

ANNUAL REPORT

GVI PHANG NGA



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INTRODUCTION

GVI PHANG NGA 2019

GVI Phang Nga have had another amazing year with 276 volunteers having worked with passion and commitment towards our hub objectives. As a multi program hub running 3 different programs, while volunteers sign up on either Teaching, Healthcare or Conservation projects. They come on a specific program, however one of the many benefits of having a variety of programs on one base is that gain knowledge from different project areas, meeting people with totally different views and interests from each other. Our youngest volunteer on base was 16 this year, with our oldest a feisty 73, wherever you are from, whatever experience you bring, whatever your music interest. The one thing that every

volunteer has is a passion to make a difference, which soon unites all new family members.

GVI Phang Nga administer the Dive Master Placements of volunteers arriving from Fiji or Seychelles GVI Programs on Ko Tao with our partner Master Divers.

We also have a very active Service Learning part of the hub, whilst groups are intermittent we work with schools, colleges and Universities from around the world Phang Nga also have a best-selling Under 18 program. At one stage during 2019 we had 69 volunteers at the GVI Phang Nga hub, all helping to make a difference.

Overall GVI Phang Nga work on the following topics

- Teaching English and life skills to all members of the community
- Bird & Butterfly surveys
- Healthcare workshops to the community, requested topics such as dental health, obesity and women's health;
- Turtle husbandry and morphology
- Micro and macro plastics and marine litter collection
- Minor construction to improve learning environments in local schools
- Snorkel surveys, recording the condition of coral. Fish IDing

We work with a wide network of partners including - eBird; CleanSwell; GreenFins; Community Development Centre; Ban Nam Khem School; Royal Thai Navy; Foundation for Education and Development: Ko Phra Thong Community; Naucrate; Ban Lion; Phang Nga Montessori Kindergarten; Little Amazon; Shark Guardian, and Department of Marine and Coastal Resources



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GVI MISSION

“To build a global network of people united by their passion to make a difference.”

The organisation bridges the industries of international development, travel, and education. It was born from a desire to see a higher degree of local collaboration and a longer-term impact on international volunteer programs. GVI's mission has remained unchanged for the last 20 years.



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GVI OBJECTIVES

IN LINE WITH OUR DEVELOPMENT MAP

People are empowered to take action on key local and global issues:

GVI Outcome Challenges

- People need the opportunity to engage with local and global issues and better understand how those issues may be affecting own lives and the lives of others
- People need the opportunity to better understand how their own choices and actions, and the choices and actions of others, may be impacting local and global issues
- People need to evaluate their own abilities, and have the opportunity to build upon them, to make alternative choices that more positively influence the local and global issues
- People need to critically review and revise their own personal, academic / professional and community choices in terms of their potential influence on local and global issues

GVI is always striving to improve into the future and has set three main focuses. These are as follows:

- Long term collaborative impact on all stakeholders
- Providing 360 support for all of our participants and other stakeholders
- Increasing the employability or access to higher education of all of our stakeholders

GVI aims to empower people to take action on key local and global issues. People need the opportunity to engage with these issues and better understand how they may be affecting their own lives and the lives of others. By providing platforms for personal development, GVI enables individuals to better understand how their own choices and actions, and the choices and actions of others, may be impacting local and global matters. We know that for growth, people need to feel empowered to evaluate their own abilities, and have the opportunity to build upon them, to make alternative choices that more positively influence the world. This in turn enables them to critically review and revise their own personal, academic / professional and community choices in terms of their potential influence on certain issues.

By uniting participants, staff, community members & partner organisations we can look to expand our reach and increase the range of development in the following key areas;

- Number of stakeholders
- Number of locations of operations
- Number of collaborative project initiatives
- Total number of workshops / training sessions
- Total number of alumni
- Number of partners we are working with to influence policy and regulations
- Number of collaborative online, social media, papers and reports, presentations, workshops and outreach



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PHANG NGA HUB OBJECTIVES

LONG, MID & SHORT TERM

Long term Objectives/ Overarching Objectives	Mid term Objective / Sub-objective	Short term Objectives
1. To provide equal, quality education to children of all backgrounds.	Ban Nam Khem School: Support classes from P1 to M3 in developing their everyday English skills by following and supplementing the Thai educational curriculum	To complete their quarterly curriculums and learn topics and words on a quarterly basis.
	Community Development Center (CDC): Support classes from P4 to P9 in developing their everyday, English skills, by following and supplementing the curriculum given by the school.	To complete their quarterly curriculums and learn topics and words on a quarterly basis.
2. To Promote Good Health and Wellbeing through education to all children	Community Development Center (CDC): Support classes in P5 and 6 in developing their understanding on Healthcare and Wellbeing topics, following the GVI developed curriculum.	Develop 5 learning goals for each quarter in consultation with the local staff and support this with ideas for learning tasks
3. Increase skills for local people to gain access to equal employment opportunities in our communities within Takuapa and Ban Nham Khem	Go So Noh or Nam Khem: to provide after working classes for adults, following GVI developed curriculum	to complete a monthly curriculum led by TEFL interns and teaching volunteers
4. Increase awareness of local populations to environmental issues and facilitate change towards sustainability through scientific studies.	Increase sea turtle populations through head start programs and provide captive turtles with suitable enrichment through research and programme implementation.	Help our partners increase turtles' wellbeing, living conditions and survival rates.
5) Increase our in-country capacity by providing environmental and conservation education and training	Community Development Center (CDC): Support classes from P6- M3 in developing their conservation and environmental knowledge by GVI created curriculum	To complete their quarterly curriculums and learn topics and words on a quarterly basis.
6. To assist and develop local coastal conservation efforts through providing practical support to project partners, data collection, awareness raising and habitat restoration	Quantify and catalog terrestrial and marine animal species' populations to allow scientific studies.	Collect data on species distribution in the region's for National parks and iNaturalist. Collect data on coral reefs



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

WHAT GOALS ARE SPECIFIC TO PHANG NGA

SDG 3- Good Health and Well Being

SDG 4- Quality Education

SDG 5- Gender Equality

SDG 6- Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 14- Life Below Water

SDG 15- Life on Land

SDG 17- Partnership for the Goals

The UN's Sustainable Development Goal's (SDG's) are agreed targets that seek to reduce human inequalities and to safeguard our world on a global scale. GVI then, not only works its own objectives but also works towards achieving the SDG's.

At Phang Nga base we realise that the SDG figures are not stand-alone aims such as No Poverty or Decent Work and Economic Growth but are interwoven and filter into one another. For example, by providing quality education (SDG 4) about the environment in our local school we are working towards maintaining life on land (SDG 15) and in the oceans (SDG 14) by raising awareness of the issues. Therefore, whilst we focus on only a few SDG's we impact many.



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ON THE GROUND PROJECT INITIATIVE

SDG SPECIFIC

Goal #4 Quality Education

Education plays a vital role in every child's life. It is a key institution of society wherein they are socialised to become functional, contributing members of the community. It acts as a gateway to a better future for the child and for many, their family. To overlook the importance of a quality education serves only to diminish a child's life chances and understates their potential.

On our teaching project we take the impact English can have on our student's lives very seriously due to the immense opportunities available to an individual that can speak and write in English compared to those of someone without these capabilities. Our work towards this worthy goal is done reliably through providing free, proficient English speakers to local schools.

Our two main school partners are the Community Development Centre, a school for Burmese migrant children, and the Ban Nam Khem school, the local government school. We go into these schools for 15 hours a week providing English classes to students aged from 4 to 18. At both schools we are included in their academic schedule and depended upon to teach the students English as a Foreign Language. We have worked with both our partner schools for a number of years, we have seen the impact GVI and the volunteers have had on the students. It's great to see ex-students working in local cafes and in local resorts.

All participants coming to teach must train for a minimum of five hours before placement in a school. This training includes presentations and lectures from a qualified TEFL teacher, observation classes and assisted lesson planning seminars to ensure all teachers are of high quality and can provide our students with an acceptable level of teaching.

During 2019, we taught an average of 125 students on a weekly basis. This means these students saw a proficient English speaker at least once a week during the academic year. Beyond our regular classes, we also ran a number of summer camps and day camps at partner schools we do not attend regularly. These often take place in the school holidays, or as part of the schools wider camp. Topics range from bullying, First Aid, healthy eating, conservation topics We have taught a further 450 students through these camps. Meaning our teaching volunteers have taught 575 students in some capacity during 2019.

Mid 2019 we began a new initiative to provide extra-curricula educational opportunities to children in the community. Initially we began after-school clubs at CDC, then due to the success we started an after-school club at Ban Nam Khem towards the end of the year. These clubs are optional and served to give the students an opportunity to practice their English in a more casual, conversational style than our usual classroom teaching of grammar and vocabulary. Playing conversation games, dancing, sports and even video games (thanks to the generosity of one of our donors) to get them to practice their English skills and, arguably more importantly get them excited to engage and communicate in English! In



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total we have done 30 hours of after-school clubs. Our conservation volunteers also run an after-school club at CDC, here they educate the students in local and global conservation topics as well as teaching them practical skills like bird watching, butterfly studies as well as joining volunteers for beach and village cleans.

For the first 3 months of 2019 a TEFL intern was placed at a local school. They worked hard with the students on a daily basis preparing them for an exchange program. This year they had 2 students accepted for the program this is 1 more than the school usually get. Unfortunately, we haven't had any TEFL interns to place at the school, who are in desperate need of a native English speaking teacher.

Our adult classes have been conducted in three different locations and saw community members aged 18 to 73 coming to learn and converse in English. We ran adult classes from both Takuapa and Ban Nam Khem wherein we asked students what they would like to learn: many said relevant vocational English. This meant topics covered included: giving directions and tours, restaurant language and making requests and selling and polite negotiation. At its height we saw 16 students attend these classes. Duke Engage also taught 27 adults at the local homestay Thailife, where the students stay. They taught English to four departments for 2 hours a week for 7 weeks.

Achievement

- 125 students taught on a weekly basis
- 450 students attended Summer / English Camps
- 750 hours of English taught
- 15 Community Partners



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Goal #3 Good Health and Well-Being

Awareness and understanding of health issues as well as how to save ourselves and loved ones from preventable diseases is vital. No individual should go without the healthcare they need to survive. A deeper understanding of ourselves and our health empowers us with the ability to take control of our own livelihoods.

During 2019, the healthcare project changed tremendously in Phang Nga, but our impact never ceased or paused during these changes. We began the year supporting the development of children and young adults with disabilities, and we have ended with providing free health checks and information to our community. Throughout the year we have conducted multiple summer camps and workshops centred on good health, well-being, dental and hygiene matters.

GVI is a world leading organisation that places impact and ethics at the top of their agenda. In line with our child protection policies we are no longer sending short term unskilled volunteers to work with vulnerable children or adults. This means that our healthcare project needed to change. For the past 7 years we have had an outstanding relationship with Camillian Social Centre where volunteers supported the centre and its students. The partnership we have with Camillian is now very different. While we no longer visit on a weekly basis we were still invited to their Christmas party, we are still able to support them financially should they need.

In June 2019, we held our last annual "Fun Run" for Camillian raising 25,000THB for a new sign so that more families can be made aware of their services. In the 9 months that GVI was working with Camillian this year we worked hard to ensure that maximum impact was made. We had a very kind donation from a volunteer that allowed for the purchase a laptop for the students to use and gain computer skills. We also had a returning volunteer (herself with Cerebral Palsy) who brought many resources specific to the needs of the students. She also took her time here to a new level with one of the older students, who also has Cerebral Palsy. He created and sold a range of items such as t-shirts, bracelets and keyrings. This was the first time he had earned his own money. We worked with him to understand some of the concepts of running a shop, including budgeting along with some basic English to help him sell then assisted him as he sold his crafts. This project made his confidence soar and he saw his full potential and the opportunities available to him to create an income for himself and his family.

2019 saw the most Healthcare volunteers ever in Phang Nga, which gave us the opportunity to speak to the community and ask them what they needed. As a result we have conducted health education workshops in over 10 locations in 2019 and spent a total of 26 hours on workshops and educated over 300 participants on a range of topics including dental hygiene, diet and exercise, first aid and mental health.

Over time we will be able to measure the impact of these health education workshops using newest initiative: health checks. By monitoring the health and fitness of a group of people in one area, then delivering workshops to a focus group before revisiting the location and collecting data from the same participants, we will be able to see if the workshops regarding health topics, such as healthy eating, are affecting the health of individuals in the community.

Health checks are a new focus for our healthcare project in which we visit locations in the local area, such as the pier and local coffee shops, provide free health checkups for community members. Many individuals lack basic information about their own health, oftentimes not even



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knowing their own weight. With equipment bought using money from the Trust, we have been able to measure a number of different aspects of a person's health and fitness. We provide community members with information about themselves, including: height, weight, temperature, heart rate, oxygen saturation, blood pressure, quality of hearing and quality of eye sight.

Since beginning the project in August we have completed 122 health checks and have seen an increase in the amount of data collected each time we attended a location. This shows us that our community is becoming more interested.

Our healthcare volunteers have also began working with Ban Nam Khem Kindergarten and another local Kindergarten, implementing and developing, milestone development checks on the students. In order to build up to level of trust between student and volunteer, we teach them English before moving on to simple development checks.

Finally, one of our teaching interns organised a fundraiser in the village with the ladies of Ban Nam Khem (the local ladies from the community who get together for aerobics and dancing). The objective was to raise money for menstruation cups and reusable pads. The event raised over \$700 and helped buy over 20 packs of sanitary products for the ladies.

Achievement

- 26 hours of Healthcare workshops to 300 community members
- 122 Health care checks
- 240 hours supporting Camillian
- 80 hours education at local Kindergartens.



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Goal #14 Life below water

This SDG aims to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as addresses the impacts of ocean acidification

Royal Thai Navy Base Sea Turtle Conservation Center

Over the course of the year our relationship with Navy Base has continued to flourish. However, as the year ended Commander A and General Mu, who were instrumental in progressing the program, moved on. Thus, we must now continue to nurture our partnership and gain the trust of the new commanders. It goes without saying that we are truly grateful for Navy's trust and support in facilitating the program. Our long-term contacts at the base, Jimmy and Jay remain diligent in assisting GVI and the Navy Base to achieve its objectives.

Earlier in the year, the Navy rewarded GVI's hard-work and efforts by inviting us to visit the private island of Koh Huyong in the Similan archipelago, a nesting site for green sea turtles. This is the first step in the chain of events that eventually leads to the re-release of the turtles.

In addition to the hard work of scrubbing the tanks and providing husbandry services to the turtles, the navy base acts as a valuable environment to provide education to the hoards of tourists that pass through on a daily basis. Lessons and information come from the volunteers, so not only is awareness raised but the knowledge is reinforced in the volunteer's mind, that information then goes back home with the volunteer. The reach of this awareness about green turtles is further extended when Community and health care volunteers come to assist conservation during a Friday project. We have also had 6 Service-Learning groups aid in the efforts to clean and provide husbandry to the turtles. However, there is always plenty of work to be done. For example: improving the enrichment devices. We have clear results that show turtles display less aggression when there is a well-designed enrichment apparatus in the tanks.

We finished the year with a fundraiser which will help us to provide supplementary vegetables to the turtle's diet. This will help the turtle overcome health issues linked to digestion difficulties and cloaca infections, which will ultimately improve the welfare of the turtles in the center.

Achievement

- 450 hours cleaning tanks and turtles, and conducting morphology studies
- Turtles released: 250 Green Turtles, 2 Olive Ridley and 1 Hawksbill
- 2 Workshops and 15 beach cleans completed by the Volunteers and Staff.



Snorkel project



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During the dry season, as part of the conservation program, we can conduct snorkeling surveys. The surveys are in partnership with Green Fins and REEF, a citizen science partner formalized in 2019. Once a week, the conservation team survey various local reefs in order to monitor coral health and its fish population dynamics. In addition to Koh Pa reef, two other reefs have been surveyed, Khao Nayak and Koh Pling. This project is important as 80% of the coral around Phang Nga is showing signs of bleaching. The goal for near future is to keep working towards the preservation of the Coral reef and explore new surveys sites and observe the health of other local coral reefs.

Achievement

- 18 snorkel surveys
- > 90 fish identified, 1 Cuttle fish, 3 Morey eel, 1 Sting ray, 1 Dolphin sp.
- 2 Sea cucumber sp. 1 sea star sp. 1 Mantis Shrimp, 3 sea urchin sp.
- 7 kind of coral reef formations (massive, sub-massive, branching, tabular, mushroom, foliose and encrusting coral)



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Goal 15 Life on land

Urgent action must be taken to reduce the destruction of natural habitats and loss of biodiversity which are part of our common heritage and support global food and water security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and peace and security.

Surveying the local area for biodiversity, allows for volunteers to record data on citizen science applications, giving benefit to research around the globe. It also provides good insight to the conditions here and how the ecosystems are changing dependant on their environment and conditions.

Bird's surveys

Throughout the year we have worked to educate and inspire a passion for birds within our conservation volunteers by monitoring the bird biodiversity in Phang Nga. The weather in 2019, particularly the rain, was abnormal and came late in the year and in less quantity than expected. As such, we used this as an opportune moment to do more surveying, especially during what would be considered wet season. Our sightings from the year came in high at 130 different species in comparison to the 90 sighted last year.

During September 2018 our main survey spot next to base was cleared and the construction of a number of new resorts commenced. This driving force allowed for us to venture further from the village to find new birding sites.

We continued to return to our village site once a month in order to monitor the changes in bird presence before, during, and after the construction of the resort. So far we have observed that smaller passerine species and wader birds are leaving but more robust species such as herons, Brahmy kites and doves remain in the area as they are more opportunistic birds and adapt to change more readily.

This year we were able to improve the apparatus for our bird surveys and invested in new binoculars. This was thanks to one of our volunteer donations and the GVI Trust money. As more resorts move into the area of our village changing the natural environment, it is going to be important to observe changes in local bird populations.

Achievement

- 70 Birds surveys
- 130 different species > more than 3000 birds sighted
- 4 endangered species under IUCN list



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Butterflies

This year we have reintroduced butterfly surveying into our weekly program. Butterflies are important indicators of an ecosystems health and give a representative insight into the trends of the invertebrates.

The project was reintroduced as an intern placement who studied the butterflies on Koh Pratong. Given its success we expanded the project with the goal of studying the butterfly biodiversity in different environments around Phang Nga region such as: Rainforest (Koh Ra Island), Mangroves, and coastal habitat around Nam Khem.

So far, the project has returned good results with more than 500 butterflies captured and more than 100 different species identified. We are now starting to upload our pictures and identifications to INaturalist, a citizen science project aimed at recording biodiversity on a global scale. The volunteers love the project, giving them the opportunity to catch the butterflies in nets they have hand sown from old mosquito nets.

Achievement

- 40 Butterfly surveys
- 100 different species identified
- > 500 butterflies captured



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Mangroves



Over the course of the year, our relationship with DMCR (Department of Marine and Coastal Resources) has been strengthening. We were invited to work alongside the governmental department for several mangrove restoration projects. Towards the end of the year, we had established enough trust for them to let us solely carry out the work of planting mangroves in the desired areas. The projects included the replanting of a shrimp farm in Bang Muang and restoring an old palm oil plantation site behind Takuapa Bus station.

The overall purpose is to restore the mangrove habitat in the area, which would create a first line barrier against natural disasters. The Conservation team did an incredible job planting more than 2000 young mangrove trees in the area

Achievement

- 20 mangrove planting sessions completed
- Over 2000 mangroves planted

Beach cleans

Our beach cleans would not be as impactful if it weren't for the hard work of every single volunteer that partakes in the activity. The passion and commitment of our volunteers has been inspiring, with some even collecting litter during their free time. In 2019 more than 2500 kg of marine litter was collected around 4 main areas: Koh Pratong; Thai-life Beach; Tsunami memorial and Navy base. The items that are collected are uploaded to a database via an app Clean Swell created by Ocean Conservancy.



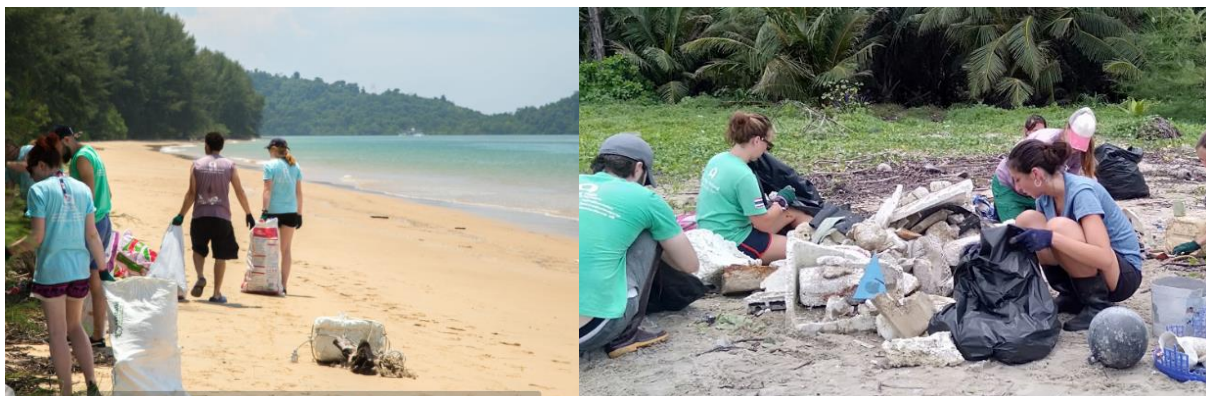
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Additionally, GVI participated in several beach clean events together with DMCR, Police Department and Ban Nam Khem village. This highlights that the local people of our community are becoming increasingly aware of the issues regarding marine pollution. We have also used beach cleans to create more awareness especially with the children as they are the future of Ban Nam Khem and our world. All volunteers, conservation, community and service learning groups contribute to these highly impactful activities.

Achievement

- 250 beach cleans completed
- 95 volunteers (26 kg/57lbs (average per vol per clean up))
- >2500 kg /5520 lbs.



Island project on nearby islands

This year we continued with our monthly visits to the islands. Where we have strengthened the data collected. A trip to the islands is usually full of trekking, adventures and sightings of new species. What more could you want from a conservation program?

Each time that we go to the islands we observe new species whether that's invertebrates, birds or mammals from the camera traps, these islands offer huge biological potential. Our camera trap surveys have picked up sightings of Orange breasted thrush, crested serpent eagle and leopard cats.

This trip allows our volunteers to get a real sense of what conservation work consists of by going back to basics, hiking in all terrains in all weathers, and exploring the diverse ecosystems.

Due to the remoteness of these islands, there is no garbage collection or removal system in place, so waste is either burnt or left to build up. One of our short-term interns organised an all-day beach clean fundraiser. This raised over \$400 which was used to hire two boats to remove the rubbish from the island.



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We would like to say a big thank you to Barry Bundall and the Ban Lions community for providing help and support throughout the last 3 years. We would also like to say thank you to one of our volunteers for her kind donation of new material for our surveys.

Achievement

- 2 Long Term interns had their placement on the islands, allowing for mangroves and butterflies to be studied.
- Sightings of Palm Civet, Lesser Adjutant Stork (vulnerable on IUCN list)
- Supported monthly the local community, guides and homestay, boats and transport for 12 months for conservation and 3 nights Duke Engage

Service Learning 2019

We welcomed 6 groups in 2019, which was slightly down on 2018 but the impact only increased. Duke Engage (part of Duke University) returned again for the 5th year running, showing the commitment and the strength of the partnership, as they entrust us to deliver an 8 week blended program, incorporating all aspects of our projects. The feedback from this year was outstanding again from all 16 students with a NPS score of 94. They challenged, were challenged, and were overall inspirational, as their impact was seen alongside ensuring all projects delivered were sustainable, as they are with all GVI projects. Activities included: Green Sea Turtle conservation, bird surveys, beach cleans, islands visit with educational and conservation focus and construction at a local school, building upon the work delivered by Duke Engage 2018. They also taught English to the staff at Thailife, where they stayed. They delivered 6 workshops to tourists and partners and held a community workshop on eco-bricks.

Scarisbrick School, SPCC and Burnley College, all returned for another year, bringing more students to volunteer on a blended program. Giving all students the opportunity to experience what GVI Phang Nga has to offer. The work that they completed included working at the Navy Base with the Endangered Green Sea Turtles.

2019 welcomed two groups of Under 18's on a 2 week program, one week of volunteering and one week of adventure. Both groups went very well with them enjoying all aspects of the program, under 18's from all around the globe joining together to make a difference.

Whilst project work is very important, its also very important for our service learning groups to experience the local culture, and we believe that immersion is particularly important. Cultural enrichment included, Khao Sok, Phang Nga Bay and Province, Phuket and Khao Lak where volunteers explore waterfalls, temples and markets all the while reflecting on the experience. Reflection is a constant throughout the programs, we need to ensure that we provide a service learning program that doesn't stop when they leave Thailand. This year we have written multiple references for our volunteers to continue their passion. They have organised local beach cleans and meet ups when back home. This confirms the sustainability of our goals.



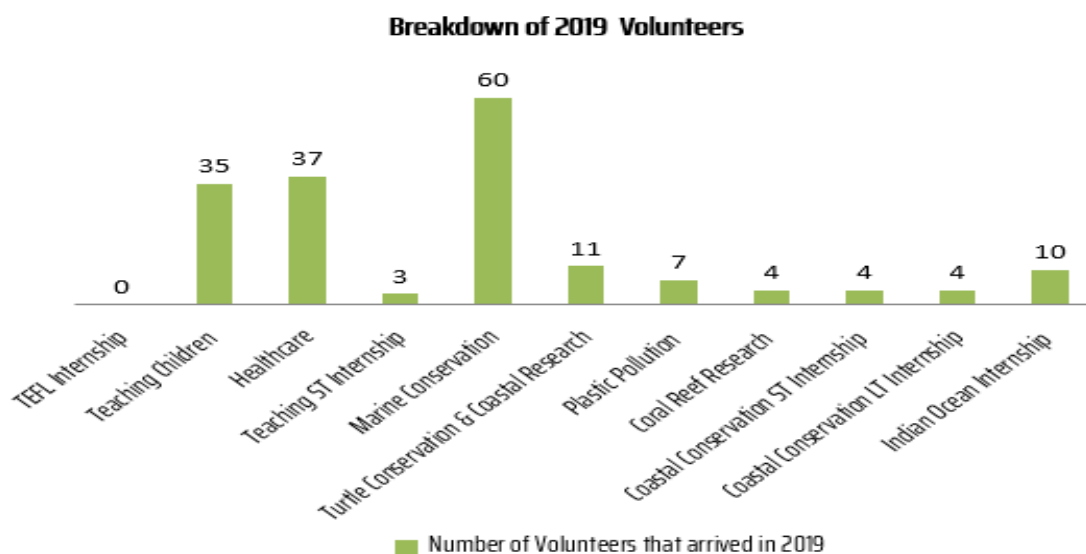
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REACH

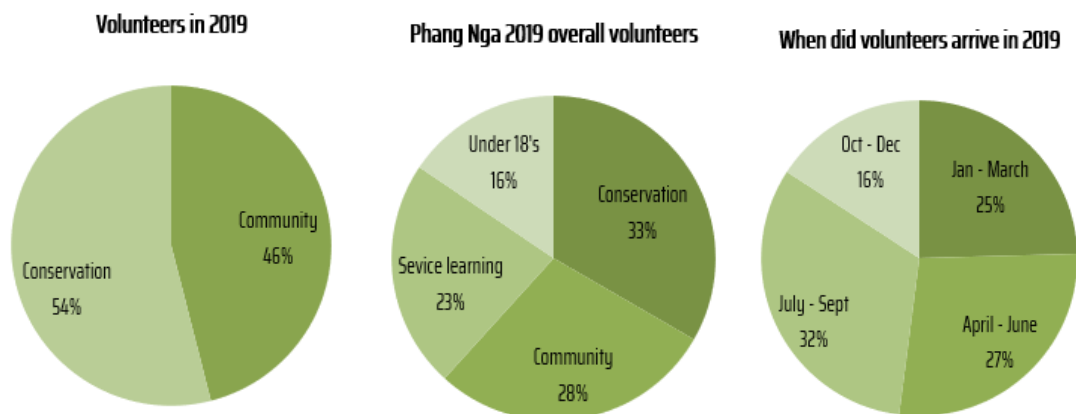
HOW MANY NEW FAMILY MEMBERS?

IN 2019 WE WELCOMED 276 VOLUNTEERS TO GVI PHANG NGA. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM BELOW, THEY CAME FOR A MIX OF PROGRAM AND PROJECTS. ONE OF THE CHALLENGES THIS YEAR WAS THE LACK OF TEACHING VOLUNTEERS TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR. WHILE WE HAD OVER 6 WEEKS WITH NO VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT, OUR COMMUNITY COORDINATOR BILLY DID A GREAT JOB OF COVERING CLASSES AND MAINTAINING IMPACT. HOWEVER, WE HOPE TO SEE A MORE CONSISTANT FLOW OF TEACHING VOLUNTEERS IN 2020. 101 VOLUNTEERS THROUGH OUR SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM, 165 TO BASE AND 10 TO KO TAO.

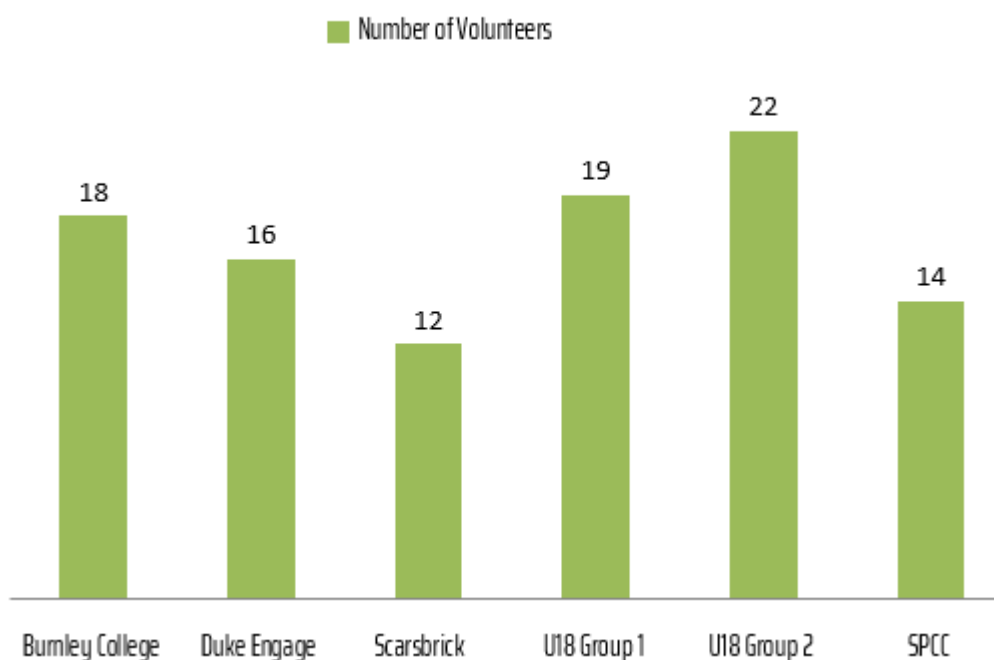


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Breakdown of Phang Nga 2019 Service Learning



This year we saw a decrease in group numbers, we played host to a Chinese University group with a potential of a future partnership. The visit went well and we are awaiting our first booking. Their visit coincided with Duke, Scarsbrick and Under 18's group 1, we also had nearly a full hyb, meaning that we had 69 volunteers at Phang Nga at one time. We are incredibly proud of the work that everyone did to make this a success. Feedback from during this time was incredible.



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SUCESSES

This year we lived and worked by our missions and values while making a dent on the SDG goals. If you have read the report, then you will have seen all of the achievements we have made this year. Along with daily project work, we have worked hard to raise money for GVI Trust, fund raisers have included: community fun run, community Zumba challenge, a cycle event around the village and base challenges. along with a number of incredible donors this year we have been able to fund specific campaigns, these included buying menstrual cups and pads for the ladies off Ban Nam Khem, 2 new laptops and a projector, a games console, many craft and education materials, camera traps and surveying equipment, binoculars and micro plastic project equipment. Thank you to everyone who has been kind enough to donate either financially or with actual resources, we and our partners appreciate it very much.

Advances have been made in all levels of our teaching program, and exam results are showing the impact that we have. This was specifically shown by one student who achieved 100% then 97.8% in his two exams. We ran a 3-day English camp for over 150 students with 5 volunteers, this showed passion and commitment by volunteers and staff alike.

Our conservation efforts have resulted in Green, Hawksbill and Olive Ridley sea turtles being released back into the ocean. We have cleared 2,500kg off rubbish off our beaches. We have collected data on 7 species that are currently on the endangered IUCN red list of threatened species. We have educated students and members of the community and tourists on the threats that these animals face. Providing information on plastic pollution and coral friendly sunscreen. We have supported small rural communities. Overall we have worked with over 15 partners who include Ban Nam Khem school the Community Development Centre, Ban Than Nam Chai kindergarten, FED, Montessori Pre-School Khuk Khak, Ban Muang school, Ban Yan Yao school, Senanakul, Khuraburi school, United Learning Centre and Ban Tip school. The Royal Thai Navy, eBird, Greenfins, Reef Watch, Ban Lions Community all of whom we have an excellent relationship, this helps not only with the day to day running of the projects and ensuring that they are impactful and what the community and partners need, but also most importantly making them sustainable.



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CHALLENGES AND 2020 PLANS

Our plans for 2020 are to refine the developments made this year in order to further our impact and prepare for a new era for the community project here in Phang Nga. We will potentially look at renting a space to host classes and clubs in which means also getting more community members on board to manage this space and, one day, be prepared to take over it as our exit plan comes to fruition. Whether we rent the space or not, we want to hire more members of the community, particularly a Burmese member who can help us access this vulnerable ethnic group in the village. We will confirm a reliable set of locations and a schedule to operate our health checks so the community know exactly where we will be and when if they would like to participate or bring someone else. We will also examine the results of our workshops and information sessions. Furthermore, we would like to share our data to the local clinic with the potential of forming a new partnership.

The teaching program has seen steady improvements to the curricula over the years though the ones provided by our partners are not always clear or follow a logical pattern of difficulty for our young students; we radically changed the curriculum for one of our partner schools in 2018 and we also hope to update and revise all our curricula and approach the schools with these new and improved documents. We also would like to develop some clear and consistent classroom rules, seating plans and expectations for the students at our schools as with alternating teachers every week, it can cause issues with behaviour. In 2020 Ban Nam Khem School has given us a GVI classroom to be able to offer group teaching to the students on a more regular basis which will help increase our impact. In 2019 we struggled with this school as we were only teaching each class for 1 hour per week. We hope to see a

consistent flow of community volunteers throughout the year as this will help us increase our impact.

3 new resorts are under construction in the village, giving us the opportunity to work with the community, teaching them English so they are able to maximise the opportunities that this change to the village will bring.

The construction will also give the conservation team an opportunity to study and analyse the data collected from the area. The long term plan is to be able to publish our findings so they can act as a template for future construction considerations.

Data is a hot topics for the conservation team in 2020, we aim to clean and standardise the data we have already collected and will collect in the future. This work will allow us to be able to make recommendations to our partners and increase the impact on our projects.

Our aim is to increase the number of conservation partners and grow the ones we have formed over the last 3 years. One partner that we have worked with before and hope to work with again is the National Parks. We are surrounded by 9 different National Parks, each with unique ecosystems, and we hope to rekindle this relationship to see how we can help them.

For the last 2 years we have been constantly working to gain a research licence for our islands project, and we hope this will be successful in 2020. Obtaining the licence will allow us to publish the work we have been conducting for the last 3 years.



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We hope to strengthen the work with the community by engaging them in our weekly beach cleans, educate them more about the local and global conservation issues and threats to their environment.

Our work with the Royal Thai Navy will continue, nearly every volunteer that comes to GVI Phang Nga has the opportunity to learn more about the endangered Green Sea Turtle. We have lots of plans how we can increase our impact and mitigate the plight of the species.

Overall, we aim to refine and reach out. Refining what we have into streamlined, easily laid out projects for volunteers to jump on board and make an impact and reach out to greater our relationship with the direct community. Everything we do is driven by our partners, for our partners. We aim to maintain the excellent relationship we have with them all, while also striving to form new ones. Working together is how we reach our objectives and increase our impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



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CONCLUSION

IMPACT MADE IN 2019

In summary, 2019 was an immense year, huge changes were made to our community program, advances were made with our conservation project and service learning groups added to the total impact of the hub. This year we strengthened our relationship with the community, as cultural immersion is extremely important to volunteers and staff alike. Living and working with local people has taught us all about the local cultures, festivals and traditions. Reaching out and listening to the community and our partners has led us to developing new projects, enabling us to increase the impact of existing projects and opening new partnership opportunities. We want to take this opportunity to thank every volunteered, staff and community member that made 2019 such a success, and we look forward to an impactful 2020.

*Thank
you!*



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