

In 2020 circumstances changed drastically, but the vision did not.

From the steep mountain ranges in northern Thailand to the blue Andaman ocean in the south: the futureless was hit with unprecedented hardship.

Avoda works with people caught inside the poverty trap. We invite selected candidates for training camps and coordinate with small businesses to prepare meaningful employment.

The government's answer to the Covid pandemic includes lockdowns, business shutdowns, and severe restrictions on movement between provinces.

All our aid programs came for a short while to a shocking halt.

### Golden Triangle:

The Avoda evening school for ingenious highlanders in the infamous Golden Triangle, one of the world's largest drug trading areas, was halted.

#### Burmese Border:

At the Burmese border, the Avoda Burmese migrant school with over 150 students was forced to close.

#### Training Center:

In Tak, the training center could not receive trainees.

#### Bangkok:

In Bangkok, the training coffee shop had to close because customers were afraid to venture out.

#### The Sea People:

In the south, the minority Moken people (the so-called sea gypsies, or sea people) did not receive the visitations they hoped for.

At Avoda, we never experienced such a drastic intervention in our rescue operations.

#### Our vision is and remains:

We see former futureless children, youth, and young adults in Thailand living a dignified, sustainable life for the Glory of God.

Our vision did not change. On the contrary, the political pandemic regulations result that the poor slide deeper into misery. That is why we worked hard to find ways to help the people in need.

The Bible says in Rom 8.28:

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose."

We do love God.

And we work according to His calling.

We know that behind any obstacles, there is a hidden treasure of blessings.

Our answer to the pandemic are two-fold: 1st, we work in smaller groups. 2nd, we use available technologies.

The benefit of working in smaller groups is that members get to know each other more intimately. The results are that the teamwork quality increases.

The use of technology like ZOOM, Skype, and webinars results in a more indebted learning experience for the poor.

We are thankful the year 2020 ended with a new height of cooperation and teamwork.

#### **NEW:** Golden Triangle:

The highlander project in the north is now structured in smaller groups, helping each other even more vital.

#### **New: Burmese Border**

The Burmese migrant school now includes homeschooling. The dedicated teachers set up homeschooling centers right amid the notorious slum areas. Now we are reaching out to the pupils and their families and neighbors as well.

# **New Training Center**

In Tak at the training center, we cater more to long-term students, which adds more quality to the teaching and training. The trainer team also learns how to use modern technology on a broader scope.

#### **New: Bangkok**

The coffee shop in Bangkok is not sustainable in pandemic conditions.

The shop now transforms into a food hawking training center. The results are that we can prepare for much more employment than previously anticipated.

#### **New Sea People**

In the south, the sea people are using technology to receiving training and instructions.

The pandemic brought a decline in small businesses and employment.

We are now even more dedicated to help people manage their own small businesses.

#### Our motto did not change:

We believe that the best way out of the poverty trap is helping the suffering to create a small business. Empowering the futureless is our contribution to society.

Since only blessings and teamwork make the dream work, we thank you, dear supporter; we could not help without your contribution.

Sincerely yours

Raimund / President

# A LETTER FROM OUR CEO



# How we managed during the challenging 2020

The year 2020 was very challenging. We never experienced broad national restrictions, as under the Covid emergency measurements.

Nevertheless, we close 2020 as a successful year.

Avoda is thankful that during our existence over 1'000 lives were changed. Changed means: people are empowered to escape the poverty trap.

- \* The 12 Avoda teachers and 20 dedicated leaders received comprehensive training.
- \* We can continue constructing the new training center in Tak, where we envision training young people from all over Thailand.
- \* Over 300 highlander children from the Iu Mien tribe received training. These children live right amid the infamous Golden Triangle, one of the major drug trafficking areas in the world. We are thankful that drug addiction among children and youth in the Avoda area has significantly reduced.
- \* The corona lockdowns caused the migrant school to frequently close. The children of this school hail from the horrible slum areas along the Burmese border. Our dedicated teachers can continue teaching the children in a homeschool style. Over 150 slum children receive homeschooling.
- \* Children from severe backgrounds are protected in the Avoda children's home. In 2020, 19 children received shelter and continuing training.
- \* For the first time, Avoda was able to conduct training camps for Sea people. Over 70 sea people's children enjoyed the educational base.
- \* A long-term dream begins to fulfill. Our vision is to create jobs in the ten-million people capital metropole Bangkok. We celebrate the creation of the first 12 jobs.
- \* The pandemic lockdowns cause hunger among the poor. We are thankful that we were able to feed over 1'000 families.

Thank you for your support.
Sincerely yours



Over

1'000

Lives
Changed!



Highlander Trained



12
TEACHERS
TRAINED

1'000
Families
Food Aid



20 Leader TRAINED



150
Children
Home
Schooling



Children in Children's Home



Sea People TRAINED



12 New Jobs CREATED



# Yihm Struggled and You Were There!

High up in the mountains range of northern Thailand.

Yihm was born in severe poverty. The family lives in a tin-roofed shack with a dirt floor. There is no money; there seems to be no future. When the Avoda team visited Yihm's family, the little girl took the chance and asked for help. "Can I learn with Avoda?" she asks with fear of rejection in her voice. "I have no money, but I do whatever it takes to learn fast."

But then, someone like you stepped in and helped Yihm. Of course, Avoda loves to help people who want to help themselves. Yihm found her place in the Avoda Children's home.

She is a delight of the Avoda staff because she is diligent and loves to learn. Some children ask only one thing: "Please, give me a chance!" Yihm is one of them.



# Joy and Som Struggled, and You Were There!

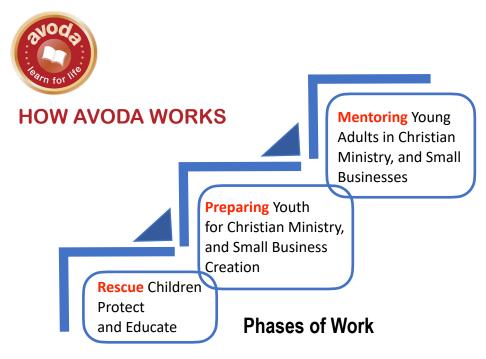
The rural Tak province was once a lush jungle. But since the logging companies cut down the forest, the soil is eroded and villagers sunk into poverty.

Joy and Som, two teenage girls, dream of a sustainable future.

Their problem: there is no work in their rural Tak village.

But then, someone like you stepped in and helped Joy & Som. When Avoda advertised beginning 2020 for open jobs for the Avoda Bangkok project, Joy and Som took the chance. "We are willing to work hard, please give us a chance!", with these words, they applied for the job.

By the end of 2020, both have already led positions in the Bangkok job creation project. In 2021 both, Joy and Som will be in charge of training new job applicants.



First, we identify children who are in danger of human trafficking. We contact the children's families and enroll the children in our protection program. We help these children with school fees, visit them regularly, provide counsel and basic weekend training. We invite children who live in a dangerous environment to stay in our children's home. Cooperation with the families is a significant part of the protection program.

**Next, we prepare the children/teens** for life in the world, i.e., we prepare them to seek the Kingdom of God and provide for themselves and their families.

Then, we mentor the young adults to be ministers in the Kingdom of God and to create a small business. The goal is that the children who once received help will help and rescue others.

When we do these three steps, the former futureless children will help others create a compelling future.









Financial Report 2020		
Total Revenue + Support	THB	10,567,197
Highlander Program	THB	(853,316)
Burmese Migrant School Program	THB	(1,293,509)
Tak Training + Children's Home Program	THB	(1,597,101)
Sea People Program	THB	(575,251)
Training Center Building	THB	(2,540,333)
Bangkok Job Creation Program	THB	(563,169)
Distribution of Food, Covid 19 Aid Packages	THB	(508,258)
Reserves for Building Program 2021	THB	(1,800,000)
Total Programs	THB	(9,730,936)
Administration + Fundraising	THB	(797,832)
Long Term Liabilities	THB	(399,680)
Assets/Savings+ Buildings	THB	14,753,074
Net Asset/Savings + Blgs	тнв	14,353,394

# We go with confidence into 2021

We don't know if the pandemic will finish in 2021, but we observe that many small businesses are forced to shut down. Business closure means loss of employment.

Whatsoever will happen in 2021, we are determined to create jobs, i.e., income.

We believe that the best way out of the poverty trap is helping the suffering to create a small business. Empowering the futureless is our contribution to society.

For 2021 we are eager to explore more ways to use technology like ZOOM, Skype, and webinars to reach out to our target groups.

The Bangkok job creation program is in whole drive; we focus on significantly expanding the Bangkok job creation program.

Please stay with us. Please stay tuned.

It is blessings and teamwork which make the dream work.

Sincerely yours

Sriphai / CEO







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