Mekong Migration Network Chiang Mai, Thailand

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About Chiang Mai & Thailand
• Chiang Mai is the second largest city is located in northern Thailand.
• It is the second largest city in the country.
• Thailand has a wide variety of landscapes including mountains, islands, and urban areas.

Projects/What we did
• The Roles of Country of Origin Project focuses on the role origin countries play in protecting their nationals working abroad in what is known as the Greater Mekong Sub region.
• Social Economic Zones (SEZ) & Garment Industry Research Project compares aspects of work in and outside of SEZs across 3 countries in Southeast Asia.

Haila
• Collected research on Laos as it is being newly added to the study.
• Researched and collected information on migration mechanisms in Laos, with a focus on Lao Migrant workers to Thailand.
• Learned a lot about the policies and laws in relation to labor migration from Laos to destination countries.

Amber
• Used SPSS to analyze data collected in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Data collected focused on demographic information as well as aspects of work.
• Summarized data collected in Yangon, Mae Sot, and Phnom Penh into document for project partners.
• Presented findings in small meeting with other project partners at the end of the internship.

Conferences/What we did
As interns, we were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend two conferences.
• There was a total of three interns at the MMN Secretariat Office: two from IWU, one from Yale.
• As interns, we were in charge of documentation, photography, and technical support.
• Through these conferences, we also had the opportunity to meet MMN’s project partners whom came from around the world.

Roles of Country of Origin Project Consultation Meeting
• Consultation meeting to start the second phase of the project.
• Project partners came together to update each other on the current situation on their respected countries.

MMN General Conference
• Meeting recognized present members of MMN.
• Voted to approve a new organization as an official member of MMN.
• Discussed past, present, and future project plans.
• Came up with different capacity building and advocacy strategies by identifying key issues and the results MMN wants to achieve.
• Had a photo exhibit set up with a variety of pictures of migrant workers in different settings, industries, and countries.
• The countries represented by leaders from MMN member organizations at the General Conference were from Thailand, Cambodia, China, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

About Mekong Migration Network
• Mission: Recognize, Respect and Promote the Human Rights of All Migrants in Mekong.
• MMN is an NGO that does advocacy and research work towards the protection of migrant workers in the Greater Mekong Sub-region.
• The secretariat office currently has 3 ongoing projects: Roles of Countries of Origin Project, SEZs & Garment Industry Research Project, Fishing & Agriculture Industry Project.