

Thailand

Information for applicants

Thailand

GIZ operates in Thailand on the basis of the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation of 1956 (at the time GAWI and GTZ). Thailand now plays a significant role in the region, is one of the driving forces in the ASEAN integration process and is itself a donor country in the region. As a result, GIZ cooperates with Thailand not only in bilateral programmes and projects, but also increasingly in regional ones. Since 2009, GIZ Thailand has also been implementing a trilateral German-Thai programme involving small TC projects in Thailand's neighbouring countries. GIZ is currently working on roughly 20 projects with its partners. Most project offices are embedded directly with the partner authorities in Bangkok. Thailand is a medium-sized country with a population of 68 million. While Thai is the official language, there are also many regional dialects. English is widely spoken and, in the capital at least, is a lingua franca.

Medical care

Medical services in Thailand can be described as good to very good. That is fundamentally true for Bangkok and tourist areas like Pattaya or Phuket. For good medical care, you should take out health insurance for Thailand. Even though hospitals are cheaper than in Germany, spending several days or even weeks in hospital for treatment, e.g. after an accident, can entail high costs.

Living locally, finding accommodation

In Bangkok and Thailand's other big cities, there are a wide range of accommodation options (from 1 room apartments to large condominiums, to houses for families). Depending on the location and the furnishings, rents are comparable with those in Europe. When looking for an apartment, it is advisable to use the services of a real estate agent. Serviced apartments are also available, and offer additional benefits like cleaning, laundry, breakfast and watchmen.

Shops and services

There are shopping centres, supermarkets and street stalls in Bangkok and all major conurbations. Flea markets are also common in Bangkok and the rest of the country. Many shops are open around the clock and offer foodstuffs and everyday items. Thailand calls itself the kitchen of the world, offering traditional Thai food and international cuisine. Withdrawing cash in Thailand is no problem, and there are ATMs almost everywhere. However, they generally charge a fee of roughly 150 baht, in addition to the fees from your German bank. Local banks are normally open from Monday to Friday from 9:00 – 16:30.

Climate

Thailand has a tropical summer climate and almost constant high temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius. There are three seasons: summer (March – early May), the rainy season (May – October) and winter (November – February). Widespread flooding and landslides are common in the rainy season, and cause fatalities every year. Thailand is in a zone of seismic activity, so earthquakes and seaquakes must be expected.

Accompanying partners

GIZ Thailand can only hire foreign nationals for projects in accordance with the legally binding general agreement between Thailand and Germany. GIZ Bangkok is currently registering a branch office, which will also be able to employ foreign nationals – like any other foreign company – as long as there are project commissions. No distinctions are made between European accompanying partners or those from other countries. Accompanying partners can look for employment on the 'http://th.jobsdb.com/th' website. You should have the required qualifications for the position in question, ideally with qualifications that distinguish you from the qualifications of your Thai competitors.

Schools

School education, spread over twelve years, is broken down into four stages: After one to two years of pre-school, children attend primary school for six years. Secondary school lasts for six years

(three years of lower secondary and three years of higher secondary). There are also many international schools following the British, American or international education system. Thailand also has German-language schools. The school year generally runs from mid-August to June.

Childcare

Most of the international kindergartens in Thailand are integrated in international schools. The annual fee is roughly EUR 1,280.

Good to know

Citizens of Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, call it 'Krung Thep'. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, with the king as the head of state. He also plays a central role as the foremost guardian of the faith. Buddhism is the state religion, and 90% of the population are Buddhists. If you intend to visit temples or the Royal Palace, remember to dress appropriately

Find out more

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/354.html>

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/thailand-node>

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Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Street address
Post code, town/city, country
T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15
E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

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Responsible/Editor, etc.:
Ulrich Heise, Eschborn

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