat is Head of Phayathai Home for Babies, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. She is responsible and has oversight for managing holistic approaches and seeking collaboration from related stakeholders in providing child welfare and child protection. She is also the coordinator for child welfare for the community in the form of operations "foster family" and the form of child support grant for children who suffer social problems.



In 2014, Ms Onnucha was a member of the Working Group in providing support to Stateless Children, Refugee Children and Children in Immigration Detention Centers under the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand Sub-Committee on Children and Women. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Department of Children and Youth Working Group in resolving the legal status of stateless children. Ms Onnucha is also member of Subcommittee on Adoption, Nontaburi and Committee to consider finding foreign families for children in shelters.

Ms Ourina Ritonga

Indonesia

Ms Ourina Ritonga is the Deputy Director for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Prior to holding this position, Ms Ritonga has served in a number of diplomatic posts abroad. She was Minister Counsellor/Political Coordinator of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in The Hague, Netherlands; Counsellor of the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Marseille, France, and also served as Second Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Paris, France.



Ms Ritonga holds a Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Sumatra, a Masters of American Studies from the University of Indonesia and a Masters of Political Economy from Griffith University, Australia.

Ms Parinya Boonridrerthaikul (Ann)

International

Ms Parinya Boonridrerthaikul is a Child Protection Officer with UNICEF Thailand. Ann works on the children affected by migration programme for programme development, planning, management, monitoring, technical and operational support to programme implementation, networking and partnership building with UNICEF Thailand.



Ann has worked on civil/political rights and economic/social/cultural rights issues over the past 20 years, with experience in both program and management functions. Ann coordinated the Thai Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Coalition for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review, during Thailand's second review in 2016. In 2015 and since then, Ann has worked on advocacy campaigning for rights-based migration management for urban refugees and stateless persons, by help establishing the Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons.

Ms Patsiri Sriprapa

Thailand

Ms Patsiri Sriprapa is a Foreign Relations Officer from the Bureau of International Cooperation, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Thai Ministry of Education. She has been working at the Bilateral Cooperation Unit and managing the relations in the field of education among neighbouring countries of Thailand.



Recently, she has been assigned to work with the Ministry of Education Task Force on the situation of education for Myanmar migrant children in Ranong Province.

Ms Piyanart La-Onghong

Thailand

Ms Piyanart La-Onghong is a Social Worker in the Protection System Development Sub-Division, Department of Children and Youth, Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. She has eight years' experience in a reception and child care center, responsible for children suffering from social problems according to the Child Protection Act 2003, in particular street children, beggar and children in immigration detention centers.



At present Ms La-Onghong is working in the Child Protection System Development Division, coordinating with partners and networks to provide child protection and child care, develop care plans, coordinate referrals and follow up cases at the community level. She also serves as a social worker in implementing the Memorandum of Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers.

Ms La-Onghong graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Counselling and Guidance and a Master's Degree in Social Development Administration.

Ms Rafidah Binti Abd. Aziz

Malaysia

Ms Rafidah Abdul Aziz is the Principal Assistant Director in Children's Division, Department of Social Welfare (DSW), Malaysia. She has 18 years experience in social welfare, serving in placements such as social welfare district offices, state welfare offices and now DSW headquarters. She has 10 years of experience in matters relating to child protection as well as rehabilitation of children in the conflict of the law. She has served as Protector and Provision Officer dealing with cases of children who need protection and rehabilitation through court orders under the Child Act 2001. She also has experience in coordinating the Child Care Needs and Child Protection Unit (CCNCPU) training programme for child protectors in collaboration with UNICEF Malaysia.



Currently she is attached to children's services in DSW institutions under the Child Act 2001 and Child Trafficking under ATIPSOM. She is also an educator and speaker on legislation including the Child Act 2001, Children Sexual Crime, Convention on the Rights of the Child and related policies within the department or other government agencies and NGOs in Malaysia. She holds a Degree of Human Development from Universiti Putra Malaysia and Master of Social Sciences from National University of Malaysia.

Ms Rassamee Buaban

Thailand

Ms Rassamee Buaban is Superintendent of Pakkret Reception Home for Boys. This role sits within the Department of Children and Youth in the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

Mr Serge Berthomieu

International

Mr Serge Berthomieu is a Field Officer (Protection) with UNHCR Thailand office. He has been working with UNHCR for more than 10 years, primarily in Africa (Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Chad) and in the Middle East (Lebanon). For the last five years he has been working in Thailand with the UNHCR Thailand Country Office. During his first two years in Thailand, Mr Berthomieu was based in the South, working mainly with the Rohingya population of concern there.



In 2016, Mr Berthomieu was reassigned from the South to Bangkok where, as a Protection Officer, he has been heading urban protection, which has made multiple interventions with respect to alternatives to detention, as well as providing comments to the Standard Operating Procedures of the Memorandum of Understanding on Alternatives to Detention. Mr Berthomieu is originally from Switzerland.

Ms Shellie Carr

Australia

Ms Shellie Carr has been working as Director of Child Wellbeing Operations in the Department of Home Affairs since October 2018. Her team promotes and oversees child safeguarding policies and procedures across both the Department and the Australian Border Force and supports officers to uphold domestic child safeguarding and protection responsibilities. Her team also monitors and reports on the compliance of business areas with child-related policy and procedure and assists in the Department's implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.



Currently, Shellie is coordinating the implementation of the Australian National Principles for Child Safe Organisations across the Department and the Australian Border Force, by running an active communications strategy involving internal media, event and engagement activities, and by facilitating a program of training to operational officers across detention, case management, field compliance, removals and border control business areas.

Ms Somluck Subinnapararat

Thailand

Ms Somluck Subinnapararat is the Superintendent of the Pakkret Babies Home. This role sits within the Department of Children and Youth in the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

2Lt Soramongkhon Mangalasiri

Thailand

2Lt Soramongkhon Mangalasiri is the Director for Displaced Persons and Illegal Migration Policy Coordination, Foreign Affairs Division, Office of the Permanent Secretary for Interior, Ministry of Interior.



Perviously he has served as an Assistant Director of the Operation Center for Displaced Persons (OCDP) within the Ministry of Interior. Both positions deal with issues of children affected from migration, especially the position of Assistant Director of OCDP. In this position, Second Lieutenant Soramongkhon Mangalasiri was responsible for displaced persons from Myanmar residing in temporary shelters along the Thai-Myanmar border, including providing children living in the camps with access to services such as education, health care and child protection.

Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree

Thailand

Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree is currently the Director of the International PhD Program in Human Rights and Peace Studies at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand and is part of the Secretariat of the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration. She was appointed by the Thai Government as the Thai representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) where she served between October 2009 to December 2012.



Dr Petcharamesree's research and expertise focus on human rights, ASEAN and Southeast Asian studies, migration, including statelessness and citizenship, business and human rights, and international relations. She has spoken and written extensively about all of these issues. She has released a paper with Monash University, regarding the roles of ASEAN on forced migration.

Dr Petcharamesree has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Thammasat University, Thailand. She received her PhD from the University of Paris-X Nanterre in France.

Tanyakan Daengsubha

Thailand

Ms. Tanyakan Daengsubha is a Justice Officer, Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice.

Her main responsibility is to conduct a country report and follow up the reviews of the human rights treaty bodies, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) to ensure the implementation of the provisions at the national level, which enables people to enjoy a wide range of human rights, including those relating to, such as, right to life, freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, fair trial rights, freedom of thought, religion and expression, privacy, home and family life and equality and non-discrimination etc.



Mr Thanawat Pornnithidolwat

Thailand

Mr Thanawat Pornnithidolwat is the Chief of the Bangkok Shelter for Children and Families. This role sits within the Department of Children and Youth in the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

Ms Thientong Prasanpanich

Thailand

Ms Thientong Prasanpanich is the Director of the System Development Group, Division of Children and Youth Protection Division, Department of Children and Youth, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security with oversight over the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Thailand and children and youth development and protection. She also serves on the secretariat to the Sub-Committee on the Child Protection System Development under the National Child Protection Commission. She is involved in programmes relating to developing policies and strategies for vulnerable children including children affected from migration.



Currently, Thientong is working to develop cross-border child protection systems and to implement the Memorandum of Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers, including case management in child protection.

Ms Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathani

Malaysia

Ms Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan is an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer currently serving the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia as an Assistant Secretary in the Policy and Strategic Planning Division. Among her key responsibilities in the Ministry are introducing legislative and administrative reform relating to children's policy; designing and overseeing administrative reform pilot projects; and co-ordinating and preparing the Country Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).



Among the pilot projects she helms at current are the diversion pilot project for children in conflict with the law (approved by Cabinet in September 2019 and moving into implementation) and the Alternatives To Detention pilot project for children in immigration detention (design and formulation stage).

Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan studied Actuarial Studies at Macquarie University, Australia and also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management from the National Institute of Public Administration, Malaysia. She is fluent in English, Malay, and Tamil.

Ms Vivienne Chew

International

Ms Vivienne Chew joined the International Detention Coalition as the Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator in 2012. Prior to that, she worked for over eight years with refugee and asylum seeking communities, predominantly in countries of first asylum. During that time, she successfully established and managed refugee legal aid programs for Asylum Access in Thailand and Tanzania.



She also served as the Chair of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network's (APRRN) Immigration Detention Working Group from 2014 to 2018. Ms Chew has undertaken a number of research projects on children's rights, birth registration, statelessness, and the inclusion of refugees in the formal labour market in Malaysia.

Ms Chew holds a Law degree from the University of Cardiff, Wales, and a Master's degree in International Human Rights from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. Prior to joining the humanitarian sector, she practiced as a corporate finance lawyer for Clifford Chance LLP in London and Thailand. She is currently based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Ms Wassana Thongsom

Thailand

Ms Wassana Thongsom is Chief of the Nonthaburi Shelter for Children and Families, Department of Children and Youth, Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security

Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani International

Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani is currently the Indonesian Representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) especially for children's rights, under Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection. As an ACWC Representative, she is a resource person within ASEAN to strengthen the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).



Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani is also an independent consultant and expert in child protection in development and emergency contexts. She has experience in establishing community-based child protection, child friendly spaces (CFS) - psychosocial support (PSS) in emergencies, child protection assessment in emergencies, research in child protection and child participation, strengthening child protection system, and as a trainer, facilitator and moderator in child protection. She has formerly worked with Save the Children-UK, LAPIS Project – AusAid, and Plan International, focusing on child protection in development and emergency situation, and recently joined with KIAT (Indonesia Australia Partnership For Infrastructure) IEEI Design project in Palembang focussing on child protection issues in infrastructure.

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Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Department of Children and Youth

ASIA DIALOGUE



International
Detention Coalition

Human rights for detained refugees,
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