
Impacts of COVID-19 and Climate Change on Indigenous Peoples

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Indigenous Peoples in Thailand

Indigenous communities in Thailand are located across the country. There are more than 70 languages spoken by different ethnic groups, of these 38 groups defined themselves as Indigenous Peoples.

IPs in Thailand dependent on forest and natural resources for their lives and livelihoods. They have good knowledge on resource management. This has passed down from generation to generation.

However, IPs face major challenges on lack of official recognition on the rights to land and resources, rights to access to cultural-based education, etc.



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IPs working in urban city



IPs living in their own community



How did IPs handle the impacts of COVID-19?

- Conducted village closure ceremony.
- Opened up donation center to provide food reliefs.
- Organized the Food Exchange Activity.

IPs communities and self-reliance.

During the pandemic of coronavirus, some communities decided to shut down their village for three months and completely relied on natural resources in their territory.



Recommendations

- **Short term - these good practices must be carried forward with better support from the government.**
- **Long term - The Government must recognize the rights of IPs including traditional knowledge and livelihood.**



Thank you

Find more information about Indigenous Peoples in Thailand our website; www.ipf.or.th

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