



2022 **impact**  
**im** Highlights

# INTRODUCTION



There are approximately **60,000 children** living in construction site camps with slum-like conditions in Thailand. These children are often left unattended in these severely hazardous living environments while their parents are at work on construction sites. They experience limited access to essential services and their fundamental rights, and are at high risk of neglect, abuse, and exploitation. Baan Dek Foundation (BDF) aims to ensure that vulnerable children, particularly children within the construction sector, have sustainable access to education, health, and child protection services.

# OUR WORK

BDF's mission is to improve the fundamental well-being of all vulnerable children living in Thailand through:

- 1) **Direct support**, through child protection, child development, and community empowerment programs and
- 2) **Systemic change**, through collaboration with the Thai property and construction sector to improve practices that affect the well-being of migrant workers and their children.

## BDF Theory of Change



### IF

*If* critical immediate child protection and child development needs in construction site camps are addressed;

*If* construction site camp communities are empowered;

*If* companies in the Thai Property and construction sector adopts a change in the practices towards children and their families living in construction site camps;

### THEN

*Then* the access for workers and their children living in construction site camps to decent living conditions and access to essential public services will be improved.

# PROGRAMMATIC PILLARS

BDF has a unique, sustainable programmatic approach that is structured across three interconnected programmatic pillars to effectively **respond to urgent needs of children** living in construction site camps and urban slums, **empower the communities** they live in and **change the business practices** of the construction sector for lasting systemic change.

## Support

### **Pillar 1: Respond to immediate child protection and child development needs**

Through its child protection and child development programs, BDF provides temporary social and economic support to children and families to address critical, immediate needs. Addressing these needs is an essential step in generating long-term change and ending cycles of poverty for children and their families.

## Empower

### **Pillar 2: Empower communities and their leaders**

Through its community empowerment program, BDF addresses the issues migrant communities commonly face, described above, by empowering these communities. BDF provides communities with essential information related to their rights, life skills, and access to public services, and supports individuals to act as leaders of their communities.

## Change

### **Pillar 3: Change practices of companies in the construction sector**

To reach a change of practices in the construction sector, BDF adopts a solution-oriented and positive approach based on partnerships with property developers and construction companies. BDF develops practical tools and training sessions for companies to support them in adopting improved practices toward migrant workers and their children.

BDF monitors the direct impact of its programs on short-and-long term intervals against specific indicators in order to maintain consistent, standardized improvements, identify new issues to address, and highlight meaningful success. Systemic impact is measured against targeted milestones and indicators, such as the number of agreements established with construction and real estate companies.

# MEASURES OF SUCCESS

"Thank you to BDF for supporting my family! My husband received support for his rehab and medical treatment. If we were alone, we would be in further debt to the hospital. After treatment and counseling support, we don't need to worry about him becoming aggressive. BDF also provided all my children with emergency food sets, school fees and uniforms. If our family didn't have the chance to meet BDF, I can't imagine how much harder life would be."

— O., 29-years-old



## Flagship indicators as of October 2022

**1,800+**



children who benefitted from BDF's intervention.

**3,000+**



workers reached by BDF.

**53**



construction site camps, urban slums, or vulnerable communities supported, and 5 of these are new communities in 2022.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Including 3 transport company camps, 44 construction site camps across Chiang Mai and Bangkok, 1 shelter, and 5 urban slums.



# Pillar 1

## Respond to immediate child protection and child development needs (Chiang Mai)

Through its child protection and child development program, BDF provides temporary social and economic support to children and families to address critical, immediate needs. Addressing these needs is an essential step in generating long-term change and ending cycles of poverty for children and their families.

### Child Protection Program

**206**

families were enrolled into BDF's individual case management, with **64** of these cases related to domestic violence.

**43%**

of families were able to independently support their children following BDF support.

### Child Development Program

**91%**

of children aged 4 to 15 from construction site camps and urban slums are currently enrolled into public schools.

**1,095**

children who have been supported with school equipment and/or school fees.

**828**

hours of child development activities delivered to vulnerable children.

**92%**

of children<sup>2</sup> have been vaccinated according to Thai standards.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> N= 853 children

<sup>3</sup> Required vaccines include: BCG; Hepatitis B; Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis; Polio; Measles, Mumps, and Rubella; and Japanese Encephalitis.

# Pillar 2

## Empower communities and their leaders (Chiang Mai)

Through its community empowerment program, BDF addresses the issues migrant communities commonly face by empowering these communities. BDF provides communities with essential information related to their rights, life skills, and access to public services, and supports individuals to act as leaders of their communities.

### Community Empowerment Program

# 161

Peer Educators, trained to support community access to services, were in regular contact with BDF to help understand changing needs in communities, and distribute aid.

# 228

vulnerable women engaged in upskilling training, financial literacy training and income generating activities. A total of **292** hard and soft skill workshop sessions were provided through the Dao Women's Empowerment Project in Chiang Mai.

# 42

women from the Dao Women's Empowerment Project were successfully engaged as producers for BDF's spin-off social enterprise Dao Ethical Gifts. Co. Ltd. Producing corporate gifts and generating extra-income contributes to building women's economic empowerment, engaging them in work readiness, helps foster resilience and gender equality related behavioral change in most marginalized communities.



# Pillar 3

## Change practices of companies in the construction sector (Bangkok)

To reach a change of practices in the construction sector, BDF adopts a solution-oriented and positive approach based on partnerships with property developers and construction companies. BDF develops practical tools and training sessions for companies to support them in adopting improved practices toward migrant workers and their children.

### Systemic Impact Strategy



8

MoUs signed with like-minded companies who are committed to align their operations to business and human rights principles, support the sector-wide adoption of the BSI Initiative and implement the Framework in their camps. They include:

5

BSI Practitioners (construction companies) and

3

BSI Ambassadors (incl. real estate developers, construction service providers).

20,000

(estimated measurement)

construction workers live in BSI practitioners' construction camps.





# BUILDING SOCIAL IMPACT INITIATIVE

This year BDF entered a new phase of its Systemic Impact Strategy, launching its Building Social Impact Strategy in collaboration with partner construction companies, UNICEF Thailand and the EU on 10 February. The BSI Initiative is a concerted and organized effort – coordinated by BDF with ownership from construction companies, real estate developers and key stakeholders of the construction sector – to improve the living conditions and access to services of workers and their children living in construction camps across Thailand.



The BSI Initiative and its Toolkit was developed based on the BDF-UNICEF joint research paper, “Building Futures in Thailand” (2018), which examines the living conditions of migrant workers and their children living in construction site camps in Thailand. The Report provides 12 actionable recommendations called the Framework for Action that can be implemented by the property and construction sector to improve the living conditions for migrant workers and their children. It represents a low-cost and simple solution to improve the future of tens of thousands of children in Thailand. It is estimated that for every Thai baht spent on a construction site camp, there will be a seven baht return in terms of social value for those living in the camp.

In order to implement the Framework, construction companies can use the Building Social Impact Toolkit, composed of three main tools, listed below.

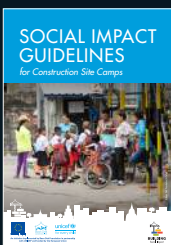


## BUILDING SOCIAL IMPACT

for the contractors, but also for project owners. Network of this kind is useful for the integration of the value chain and to build cooperation across the construction sector.”

“I think it’s fantastic to be able to build a network like this. Not only is the BSI Initiative

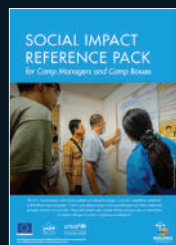
- Ph.D. Teeradetch Tungsubutra, CEO, Ritta Co. Ltd.  
(BSI Practitioner)



**Social Impact Guidelines**



**Self-Assessment Tool**



**Reference Pack**

# INNOVATIVE IMPACT JOURNEY

Through the BSI Initiative, project owners and construction companies have access to training to help onboard partners and integrate and operationalize the Framework for Action. These stages of the impact journey are: ENGAGE, LEARN, and IMPLEMENT.

## Engage

The ENGAGE stage introduces companies and developers on how they can identify, assess and mitigate social risks in construction site camps and how to integrate the BSI Initiative into the company's sustainability framework.

## Learn

The LEARN stage comprises training modules for senior management level company representatives to introduce and emphasize the importance of key concepts and international frameworks such as UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and Environmental Social Governance (ESG) that are aligned to the BSI Initiative.

## Implement

The IMPLEMENT stage focuses on working closely with operational-level staff and supports direct implementation of the BSI Framework.

## Creating a virtuous cycle: Benefits for workers, children and companies



Learn more about the BSI Initiative through its platform at:

[www.buildingsocialimpact.org](http://www.buildingsocialimpact.org)

# COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS

One of BDF's core values is collaboration; it believes in collaboration with both beneficiaries and partners, based on trust and mutual respect. Below is the list of key programmatic partners who have been instrumental in BDF delivering its mission.

## Child Protection and Case Management

- Chiang Mai Provincial Social Development and Human Security Office
- Chiang Mai Shelter for Children and Family
- Chiang Mai Home for Boys
- Homenet
- Mind Service Area
- Rajanagarindra Institute of Child Development (RICD)

## Access to Education

- Partnerships with over 70 public schools in Chiang Mai
- Informal Working Group on Migrant Education

## Access to Healthcare

- Chiang Mai Public Health Ministry
- Ban San Phranet Tambon Health Promotion Hospital
- Health Center for Ethnic Group, Marginal People and Migrant Worker
- Burma Children Medical Fund

## Building Social Impact Initiative

Under its broader stakeholder engagement plan, the BSI Initiative has also advocated in the following platforms to further scale-up the adoption of the Initiative.

- UN Global Compact
- Migrant Working Group
- UN Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum
- Ministry of Justice
- CSO Consultation on the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights
- PropertyGuru Thailand Property Award 2022, as an advisor in the ESG special recognition awards criteria



[www.baandekfoundation.org](http://www.baandekfoundation.org)



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