“All our MLTV are situated in South Thailand- Minimum stay is 2 months”
Foreword:

Dear reader, you will find in this program book detailed information about our middle and long-term volunteering projects at DaLaa, international volunteers for social development association, South Thailand. We hope with this publication to promote our activities and match interested people with the volunteer project that fits them the best. Thank you for your interest!

Voluntary yours,

DaLaa team

Please take a look at our web-site (www.dalaa-thailand.com) to learn more about us.

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Overview of DaLaa MLTV projects

1. Kok Payom Community “Learning Community, Creative English teaching and environment”

   DaLaa MLTV project - code: 0950
   Open all year round, minimum 2 months stay, Maximum volunteers: 5

   Join the dream of a non-formal education center in a small fishermen village of the Andaman coast-South Thailand. From the teaching at local schools, English adults’ lessons at the House of Knowledge to the scout-like activities every Sunday in the mangrove, you will share the daily life of the villagers, absorbing their wisdom and spread it in your own way with fresh energy to the local kids. Also realize their difficulties and bring your rock for a better future at Kok Payom.

2. Koh Sukorn “Local culture and agriculture”

   DaLaa MLTV project - code: 1402
   Open from August to March
   minimum 2 months stay, Maximum volunteers: 4

   Volunteers join a family daily life of the rural island of Andaman coast in South Thailand. In this Muslim community, the main occupation is fishing but many also plant rice and watermelon, raise buffaloes and some have rubber plantation. Volunteers will help their host family to grow the vegetable garden around the house, collect the palm leaves to make roofs, and plant and collect rice and watermelon with other families in the community. There may be some activities with local kids too.

3. Withee Tai Community “The path to a family-based liberal community”

   DaLaa MLTV project - code: 1601
   Open all year round, minimum 2 months stay, Maximum volunteers: 4

   A group of a few families with liberal dreams decided to start alternative education for their children and the interested members of their villages. They would like to welcome volunteers to help them to organize education activities and will include them as a part of their family and life style toward harmonious relationship between people and their environment. They try to free themselves from any kind of slavery from the mind to the body and the entire society. They want to become a new kind of responsible community based on a liberal way of life through spiritual work and active daily life.
4. Koh Nang Kham (Creative English teaching and activities with kids)
DaLaa MTV project - code: 1702
Periods available: All year around (except March and April) at least 2 months
Expected number of volunteers: 2 to 4
Volunteers will join a small Muslim community of South Thailand on the banks of Songkhla Lake. They will organize activities for children of the local school and share the life of the villagers.

5. Lang Ai Mee community
(Forest preservation, active community, join local school, activities with kids, foreign language and culture exchange, remote area...)
DaLaa MTV project - code: 1704
Close for school holidays (March – April and October)
Expected number of volunteers: 2 to 4
Lang Ai Mee community, from the remote and mountainous area of South Thailand, is seeking for volunteers to support their action of preserving harmonious relationships within the community, with the environment and the world. Their position in the watershed of Cha Uat river gives them the responsibility to preserve the forest so clean water can flow continuously through the valley. Their fights against the government who declared the place as a national park and tried to evacuate them in the past make their group strong and determined. Nowadays, they show actively that they are able to take care of their environment. The new learning center started by the police border patrol and the sister of the Thai new king is now taking care of the education of the local children and volunteers would be greatly appreciated to support with foreign language and activities exchange.

6. SOS Kindergarten (Activities with kids and English teaching)
DaLaa MTV project – code: 1801
Periods available: All year around (except March and April) at least 2 months
Expected number of volunteers: 2-3
Volunteers will support the teacher team of the kindergarten at SOS children village, an orphanage situated not far from Hat Yai city in South Thailand. Volunteers will also join the activities with the older kids at SOS Children’s Village on weekend and holiday (October)
7. Wat Pho Thawad (Creative English teaching and activities with kids)

DaLaa MTV project - code: 1901
Periods available: All year around (except March and April)
at least 2 months
Expected number of volunteers: 2

Wat Pho Thawad is a very small school in Baan Kokpho, a Buddhist village of about 450 people in Phatthalung province, Southern Thailand. The school director (P. Pin) and local people would like to welcome volunteers again after the good feedback of the two work camps (2 weeks each) that took place in 2018. This time we would like volunteers for a 2 months period that can help to organize English lessons or other fun activities with the 49 students from kindergarten to Grade 6 (5-12 years old). The English skills of the students are very poor. They are not familiar with foreigners. You can experience the local way of life, exchange with other volunteers, villagers and support the children education.

8. Garden of tranquility (School English teaching- Linking a spiritual project with the local community)

DaLaa MTV project - code: 1902
At least two months between: May 6th to August 31st 2019
(Arrival dates: May 6th, June 3rd or July 1st)
Expected number of volunteers: 2

We are a family of 3, working on alternative education, coaching for self-awareness, women empowerment, and conflict resolution for over 15 years. We moved to live in a garden for the last 6 years and started to plant trees and build houses for ourselves, volunteers and visitors we often welcome. We started to teach English at the local school a few times and see the needs for community development. We would like to promote alternative education, self-reliance and working with Thai and foreign volunteers to improve the life of the community and society.
Details of Each project

1. Kok Payom Community

“Learning Community, Creative English teaching and environment”

Kok Payom community Langu, Satun province

DaLaa MLTV project - code: 0950

Open all year round, min 2 months stay, Maximum volunteers: 5

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

Kok Payom is the name of a small Muslim fishermen’s village where about 600 people living in. It is located 10 kilometers from its district called Langu and close to the seawater canals surrounded by mangrove forests. Most of the families get their resources from fishing. The links are still tight between community members and related families. Since they started to replant and preserve the mangrove forest in 2001, they greatly welcome visitors, activists and volunteers to join useful activities to keep their village alive. They want to be actors to preserve their lifestyle and nature around for the next generation. The community wants to be responsible. There are quite some difficulties and pressure from the modern world and they work hard to find solutions to the environmental and social issues they face.

Since 2009, DaLaa volunteers have been working with the villagers and children especially at the local schools.

There have been a big improvement and continuation of useful activities and constructions. Community members are more aware of environmental issues and how to preserve the local beliefs and lifestyle. In 2010, Sakkarin, also staff of DaLaa, decided to move to live in Kok Payom. With help of villagers, he creates “Klong Toh Lem Academy”, an alternative school on the other side of the canal, in the middle of mangrove forest where children can learn about environment, local values, wisdoms, and language in a very natural method of learning every Sunday. There are approximately 20 children, aged between 7-12 attending. So far, the main school building and other necessary structures have been constructed from collaboration of both villagers and international volunteers. However, there is still working that need to be done.
Early 2017, it was officially registered as Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation (The Community Foundation for the Society of Lifelong Learning). The aims are:

1. To support the opportunity for lifelong learning and education improvement in Kok Payom village
2. To support Community based organization (Kok Payom Community Forest Conservation); to work for mangrove forest protection
3. To organize non-formal, informal and alternative education management for local kids and adults to learn for community sustainable development.

Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation is the organization that officially hosts DaLaa’s Volunteers in Kok payom. Executive committee includes 6 persons: Sakkarin, Bung Bari, Bang Det, Bang Kak, bang Peain and Kung.

**AIMS of the PROJECT**

1. To support activities of Kok Payom community.
2. To support Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation (see aims above)
3. To build friendship between volunteers and local people.

**WORK AND ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday-Thursday</th>
<th>Teaching/activities/environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday-Saturday</td>
<td>Free time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Klong Toh Lem Academy (Alternative School)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteers can possibly do the activities as follows:

- Create non-formal English classes at local schools
- Create non-formal classes at the House of Knowledge for Kids and adults.
- Create a place where local people and children can learn and become more aware of the importance of our environment (Alternative School – Klong Toh Lem Academy)
- To support some work for community base project (Masjid and Islamic learning center)
- Organize nature trips with children (awareness of the importance of nature)
- Plant young seedlings in the mangrove forests (occasionally)
- Organize fun and enjoyable activities to the village children at the village meeting place
- Support the neworking for Satun Education development (English camps)
- Create the activities, tools, library and opputunities to learn for “The House of Knowledge”
- Experience Thai Muslim culture, language and local lifestyle with the villagers and support in any useful activities.

**General schedule:**

**Students’ English ability**
Most students basically know only easy words, short sentences and the letters in the alphabet.
REQUIREMENTS

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with only basic facilities and with few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will have often activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

Villagers of Kok Payom are Muslim so there is no pork or alcohol in the village. Women should dress modestly although you will discover when you live there that the villagers are very relaxed.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will stay at the Klong Toh Lehm Academy Foundation office which is also the house of Sakkarin and Saneeyah (Kung), your main hosts. They called this place “the house of knowledge” and provide a library, creative English teaching for kids, adults and Wi-Fi for all villagers.

This place actually belongs to Bang Chep family, the house next door with who you will also spend your daily life. There is a triple room house for volunteers, with simple mattress, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring your own sleeping bag. You will join daily tasks for cooking and cleaning. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 2 or 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, vegetables and lots of fish and sea food.
2. Koh Sukorn

“Local culture and agriculture”

Sukorn Island, Trang province

Dalaa MLTV project - code: 1402

Open from August 1st, 2018 to March 31st, 2019

minimum 2 months stay

Max volunteers: 4

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

Sukorn Island (Koh Sukorn) is situated in Palian district, Trang province. For this project, we will be conducting activities with communities in Baan Laem and Baan Toong village (2 on the 4 villages of the island). In these 2 villages, there is population of 1,189 or 337 families, 95% of them are Muslims. On this island there are also official offices and institutions of which are government-run namely one preschool, two primary schools (grade 1 to grade 6), one healthcare center and one police station. General income of villagers is from fishing industry regarded as main occupation, secondly is rubber plantation and agriculture; growing rice, watermelons, corns and other seasonal vegetables as well as keeping livestock. Koh Sukorn watermelon is widely well-known for its best product because of its sweet juicy taste. The island landscape is geologically plain, partly with small hills. Also, around the shore line, it is lined up with scattered mangrove trees.

In general, the villagers are very generous, and they still remain the culture of supporting and sharing with each other. Furthermore, they also believe that paddy and agriculture is the main food stability of the village.

Already some years, a group of local researchers have been working with the 2 communities mentioned above. In one community, the village members are still remaining their traditional way of living, while in another, people started to drop their old values and turning to development from the cities. Less and less people are working on paddy fields or growing their own food supply as it is easier to buy. Therefore, these researchers aim to bring awareness to the locals to keep their life style and revive the tradition of growing paddy, other traditional agriculture, as well as developing local rice species, and forming farmer's coop group. They invite us to organize volunteers’ activities there in 2013. Few years after, the researcher group is not very active anymore, but we have successfully continued activities (mainly agriculture and activities with kids) with villagers and develop good relationships through short term workcamps and middle term volunteers. The period is now (since 2016) fixed from August to March as the raining season from April to July has less possible activities for volunteers. It is also important the host family have some time for themselves.
AIMS of the PROJECT

• Preserving the local agriculture traditions and wisdom
• Acknowledging importance of sustainable agriculture
• Understanding the importance of the village community life
• Long-lasting learning exchange between villagers, their children and international volunteers and international volunteer

WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be staying together with a host family and share the daily life with them. They will mostly join agriculture activities but may be organizing activities with the local kids. Their place in the daily life of the host family is essential. They shouldn’t be a burden but a support which can easily be spread to the community around. Since 2016, all the middle term volunteers were staying at JaTak and Bang Meng family and their experience has been great. Ja Tak would take time every day to explain them what they can help or do. Both hosts are going every morning from dawn to beginning afternoon for fishing, but they still have enough energy to do more activities with volunteers after this. There is another family, Ja Yao who is also ready to welcome volunteers.
**YEARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES OF RICE GROWING TRADITION OF THE ISLAND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August and September</td>
<td>September is the starting month of rice planting season. Traditionally, villagers will prepare their best-selected paddy. The second step is to sow the fertilized paddy into nursery fields. Thirdly, plough the soil for transplanting the rice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| October     | • Transplant the seedlings from the nursery into the well-prepared rice fields  
• Plant watermelon seeds on the rice field ridges  
• Take care of the rice field |
| November    | • Pick up ready-to-eat watermelons  
• Take care of the rice field |
| December    | Rice harvesting!  
**Every year at the end of December, a special annual event will be organized at the island. People know it as “Bergfah Andaman Festival”. This festival is held widely in famous places located in the Andaman Sea. The aim is to promote products made by locals. There will be booths set up in which villagers sell food and sweets, and friendship activities like boat racing, football matches against village teams as well as performances on stage will be also held.** |
| January – March | • Sun-dry paddy for next planting  
• Plant watermelon after the harvesting season  
• Make compost from rice straw |

**Remark**
During March-April and October, it’s school holiday in Thailand, which means we can make more activities with local kids.

**REQUIREMENTS**

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with only basic facilities and with few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There may have activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

**FOOD and ACCOMODATION**

The volunteers either share one hut either sleep inside the house. There will be simple mattress, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring sleeping bag. Volunteer will be part of the family who will take care of them for everything including food, security and transport. You will join daily tasks for collecting food and cooking. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 2 or 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, local leaves and vegetables and many fishes and sea food. Because the family is Muslim, there will be no pork or alcohol.
3. Withee Tai Community

“The path to a family-based liberal community”

Cha Uat, Nakhon Sri Thammarat province
DaLaa MLTV project - code: 1601

Open all year round, minimum 2 months stay, Max volunteers: 4

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

All the members of this community, living in a few neighborhood villages are active in the social life of their area and want to take full responsibility of their way of life. They first met at the Southern center for Buddhist alternative medicine (Mor Keaw) and decided to join for deeper reflections on how to improve this society. They have good knowledge about alternative education (already practicing home schooling), traditional health, agriculture, herbs... They want to take concrete actions with meaningful results.

The important domains we try to be free from in Withee Tai are: education, economy, society, health. It should be starting by ourselves, then the family, the community (natural or chosen), the country, the world. We want to change the world by acting locally, not only dream. Everyone is responsible.

So how can we bring the volunteers to the right direction, so she/he can start the improvement for him/herself? How to make the change from a society where you work for a reward (having a good score, having a salary) to an open space where you work by free will, by voluntary spirit? We need to learn together and for this we need each one to open ourselves, break the ice between people, realize our common desire to preserve the world and rely on our volunteer spirit. We should have enough attention to learn from observing ourselves at any time. We shouldn’t try to change others (only if asked for help).

About 8 families will be the core of this community based in 5 villages. The main center is the house of Crue Liam where a clay house has been built to welcome volunteers. Volunteers will follow the rhythm of life of these families.

AIMS of the PROJECT

1. Improve the quality of human way of life
2. Start a new kind of community exempt of slavery, on the base of family and with a healthy environment.

Participants would feel attached with:

➢ freedom in following their dreams
➢ good relationships between people
➢ unity and solidarity as well as preserving diversity

The seven agreements of Withee Tai community:

1. Find our common ground within our differences.
2. Learn from others by observing inside ourselves.
4. Everything is based on the relationship of brotherhood.
5. Develop heart of ownership.
6. Positive thinking. (Get free from judging others).
7. Do not take side part from one or another when a conflict occurs.

WORK AND ACTIVITIES

At Withee Tai, volunteers practice healthy activities for body, mind and soul: morning walk, yoga, discussion-evaluation in evening, prayer before meals, health camp...

For the daily routine, we decide it together with the hosts and the team of volunteers. It includes collecting food, cooking and cleaning of course. For the rest, it is not fixed and depends of the team and time of the year. Some days will be about agriculture, some about activities with kids (joining Withee Tai learning center), and some for construction or garbage management. There are easily changes when people come to visit, the hosts are invited to meetings, other activities; you may join or stay home to do something on your own... The quantity of work would depend on you; also, if you find some project of your own, everything is possible. And to be frankly, when you chose and enjoy what you are doing, it's no reason to call it work anymore, it's just activities in the day. We also organize dialogue with the community members about learning process of participants, evaluations and future plans, at least once a month.

➢ WITHEE TAI COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

Since November 2016, Withee Tai has been officially registered as a community-based learning center. There are about 25 of these centers in Thailand. They are free to organize their way of education and recognized at the same time. There are now over 10 kids registered and more are interested, but everyone around is also part of the learning process. We give equal importance to everyone; there are no actual teachers but 3 equal groups for decisions and preparing adapted program to each child: children, parents and facilitators (mentors).
The aim of the learning center is to improve the life quality, improve:
1- our soul  
2- our environment  
3- our professional skills (find our way)

Being free means for us being happy to live together.

Children will learn from joining and practice concrete activities some will be for everyone like yearly meeting, art camp, thanks rice and water festival, health and family camp, or walking trips. Other will be optional depending of the child interest. It includes yoga, healthy cooking, gardening and rice planting, languages learning in everyday life with volunteers, economic project, local cultural event, international family camp, making natural dam, clay house building, social enterprise (business) project, local cultural events… and any new possible activity proposed by kids or volunteers around can be included.

The only real obligation for kids to join this learning center; and it could be interesting for volunteer to do so; is to take time every day (at least regularly) to think about these 3 questions: What did I do (today)? What did I learn? How did I feel? and to find a way to record it, drawing, writing, ...

This is for a double reason, first to be able to learn effectively about ourselves and secondly to be able to explain and show to people outside our learning process. Indeed, not sending our kids to a regular school is usually not well understood by people around. There is also a possibility for each kid to be back to a regular school and the learning center offers the equivalence with a proper system of step to reach.

➢ For those interested, you may assist to organize health camp together with the Southern center for Buddhist alternative medicine (MorKeaw).


**REQUIREMENTS** The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with only basic facilities and with few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will have often activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.
FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers’ bedroom will be in the clay house, you may need to share your room. There will be simple mattress, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring sleeping bag. Volunteer will be part of the family who will take care of them for everything including food, security and transport. You will join daily tasks for collecting food and cooking. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 2 or 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, local leaves and vegetables and quite many fruits depending of the season.
Koh Nang Kham
(Creative English teaching and activities with kids)

Koh Nang Kham, Pattalung Province
DaLaa MTV project - code: 1702
Periods available: All year around (except March and April)
at least 2 months

Expected number of volunteers: 2 to 4

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

Koh Nang Kham is a small village situated in Pattalung province, close to the middle part of Songkhla Lake which is Thailand’s biggest lake. The community area is a small island inside the lake, so the main career of the villagers is fisheries. Some work on rubber and palm plantation, fruit orchards or shrimp farm. During free time, some villagers gain some extra income from making and selling local desserts and fruit preservation, for instance. You may find more information about Songkhla lake on this following website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songkhla_Lake. The villagers of Koh Nang Kham are Muslim.

The local government primary school offers classes from kindergarten to grade 6. Now, there are 146 students, and 12 teachers. Mr. Somhit Chobngam (Crue Chem), the school oldest teacher contacted DaLaa first in 2015 to discuss on the possibility of volunteers as he saw the importance of improving learning methods for the students. He hopes that children can learn about language and cultures naturally by doing activities with the volunteers. We already organized a Short Term workcamp once every year since 2015 and had the first team of Middle tem volunteers in 2017 for 2 months. The results were very positive, and few other villagers started extra activities with volunteers outside school.

In small communities in Thailand, local people hardly have contacts with foreigners, while students are getting pressured from current educational system to study English, but they never have a chance to meet any foreigners. Therefore, this will give them the chance to gain motivation to learn and explore the cultural diversity by doing creative activities with international volunteers.

Having international volunteers to learn about local fisherman’s lifestyle, it will help the fishermen to feel more motivated to preserve their local knowledge and wisdom. Apart from that, volunteers can also become the link between children and villagers to take part in this community learning activities.

AIMS of the PROJECT

• Children and adults can learn English with volunteers
• 2-way learning process between local children/ villagers and volunteers
• Better understanding towards local culture
• To build a good relationship between volunteers and local people.
WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be arranging creative activities with students. They will be supervised by the teachers. Depending on the volunteers’ skills, they will be proposed to organize activities with each class from Grade 1 to Grade 6 twice a week (1-hour session). The idea is that 1 session is more about English language while the other one is free to decide. Outside the school, few villagers are willing to invite volunteers to learn about local fisherman lifestyle on Songkhla Lake and organize other common activities.

REQUIREMENTS

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with basic facilities and with very few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will often have activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will stay in Crue Chem’s father house, only 50 meters from the school. The entire second floor is for volunteers. There are 2 bedrooms, toilets and balcony. There will be simple mat, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring sleeping bag. Volunteers can use the kitchen of the school or the one at their home for cooking. Lunch will be offered at the school. There are some small grocery shops in the village and a lot of fish from the fishermen. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, local leaves and vegetables.
5. Lang Ai Mee community

(Forest preservation, active community, join local school, activities with kids, foreign language and culture exchange, remote area...)

Lang Ai Mee community, Nakhon Si Thammarat province

DaLaa MTV project - code: 1704

Periods available: November 1st to February 28th, 2019 and May 1st to September 30th, 2019 at least 2 months

Expected number of volunteers: 2 to 4

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

Lang Ai Mee is a mountainous village of Nakorn Sri Tammarat province, Cha Uat district, part of Bantad Range Mountain. It is the watershed area giving birth to Cha Uat river flowing through the town of the same name and until the Chinese sea in Pak Panang district.

The first people came to live in this area in 1963. It's a good area to plant rubber and fruit plantations. One of them was named Mee and gave his name to the village.

In 1972, the government declared this area a national park and since then tries to forbid the villagers to live there and to use the natural resources, arguing that villagers are destroying the nature. (The same government who allowed before some companies’ concessions to cut all the forest rich trees species to sell abroad.)

Since that time, the villagers, about 60 families at that time, gather to fight against this decision and to prove they can live in harmony with the forest, the nature and can take care of it. Many volunteers’ activities have been going on in the village and now the community is very strong and responsible.

In 2002, they create a group “Ton Rak Paa Ton Nam” which could be translated by “Love forest and watershed” to gather now 157 families and 463 people. They made agreements together to preserve the forest, animals, water, trees, and organize activities together.

In 2014, the police border patrol helped to start a local school, so children can have education all the year along. In 2015 and 2016, DaLaa volunteers situated in Roywan Phan Pba project close to the place joined often activities with the school and the villagers. The princess and donators made it possible to create a new and beautiful learning center for the local children in the village (called the school).

After Roywan project was stopped in 2016, an active member from Lang Ai Mee, P Com and an active teacher close to the villagers, Crue Prakan, contacted us to request more volunteers to join their activities.
AIMS of the PROJECT

1. Exchange and learn language and culture with the local community.
2. Support the local group: Love forest and watershed.
3. Support the learning center on the foreign language aspect.
4. Help to give responsibility and harmony to local people in preserving their culture and way of life.

WORK AND ACTIVITIES

1. Learning center (=school): exchange language, activities with kids. The school will adapt to each volunteers’ skills.
2. Join and exchange activities about the local culture, occupation (fruit and rubber farming, using local material to make crafts like brooms...)
3. Take care of the forest and watershed: plant trees close to the river, look around for seeds species, tree nursery, and small dams to keep humidity...
4. Join with the women group to make processed food from the forest: chili sauce, kind of palm fruit to boil...

REQUIREMENTS

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area (in the middle of the forest), to adapt to the local conditions with only basic facilities and with very few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will often have activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will stay in the villagers’ house, if possible with their own room. There will be simple mat, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring sleeping bag - more bedding materials could be an option in case you are not used to sleeping on the hard floor. Volunteer will be part of the family who will take care of them for everything including food, security and transport. During activities at school (most school days), the lunch will be offered there. There are 4 or 5 families who are willing to welcome the volunteers at their house. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, local leaves and vegetables. They agree to adapt to volunteers needs and tastes using the ingredients available the
6. SOS Kindergarten

Activities with kids and English teaching

Hatyai district, Songkhla province
DaLaa MTV project – code: 1801
Periods available: All year around (except March and April)
at least 2 months
Expected number of volunteers: 2-3

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

SOS kindergarten is a part of SOS Children's village-Hatyai situated in Patong sub district, Tunglung village, Songkhla province, close to the border with Malaysia. The kindergarten is open for the kids aged between 3 – 6 years old from the area around. There are 60 children and 4 teachers, (only 10 kids from SOS Children’s village). It’s open Monday to Friday from 8.00 am to 3 pm.

SOS Children’s village is an international independent non-governmental social organization that helps children without parental care and families living in difficult conditions. They believe that children can only develop to their full potential if they have a supportive and protective family environment. They work to make this a reality. In this village, about 10 children from different ages are living in the same house with a mother fully dedicated to them. There are 12 houses in this village. Children go to normal schools outside and later to universities and/or to find a job then they can come back for visit only and a new young kid can then be brought to the house they left.

DaLaa got to know this place from Pee Jaew, a woman working for SOS Children's village for many years. She first invited our volunteers to join an English camp for the kids on school holiday in 2015 and we continue to organize regular activities with them since that time. We also host some older teenagers from SOS village to join DaLaa work camp when they have free time.

Pee Jaew and the director of SOS village would like to welcome international volunteers to join the SOS kindergarten, to support the team of the 4 teachers and to do activities with older kids when possible on the weekends (after kindergarten, children will go to regular schools outside the Children’s village).

AIMS of the PROJECT

– To support SOS kindergarten and SOS children’s village.
– To let children be familiar with volunteers and learn from international/multi-culture atmosphere
– To improve the English skills of local kids
**WORK AND ACTIVITIES**

Volunteers will be arranging creative activities with kids at SOS kindergarten and SOS children’s village. They will be supervised by the teachers. Depending on the volunteer’s skills, they will be proposed to organize activities with each class from age 3 – 6 years old about 3 or 4 hours a day. The volunteers can also help with other jobs such as cooking lunch for the kids and create the good atmosphere for everyone. The volunteers will also have a chance to do activities with bigger kids from SOS village on weekend and Holidays (October).

You will stay in P Jeaw host family, 15 km from SOS Children’s village and will travel to the working place every day with her (She is working from 8 AM to 5 PM). The volunteers will have 2 days off per week.

**FOOD and ACCOMODATION**

Volunteers will stay in the P Jaew’s host family (staff of SOS Children’s village), the house is about 20 minutes by car to the working place. The volunteers will stay in a wooden 2 floors house especially for volunteers. There are 5 members of the family: Father, Mother with 2 girls (ages 5 and 9 years old) and grand Mom 80 years old.

You will share your meals (cooking and eating) with P Jeaw family. They are Buddhist. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, meat, vegetables.

**REQUIREMENTS**

The volunteers should be ready to work with small kids, to prepare ideas and material for teaching and games. They should also be prepared to stay in rural area (30 min from Hatyai city), to adapt to the basic local conditions. Very few people (outside P Jaew ) are able to speak in English.
7. Wat Pho Thawad
(Creative English teaching and activities with kids)
DaLaa MTV project - code: 1901
Periods available: All year around (except March and April)
at least 2 months
Expected number of volunteers: 2

SHORT DESCRIPTION
Wat Pho Thawad is a very small school in Baan Kokpho, a Buddhist village of about 450 people in Phatthalung province, Southern Thailand. The school director (P. Pin) and local people would like to welcome volunteers again after the good feedback of the two work camps (2 weeks each) that took place in 2018. This time we would like volunteers for a 2 months period that can help to organize English lessons or other fun activities with the 49 students from kindergarten to Grade 6 (5-12 years old). The English skills of the students are very poor. They are not familiar with foreigners. You can experience the local way of life, exchange with other volunteers, villagers and support the children education. The volunteers will also help to organize and join the volunteer workcamp in middle February.

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT
The school is situated in the local temple (like in most villages) and was founded 50 years ago by the former Head monk. There are nowadays 49 students and 4 teachers from the government, plus the principal, and two more teachers are financially supported by the temple. In Thailand, the school year starts in May and finishes in March. Most of the villagers are farmers (rubber plantation, rice, fruits ...). The school principal learned about DaLaa through one of our project host and shares our values (International Voluntary Service) and believes in our actions. We organized already two workcamps in January and July 2018 which were a great success. The local kids have very few chances for interaction with foreigners and English language is more and more needed for their future. After a visit with DaLaa team last August we decided to start with MTV project there to improve the quality of the action.

AIMS of the PROJECT
1- To support Wat Pho Thawad school
2- To be part of the community of Baan Kokpho village
3- To let children be familiar with volunteers and learn in international/multi-culture atmosphere
4- To support the organization of the February workcamp
WORK AND ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be arranging creative activities with students. They will be supervised by the teachers and especially, P Pin, the school director. Depending on the volunteers skills, they will be proposed to organize activities with each class from Grade 1 to Grade 6. Outside the school, few villagers are willing to invite volunteers to learn about local lifestyle in the village and organize other common activities. The volunteers will also help to organize and join the workcamp planned during 10-23 February with International and Thai volunteers, together with a DaLaa camp leader.

REQUIREMENTS

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with basic facilities and with very few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will have often activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will stay in P. Pin house, few kilometers from the school. There is also possibility for men to sleep directly at the school/temple area. You will have your own volunteers bedroom, with simple mat, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring sleeping bag. Volunteers will eat at the school for lunch and at P Pin house for dinner. They can help the cooking and other daily tasks. There are some small grocery shops in the village. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, local leaves and vegetables.
8. Garden of tranquility
(School English teaching- Linking a spiritual project with the local community)
DaLaa MTV project - code: 1902

At least two months between: May 6th to August 31st 2019
(Arrival dates: May 6th, June 3rd or July 1st)

Expected number of volunteers: 2

SHORT DESCRIPTION
We are a family of 3, working on alternative education, coaching for self-awareness, women empowerment, and conflict resolution for over 15 years. We moved to live in a garden for the last 6 years and started to plant trees and build houses for ourselves, volunteers and visitors we often welcome. We started to teach English at the local school a few times and see the needs for community development. We would like to promote alternative education, self-reliance and working with Thai and foreign volunteers to improve the life of the community and society.

AIMS of the PROJECT

• To support local kids and young people to become able to communicate with foreigners and to learn from cultural exchange
• To improve the self-awareness of kids and young people and provide a creative space to express themselves.
• To create an open space for organic farming, towards a self-reliant an ecological community

WORK
- Volunteers will organize English and Art lessons and games to primary school children (7 to 12 years old) both at the community schools (2-3 days a week) and at the Garden of Tranquility.
- Volunteers will work on an artistic clay building. We finished building 2 clay houses and 1 library. We are now building a big meditation hall and family house, plus another volunteer house, all from clay.
- Volunteers will grow vegetables and plant trees, water them, make compost and collect fruits like bananas and mangoes.
OTHER ACTIVITIES

- We will discuss and practice exercises for self-awareness.
- You will have chance to discover the community and the area around the Garden of Tranquility.
- Daily tasks, including going to the market, cooking and cleaning around
- Other creative activities or discussions proposed by volunteers

REQUIREMENTS

- Volunteers should be interested in education for children, ready to lead a small group of kids on a chosen activity: English teaching, art or other.
- Volunteers should be ready to adapt to the Thai, local way of life, and willing to create relationships with volunteers’ friends, hosts and local people. Some difficult points could be mosquitoes and insects, eating rice at every meal, language and culture barrier, missing feedback, changing plans often.
- Volunteers should be able to stay in a remote environment, without public transport, not expecting to go to town or city often.
- Volunteers should be ready to put their hands in the dirt both for gardening and clay building.
- Volunteers should be able to take responsibility for themselves and the team by taking care of their health and security and be fully involved in the daily tasks and discussions.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

- We will take turn to cook 3 meals a day, suitable for vegetarians.
- Volunteers will live in a small clay house.
- Mosquito nets, pillows, blankets and mattresses are provided.
- Good quality shared bathrooms and kitchen.
Practical information about our MLTV projects

Places

Our MLTV projects are all situated in South Thailand (provinces of Songkhla, Satun, Trang, Nakorn Sri Tammarat and Pattalung). The meeting point for all MLTV arrivals is at HatYai aiport, close to our office where they join our introduction.

Security

Security for our volunteers is our priority. The area of our projects are safe and in small villages. Volunteers are staying in a host family we totally trust. A DaLaa staff is in charge for communication for each project. We wrote a safety booklet that we provide to our volunteers to explain about any risk and emergency situation.

Our projects are NOT situated in the South Thailand Insurgency area. See the link below for more information.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Thailand_insurgency

Choice of the project and period:

It is important that the volunteer chose freely the project that fits the most to him/herself. The minimum stay is 2 months and can be planned up to 1 year. Some of the projects are close during the school holidays (2 months in March/April and 1 month in October). The most rain in South Thailand is usually from October to December.

Fees:
The fee for a 2-month service, 20,000 Baht (approx. 540 Euro)
3rd month: 10,000 Baht
4th month and after: 9000 Baht per month

The fee will be used for living expenses (gas, water, electricity, food) and materials used in projects/activities. Some part of the fee will be used to support Thai volunteers and our organization.

Application Steps

1 - Volunteers have to apply not directly to us, but through our partner organizations of their own countries, unless you live in Thailand.
2 - Once we’ll receive an application; we’ll answer within 2 weeks.
3 - After acceptance, the volunteer will receive the info sheet of the project as well as DaLaa MLTV handbook. There is also a preparation from the sending organization.
Following of the volunteers:

In DaLaa, we are careful about the learning process of volunteers as well as their participation in the local community.

- Before volunteers start the project itself, they are invited to an on-arrival introduction at our office with MLTV coordinators to receive project details, organizational background, general information about Thailand such as language, culture, and so on. This usually takes 2 or 3 days.

- Every month, volunteers will be asked to visit DaLaa office for a meeting with MLTV coordinators to discuss about his/her project, or the coordinators go visit, vice versa.

- There will be a final evaluation in the last week before a volunteer finishes his/her project.

- If you have problems on the project you should first try and manage it by yourself but if you need help then someone from DaLaa will be there for you.

Visa

Participants need to request a “Non-Immigrant type” visa at a Thai Embassy/Consulate in their country. DaLaa will provide an invitation letter and officially registered paper for this. You need to do it about 1 month minimum in advance.

We also can help our volunteers to renew their visa at the Thai consulate of Penang in Malaysia, few hours from our office.

The price for a single entry (you cannot leave Thailand and come back with the same visa) is about 2000 Baht (approx. 50 Euros) and allows staying 3 months in Thailand.

There are also 2 months tourist visa in case the Non Immigrant one is too complicate to obtain.

Insurance

Participants are responsible for their own insurance. They should make sure in advance with their company what is covered and how to get their expenses back in case they need it. Be aware that only few hospitals in big cities will directly reimburse the medical fees. It is more likely that you will need to pay first.

Vaccination

There is no mandatory vaccination needed to come to Thailand. There is no malaria history at the project place. Volunteers are responsible for this matter.
**DaLaa values**

**Community living:** open to and respect of each other, of the environment, active participation in the daily tasks and community work, conscious responsibility, harmonious relationship, avoid selfishness and hasty judgment, courtesy, kindness, learning process, being able to adapt to the reality of the moment, balance gift/gain of the participants. The connection of people, living together and diversity. The learning community, soul and wisdom.

**Alternative education:** Kindness, Patience, coherence, loyalty, Put back human in the harmony of nature (ourselves first), basic of learning process, Value of life, Practical / Learning by doing, self-organization, adapted to local environment, leadership. What and how should we educate the students? What do we learn at the same time? Include our values in the learning process; parents are the main support for the children to learn. Forward the local wisdom to new generation, find solutions to youth difficulties, toward a revolution of society education, open mind and decrease ego, everyone has the right to learn and to share with others. Listen is more important than to speak. Learning of mind, be independent, self learning, natural way.

**Food autonomy/security:** Be aware of Health, Environment, Preservation, Economy, Responsibility, understanding the basic of life, variety, planting, collecting, compost, seeds conservation, sharing. Local plants. Plant for yourself, the rest for sharing, Green to eat, self management, easy way of farming.

Understand the basics of life include **alternative health** as well.

**Volunteer spirit:** Youth capacity building, giving yourself, sharing minds, understanding yourself and others, working to blossom.

**Learning organization:** Facilitate participants self-improvement (capacity building)

**Living, Learning, working TOGETHER**
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