

# NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID THAILAND



Strategic Summary  
2025 - 2030



# Norwegian People's Aid

## Thailand



### Country Overview

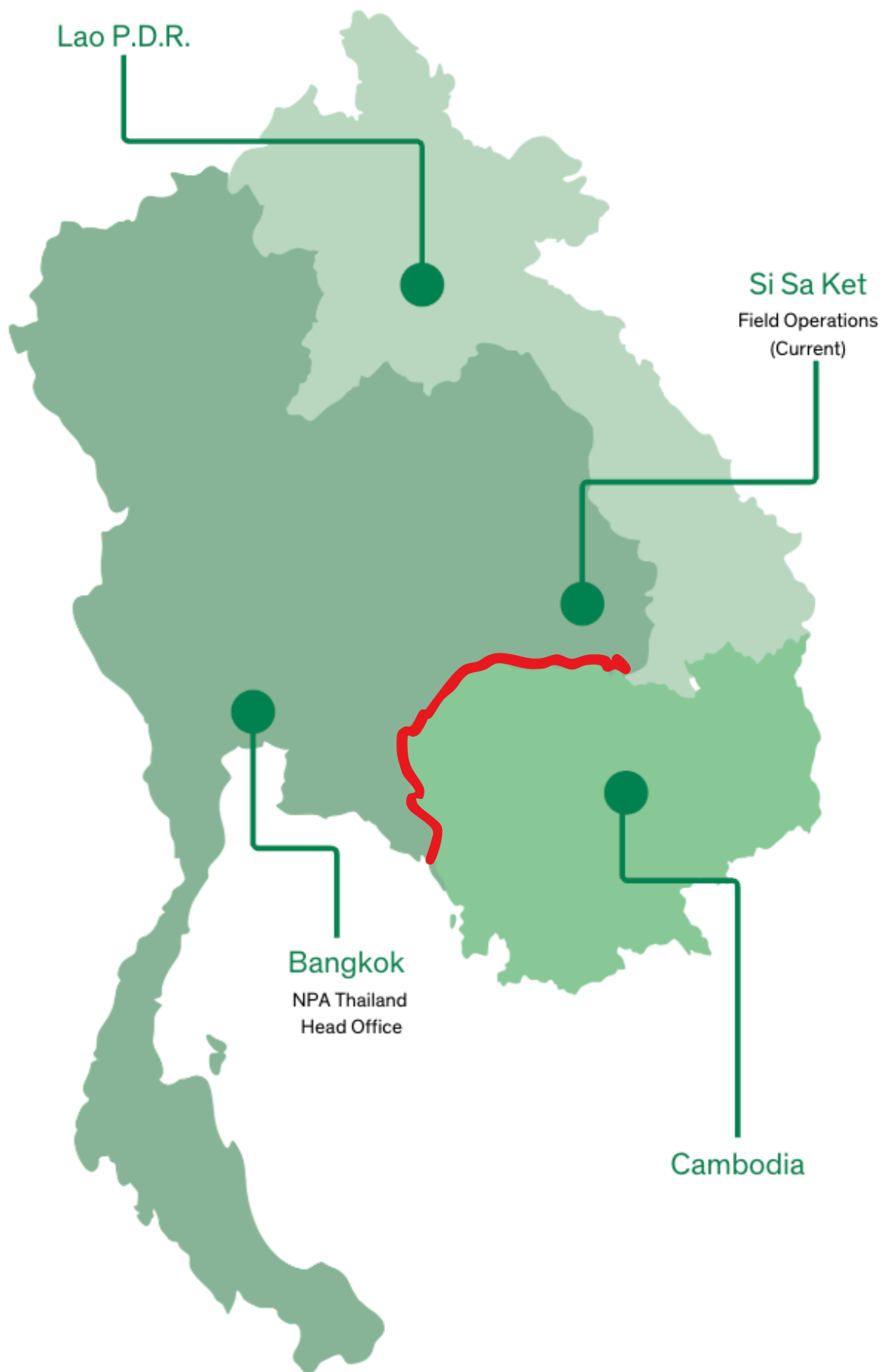
The awareness of the landmine situation in Thailand remains limited to the general public despite decades of contamination from regional and internal conflicts. Since the 1970s, more than 3,000 casualties have been recorded, with significant areas remaining inaccessible due to the presence of landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). The primarily affected land area is along the Cambodian border, where landmines and other ERWs continue to obstruct border demarcation and hinder economic development.

### NPA in Thailand

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) began activities in Thailand from 2000 to 2001, conducting the national Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) in collaboration with the Thailand Mine Action Centre (TMAC). NPA established a Mine Action programme in 2010, partnering with TMAC to provide technical advice on strategic planning, information management, and development of land release methodology. The current field operations are in Si Sa Ket province, where NPA field staff work together with the Humanitarian Mine Action Unit (HMAU).

### Importance of clearance

By removing landmines and other ERWs, our activities not only create safer environments for communities but also support broader developmental goals. These include boosting tourism, promoting regional development, improving border security, protecting natural environments, and encouraging increased stability between Cambodia and Thailand.



NPA Thailand has its headquarters in Bangkok at the Thailand Mine Action Centre, near Don Muang Airport. The current field operations are carried out at the Phanom Dong Rak Wildlife Sanctuary in Si Sa Ket province near the border with Cambodia.





## VISION AND OBJECTIVES



To reach NPA's vision and objectives 3 key strategic priorities has been defined:



Assistance to authorities of Thailand towards the fulfillment of their **Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 obligations.**



**Capacity development** of national resources to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of TMAC and HMAUs ensuring national ownership for the implementation of the **Mine Action Strategy.**



Work towards encouraging Thailand to consider acceding to the **Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).**

<b>Vision</b>	<b>The risk from landmines and other ERWs is reduced to a level where civilians can live safely, and where development is not constrained in Thailand</b>		
<b>Objectives</b>	Mine Action - Survey and clearance	Supporting the national authority	Thailand considering to accede to the CCM
<b>Outcomes</b>	Areas previously blocked by the presence of landmines and other ERWs of war are returned to beneficiaries for safe and productive use.	Data is transparent and available to all stakeholders on provincial and national levels, supporting informed decision-making and enhanced collaboration.	Thailand is willing to accede to the CCM.
<b>Outputs</b>	Released land in all the impacted communities affected by landmines and ERW.	TMAC has the ability to regulate, coordinate, and monitor mine action activities at national and provincial levels. All mine action data is accurately collected, reported, and safely stored.	Provide advice on the CCM to authorities of Thailand and assist with destruction of stockpiles of cluster munitions if requested.
<b>Inputs</b>	NPA has the ability and expertise to utilise global and regional best practices for land release in mine action.	Assist in collecting accurate data, managing information, and advancing the development of mine detection dogs (MDD) and technology.	NPA utilise global expertise and regional best practice on advocacy.

# Methods of mine action

NPA Thailand is currently operating in the Phanom Dong Rak Wildlife Sanctuary, in the Kaban Krabai Field, Khun Han District, Si Sa Ket Province. In this operation, NPA is utilising the full mine action toolbox during its land release activities, including mechanical equipment, mine detection dogs (MDD), and manual deminers. This balanced approach allows us to conduct various surveys and clearance operations with greater efficiency and effectiveness.



## 1) Non-Technical Survey (NTS)

- **Purpose:** Locate areas of potential contamination by landmines and other ERWs without disturbing the ground.
- **Process:** Utilise local knowledge by conducting interviews with all possible sources of information, evaluating historical records, and analysing data to define areas that may be contaminated.



## 2) Technical Survey (TS)

- **Purpose:** To confirm and map areas that are contaminated with landmines and other ERWs
- **Process:** NPA combines the use of machines, mine detection dogs (MDDs), and manual deminers to accurately identify the boundaries of the contaminated areas.



## 3) Clearance Operations

- **Purpose:** Safely remove landmines and other ERWs to return safe land back to the communities.
- **Process:** NPA use metal detectors or MDDs to locate landmines and other ERWs, which are then safely removed by HMAU explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) staff.

# Progress and outlook

NPA is currently working to assist the North-Eastern and Eastern provinces of the country (Thai-Laos and Thai-Cambodian borders). After the LIS concluded in 2001, the total landmine contamination was estimated to be 2,557 km<sup>2</sup> in 27 provinces. By June 2024, the estimated contamination of mined areas had been reduced to approximately 20 km<sup>2</sup>.

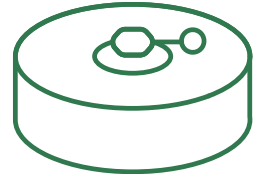
Today NPA are conducting survey and clearance operations, utilising the full mine action toolbox. The final objective is to further reduce the landmine and other ERWs contamination to a level where they no longer pose a risk towards the population or constrain social economic development.

The current target outlined by the authorities, is to **reach this goal by 2026**, thus fulfilling their international obligation. However, NPA considers this target to be out of reach due to lack of resources for analysing information and updating the contamination situation on the ground.



120

million square meters  
of released/cancelled  
areas



6,800

landmines and other  
ERWs destroyed  
since 2011



To assist Thai authorities with an updated and more accurate estimate of the remaining landmine and other ERWs contamination, NPA propose to update the national database immediately, and to conduct a new NTS, using modern methods and technology.



Mine Detection Dogs (MDD) have proven to be highly effective in detecting landmines and other ERWs. Currently, NPA operates one global dog-training center in Bosnia and Herzegovina. NPA Thailand are in the process of establishing a cooperation with the Thai Military Dog Training Centre to improve access to more dogs in the region that are trained to meet NPA's global standards.

# Gender, Environment, and Diversity



## Gender



NPA Thailand is committed to fostering gender equity across all levels, with women making up nearly 40% of the workforce and a goal of reaching 50%. Women currently hold 60% of management positions and serve in key technical roles such as programme and finance management, including field supervision. Since employing Thailand's first female deminer in 2011, NPA has actively promoted women's involvement in mine action. Through gender-sensitive policies and equal opportunity advocacy, NPA supports capacity development and encourages partners, including TMAC and HMAUs, to increase women's participation in mine action.



## Environmental Protection

Clearance programmes have a responsibility to “do no harm” to the communities they serve, which includes minimising environmental impact. While ordnance clearance inevitably affects the environment, efficient land release methods help reduce this by focusing efforts solely on contaminated areas. An environmental expert now oversees our practices to ensure they meet both NPA and donor environmental standards.



## Diversity

NPA are committed to having a diverse and inclusive workplace where all team members bring unique ethnic and educational backgrounds that enrich our work. We actively encourage applications from individuals with disabilities, upholding a policy of equal opportunity for everyone.

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## Norwegian People's Aid Thailand

**This summary** provides an overview of the NPA Thailand Strategy. The full strategy will be released shortly. For additional details or to request a copy, please contact us.

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