Darmstadt, 11. Mai 2017 *** We still have before our eyes the shocking pictures of the Tsunami from December 26th 2004. Approximately 230,000 people worldwide died. Thailand and the regions Khao Lak and Phuket were were hit particularly hard, over 8,000 people died. How does one cope with the imminent pain and passing of family, partners, friends, neighbours? How to start again when everything is being lost? Green Pearls® conducted an interview with Tui of Andaman Discoveries (AD). A prominent and courageous example on how to change a crisis into a positive
future.

Green Pearls®: In 2005 the company North Andaman Discoveries then named North Andaman Tsunami Relief had been founded. What was your prime motivation at that time? Was it simply to survive or was it a kind of joint development within the community?

AD: We have started as a relief effort after the 2004 tsunami, so our initial motivation was to help villagers recover and then wrap up the relief of operations, and go home. But when the community members ask us to help develop respectful tourism in the villages, Andaman Discoveries was born as a long term effort to be the bridge between the communities and the realm of for example tourism development and marketing.
Green Pearls®: With what kind of projects did you start and how?

AD: After the Tsunami, we facilitated over 120 projects to assist with relief and recovery. These projects focused initially on helping people to regain shelter, basic supplies and then moved on to provide education and vocational training, and now support a sustainable development network of over 10 communities, along with the school for children and many other small projects.

Green Pearls®: What was the key focus and what is the target of Andaman Discoveries today?

AD: Our key focus is on the sustainable community development and networking with our communities, local partners and we are working on responsible tourism for local communities with conservation of nature, to
generate appropriate level of remuneration for locals. We are not a business adopting responsible tourism to support income, but a sustainable development organization adopting responsible business to support the community.
**Green Pearls®**: How many projects do you support currently?

**AD**: Now we support around 8 projects: Tung Dap Solar Panel, Moken Health Support, Burmese Learning Center at Kuraburi, N-ACT Network, Moken community Tourism Development, Moken Scholarship, Water Lily
Conservation, Ban Talae Nok community fund.

**Green Pearls®:** Is there any chance to work with you as a volunteer, if yes, what is the minimum period of stay?

**AD:** Yes we have a teaching English volunteer, helping at the orphanage and disable school the minimum period is 2 weeks.

---

**Green Pearls®:** Beside volunteering how can one support you and where can I book the authentic experiences?

**AD:** We have founded North Andaman Network Foundation to work for conservation and development, so supporting the Foundation is supporting our work. For booking our responsible tour you can go to Andaman Discoveries. For more information please click [here](http://archive.newsletter2go.com/?n2g=gzsq1d4z-ihtt7odu-zo7)
The German Green Pearls GmbH with place of business in Darmstadt, Germany unifies international tourism companies that support environmental protection and demonstrate social commitment. Thereby, Green Pearls is the first holding company worldwide that consolidates sustainable hotels, destinations and restaurants in a global data source.

Among the criteria of admission to Green Pearls® Unique Places, are a sustainability plan on management level, sustainable architecture, comprehensive water, energy saving and waste recovery measures, the use of seasonal and regional ingredients in the kitchen, as well as a large commitment for the social balance in each of the vacation regions.

EndFragment

Please click here for matching images in high resolution. For more information on Thailand visit www.thailandtourismus.de and on Green Pearls® visit www.greenpearls.com, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest or the Green Pearls® Blog.

Presse Kontakt:
Green Pearls® GmbH
Katja Gutschmidt
Dieburger Straße 203
64287 Darmstadt
T: +49 (0) 6151-273 669 11
F: +49 (0) 6151-273 669 19
E: katja.gutschmidt@greenpearls.com
W: www.greenpearls.com

Thailand Tourism Authority:
Bethmannstr. 58
60311 Frankfurt
T: +49 (0) 69-138 139 0
F: +49 (0) 69-138 139 50
E: info@thailandtourismus.de
W: www.thailandtourismus.de

Unsubscribe from receiving newsletter