



GVI Thailand Phang Nga Annual Report 2018

Our Mission

It is our mission to build a global network of people united by their passion to make a difference.

Our Long-Term Objectives

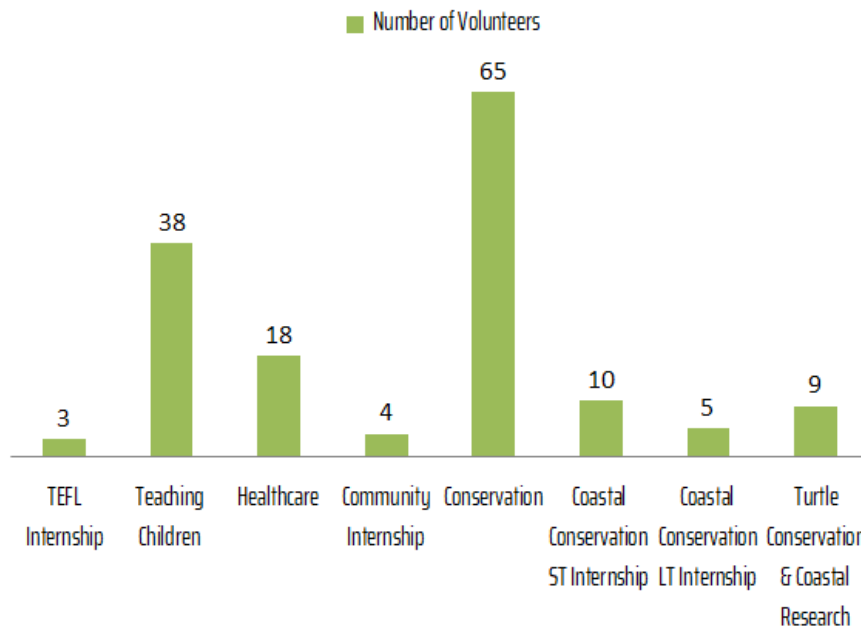
1. To provide equal, quality education to children of all backgrounds.
2. To Promote Good Health and Wellbeing through education to all children
3. Increase skills for local people to gain access to equal employment opportunities in our communities within Takuapa and Ban Nham Khem
4. Increase awareness of local populations to environmental issues and facilitate change towards sustainability through scientific studies.
5. Increase our in-country capacity by providing environmental and conservation education and training
6. To assist and develop local coastal conservation efforts through providing practical support to project partners, data collection, awareness raising and habitat restoration



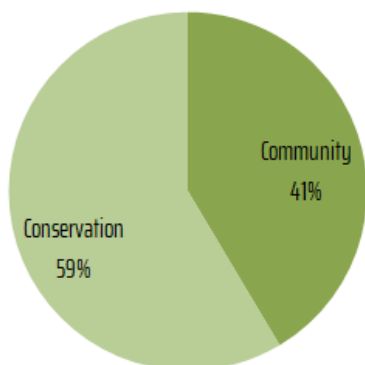
How do we achieve our objectives?

Phang Nga is a multi-project hub, offering both Community and Conservation programs; in 2018 we welcomed 152 volunteers, all wanting and achieving to make a difference.

Breakdown of 2018 Volunteers



Volunteers in 2018



We also welcomed 9 Service Learning Groups, Duke Engage, St Paul's and Burnley returned, we also successfully managed 3 groups of Under 18's, in total 134 students joined us to help us achieve our goals on both conservation and community through blended programs.

Community 2018

This year we continued to work weekly with our 4 local partners: Camillian, Bantam Namchai Kindergarten (BTNC), the Thai Government School (BNK), and the Children's Development Center (CDC) School. We also spent time working with our partners at the GoSoNo Non-Formal Education Center, The New Light Foundation, the Foundation for Educational Development Unified Learning Center (FED) and schools such as Ban Theep and Sennanakul. Service Learning - Duke Engage also held workshops at Thapayio on Ko Pra Thong.

Healthcare Program

Our Healthcare program has focused on dental hygiene and handwashing and introductory skills with the students of the BTNC kindergarten, weekly healthcare lessons in a variety of topics from the respiratory system to healthy eating for our students at the CDC, and working on physiotherapy routines and skills of communication and pre-maths with the students at the Camillian Center. A healthcare volunteer who came for two weeks in August who herself has cerebral



palsy put together a document and gave us tips on how to better use our time in working with students affected by this condition. She provided inspiration and education on cerebral palsy to us, to the staff of the center and to the students who attend and at BTNC. At Camillian with the introduction of new physiotherapy equipment we were able to see new improvements in independent walking with a rolling zimmer-frame in students that had not previously been able to walk unaided. The funding for the new equipment came from donations to the trust during support for our annual Camilian fun run, which took place in May in Ban Nam Khem for the third year running. Several of our Friday Projects and a Duke Engage Leadership project were held with the students of the Camillian Center, to provide the students with more opportunities for learning, social interactions and memorable experiences. We also undertook several workshops in the wider community, such as CPR workshops with our OSU service learning healthcare volunteers. Our healthcare volunteers also took part in our summer camps at Ban Theep school, the Navy Base and CDC in April, and ran workshops on nutrition, dental hygiene and exercise through Yoga and Pilates.



Teaching Children Program

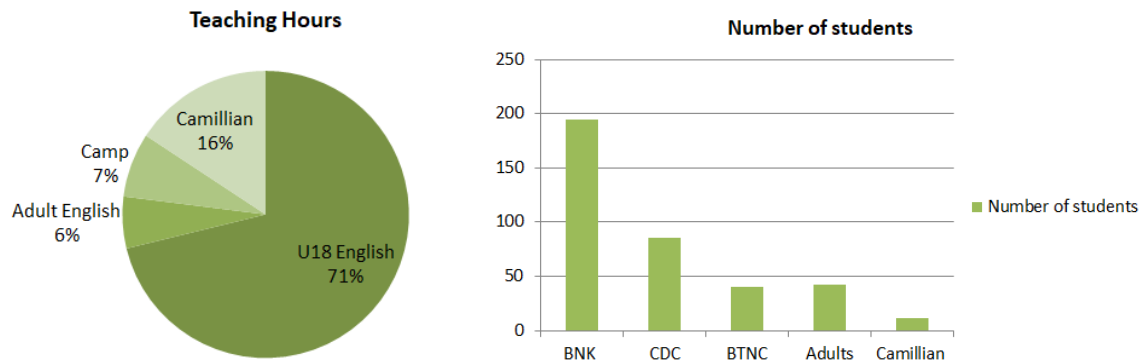


Our Teaching Children program has been working with the BTNC Kindergarten grades 4-6 and the Thai Government School grades 1-3. We introduced Jolly Phonics, a multisensory approach to language learning that directly contrasts with the existing method in use, reciting the alphabet. This has been very successful with the students.

This year, volunteers taught all age ranges from P1-9, we created curriculums for BTNC, BNK and CDC, rather than following the outdated textbooks that we were relying on in 2017. This means that we had more control of the direction our volunteers could take in the classroom, and we could slow down or speed up the pace of learning dependent on the success of the biweekly tests we gave our students this year. All grades were recorded to reflect on the progress that we have made throughout the year. It has been great to see the increased English skills of all students.

For a week in February, we hosted a 35-hour course of English classes to 18 beginner students at the GoSoNo Center in Takuapa. During April we hosted English lessons for 10 adult students at the GoSoNo, four evenings a week. TEFL interns and volunteers put together a curriculum. During the month of October, we held Adult English classes on base, four evenings a week to 6 students. Adult English classes had been requested by the community and have been a great success.

Our volunteers also took part in 7 camps with our partner schools, including a 3 day camp at the Royal Thai Navy Base where we engaged with the children of the Navy staff.



Teaching Hours - U 18 - **882** Adult Class - **71**
 Children's Camp - **90** Camillian Hours - **194**
Achievement - Total hours taught - 1,237



All of our projects are focused towards the SDG goals, however work doesn't just take place in the classroom, learning has taken place on the beach, at hotels and in the playground. Volunteers here to complete an internship have organized some great events that have brought together the community and bringing together the two partner schools for the first time. Interscholastic have included a spelling bee and an art competition, we have also started a conservation club as a result of the students wanting to know more about the work our conservation team do in Phang Nga. This was initiated by a TEFL intern, and had now been taken over by the conservation volunteers.

3 TEFL interns all successfully passed their exams, we were very pleased to place one of the interns with our partner school at FED, the school currently does not have any native English speaking staff. His role there is teaching English to grades 5-8 in class, and mentoring the students with applications to higher education and a possible exchange with a school in Japan. In his role, he also supports the other non-native English teachers at the school.



Conservation

2018 was an extremely busy year for conservation as we continued the great work from 2017 and introduced many new activities. The National Parks were no longer using the data that GVI volunteers were collecting, so we started collecting local data to identify the biodiversity and the changes that happen over seasons and time. Below are some of the new projects started on 2018.

Thailand's weather is generally described as hot, highly humid and rainy and most of all unpredictable. GVI have started collecting scientific weather data on a daily basis in order to keep track of weather conditions. This new project only got started by the end of the year but long-term will allow us to draw weather tendencies and report weather changes that could relate to climate change effects on wildlife surveyed. Such as changes on migratory and resident birds' sightings and behaviour or butterfly diversity and habitat use. November and December represent the start of Dry season however we had a **total rainfall of 312.5 mm!**

Butterflies are good indicators of healthy ecosystems and by carrying multiple survey transects we aim to report butterfly distribution and biodiversity in relation to human disturbance.

Achievement

7 Butterfly Surveys
32 Different butterfly species
233 Butterflies seen



September 2018 the Department of Marine Coastal Resources (DMRC) asked for help on a mangrove planting event with the students of Ban Muang School. Shortly after it became the topic of the leadership project of one of our long-term conservation interns and has potentially become a new long-term project in Phang Nga with a governmental partnership. Mangroves are extremely important due to their ecosystems; they also act as a tidal break which could be critical in a Tsunami zone.



In 2018 GVI planted over 1,000 mangroves, the project was also used as a GVI Trust fundraiser. The campaign was "Plant a mangrove for Christmas" we raised over \$300.

Royal Thai Navy Base Sea Turtle Conservation Center

We continued our vital work at the centre, the relationship we have with the Thai Navy grows stronger every year. They really appreciate the work that we do and see us a valued partner. In order to maintain turtle hatchlings and juvenile green turtle's husbandry conditions to the highest standard, conservation team assist twice a week to Navy Base staff with cleaning the turtle tanks, animal healthcare and general maintenance of the turtle conservation center. Additionally, enrichment studies have been continuously assessing that the addition of enrichment devices in the enclosed turtle tanks have undoubtedly improve the welfare of the turtles. The presence of enrichment in their tanks allow them not just to develop natural behaviors that prepare them to their future back into the ocean - like diving for food and escaping from predators- but also to use their surroundings to hide, scratch their carapace to get cleaned or to sense objects on their bodies. Altogether, diminishing development





of stereotypical behaviors and promoting psychological well-being of the turtles also demonstrating healthier behaviors and reduction on infection severities.

In May we were invited to a training session, where Phuket Biological centre showed how to rescue a turtle and to give assistance to any injuries they may have. They also confirmed that the way we were treating the infections was the best way.

We were invited to Koh Huyong, Similan Islands in November, where the green turtles lay their eggs. This was the first time that GVI had been invited to the island for over 18 months. It was a real honor to learn more about the work the Navy do, it has helped with our training and knowledge. The opportunity shows the development of the partnership and the trust and value that the Thai Navy sees in GVI's work.

It's not only conservation volunteers that volunteer at the Navy base; volunteers have requested to go on Friday projects giving the opportunity for Community volunteers to appreciate the work we do there. Service Learning groups also volunteer, and it's always a firm favorite. Our work at the centre is crucial to the survival of the endangered turtles, including Green, Hawksbill and Olive Ridley.

Achievement

GVI Phang Nga volunteers and staff spent over **400** hours cleaning turtle tanks, Releasing over **200** green turtles back to the ocean

Koh Pra Thong & Koh Ra

The biodiversity and camera trapping surveys on nearby naturally pristine islands of Koh Phra Thong and Koh Ra have been scheduled monthly during the year. The sightings reveal a great biodiversity in the area with captures of crab-eating monkeys, asian palm civets, sambar deer, wild pigs, monitor lizards and even oriental pied hornbills. But the most remarkable finding is the continuous evidence of Sunda Pangolins in Koh Ra! Being listed as critically endangered species on the red list of IUCN the possibility of monitoring their population and obtain scientific data on their habitat range and behaviors is critical for its protection. The support from GVI Trust and our donors have made possible the investment to new camera traps that have facilitated the possibility of extending the area monitored and obtain highly valuable captures of pangolins habits.

Ultimately our studies are working towards getting the islands protected and for GVI to receive a research license. The process is very lengthy but good strides towards success have been taken.

Achievement

8 camera traps displayed
8 months with positive pangolin sightings
3 months with simultaneous sightings in 2 different locations



Ocean Conservancy Thailand

To conserve the damaged coastal habitats of Phang Nga, conservation volunteers keep adding the collected litter of nearby beaches into Clean Swell data base. The data collected through the app gets instantaneously uploaded to Ocean Conservancy's global ocean trash database which provides information to researchers and policy makers around the globe to get insight into possible plastic pollution solutions. By checking into our clean up history we can keep track of our accomplishments and see the impact done on making our ocean a cleaner and healthier ecosystem.



Achievement - 47 cleanups, 40 hours spent cleaning, Over 2100 pounds of trash picked up

The dry season months allows the conservation program to conduct snorkeling surveys in partnership with Green Fins and REEF, a new citizen science partner of 2018. Once a week, conservation team survey various local reefs in order to monitor their health and its fish population dynamics. In addition to Koh Pa reef, two other reefs have been surveyed, Khao Nayak and Koh Pling, being the last reef found in Koh Phra Thong island.

In April GVI volunteers were invited to a training session with Green Fins to understand the importance of our work. The data collected provides Green Fins with valuable information to monitor the reefs health and report changes to posed threats and helps creating a fish data base for the Andaman Sea, which holds little scientific information.



Bird watching - This year bird watching surveys have been particularly promoted due to the high interest of staff members, who are very passionate for this highly mobile but fairly easy to observe species. Several transects have been set up in order to monitor populations and start collecting data for relative abundance of species. This way we also obtain a more

accurate list of bird species in our region and specific for every habitat surveyed. Monitoring the changes over time, season and human disturbance.

Achievement - 31 bird watching surveys, 53 different bird species recorded, 6 different transects established and monitored.

GVI Trust

During 2018 Phang Nga raised £5,718.31 this was achieved by a number of fundraising events and donations. The events included a 5K fun run, which involved members of the community, Duke Engage and all volunteers and staff. An obstacle course at the Navy base was the setting for another, this was both physically and mentally challenging. Volunteers also completed a week long chili challenge, every night they ate various dishes containing chili with the dishes getting hotter as the week progressed.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who donated; the money has allowed us to develop projects and increase our impact. Funding continued treatment of the turtles, including paying for the vets to visit the centre on a regular basis to provide treatment to the turtles and to monitor their welfare. New camera traps to continue developing and furthering our research capacity in Koh Phra Thong and Koh Ra; new binoculars to ensure that volunteers have the tools to input on bird monitoring and snorkelling equipment to monitor local coral reefs in our region.

Additionally, we brought tools to monitor weather conditions in order to increase the accuracy of our data and to be able to link possible weather changes with wildlife changes along time and seasons. Physiotherapy equipment for Camillian, desk, chairs and education equipment for a partner school all helping us work towards our objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals.