



Final Report for

Classroom of Hope

Project concerned

Non Yang Primary School

Located in Savannakhet Province in southern Laos, we built one new school building with five fully-furnished classrooms, one teachers' room, and four toilets.

Implemented by

Child's Dream Foundation
238/3 Wualai Road
T. Haiya, A. Muang
Chiang Mai 50100
Thailand

Tel. +66 (0)53 201 811

www.childsdream.org | info@childsdream.org

Executive Summary

Non Yang Primary School had two wooden buildings that were in a state of disrepair thus posing a serious threat to the lives of the students and teachers. Initially constructed with substandard materials, the buildings were infested with termites and were on the verge of collapse. To improve this pressing situation, we supported Non Yang Primary School by constructing one new concrete building to replace the two dilapidated wooden buildings. The new building includes a total of five fully-furnished classrooms, one teachers' room, and four toilets. The construction was fully completed end of January 2021.

1. Overview

Laos is considered one of the poorest and least developed countries in South-East Asia. Even though the social and economic conditions in Laos have improved since its independence in 1975, there is still significant wealth disparity amongst Laotians.

Many people live in extremely remote and isolated areas with rudimentary infrastructure. They are often neglected by the government and unable to benefit from economic growth. Although quality education is one of the key factors in poverty reduction and the creation of sustainable development, most people in Laos do not receive a basic education. The country's education system is ineffective due to poorly equipped classrooms and a lack of textbooks, educational supplies, teachers' books, and libraries.

The spread of COVID-19 over the past year has had an adverse impact on the children in the country. While the number of cases of the virus was kept relatively low (45 reported cases and no reported deaths as of 22 February 2021), schools closed down for five months in 2020. Students in rural areas, where only 49% of families own a television, were unable to access state-produced educational TV shows, while online learning was not a viable option for families on or below the poverty line. Moreover, the loss of household earnings during the pandemic could have a knock-on effect for children and their education; there is a concern that children, particularly in rural areas, could end up dropping out of school to earn money for their family (UN Lao PDR Socio-Economic Response Framework to COVID-19, October 2020).

Contents	Page
Executive Summary	1
1. Overview	1
2. Operational Implementation	2
3. Project Performance	2
4. Project Chronology	3
5. Photographs	4
6. Financial Reconciliation	6

Non Yang Primary School is located in Non Yang Village, Atsaphon District, Savannakhet Province, in southern Laos. The village has a population of 1,481 residents from 238 households. The residents rely heavily on subsistence farming and plantation work for their livelihoods.

Established in 1974, Non Yang Primary School had two school buildings, both constructed from wood with zinc roofs, and catered to 117 students (61 girls, 56 boys) aged 6 to 11. Both buildings were made out of substandard materials that had come into a state of disrepair over the years. The wooden walls and beams were infested with termites; the whole building was rotting and could have collapsed without warning. Additionally, there were large gaps in the walls that protected against neither the rain, nor the noise from other classrooms. The buildings were not only unsafe for teachers and students, but also resulted in a chaotic learning environment in which students could not reach their full potential. Both buildings were in need of urgent replacement.

In an effort to address this problem, we constructed one new school building with five fully-furnished classrooms and one teachers' room, to replace the rotten wooden buildings. These classrooms offer a safer and more motivating learning environment for the students. The construction of the new building emphasises the importance of education to the whole village and other surrounding communities and provides an incentive for the children to continue and complete their primary level education. The project also included four new toilets, which will improve sanitation standards and prevent hygiene-related illnesses.

2. Operational Implementation

It is our belief that establishing a close partnership with community leaders and the school management team leads to a more successful outcome. As with all of our projects, we encouraged the village to actively contribute to the construction process to instil a strong sense of pride and ownership in the project. The community agreed to contribute by providing soil for the school foundation and wood for the framing and the roof.

A local contractor was chosen to manage the labour and transportation of materials, oversee construction, and procure the required furniture. The contractor was paid in instalments after the completion of each step of the building process, according to a written agreement. Ten percent of the total labour cost will be held for 12 months after completion of construction as a guarantee for the quality of the work.

Construction began on 13 June 2020. Our team monitored the progress of the construction to ensure our high quality standards were met. Due to the spread of COVID-19 and the subsequent travel restrictions, we were unable to visit the site in person, rather had regular phone and email contact with the foreman and community leaders throughout the building process. Despite some delays due to heavy rain, the entire construction process went well and we are satisfied with the result. 25th January 2021 marked the official completion date. We would love to arrange for you to visit to the new school as soon as travel restrictions are lifted and to participate in the official opening celebration. We will keep you updated on these developments.

3. Project Performance

Effectiveness: The following initial objectives were achieved:

- One new school building with five fully-furnished classrooms and one teachers' room was built. A quality learning environment for these students will incentivise them to continue and finish their primary education.
- Four new toilets were installed. This will improve sanitation standards at the school and prevent hygiene-related illnesses.
- With access to a motivating and hygienic learning environment, parents from Non Yang Village and other surrounding communities will be encouraged to allow their children to pursue an education.
- We expect the community to benefit tremendously from the new school. Students will be more engaged, literacy rates will increase, primary school attendance will rise, and school dropout rates will decrease. We further expect that children will continue on to secondary school.

Efficiency: We are happy to confirm that we have completed this project within the proposed budget of USD 54,739. The financial reconciliation is attached to this report. Please note that these figures do not yet include a 10% guarantee payment on the total labour cost which will be withheld for 12 months as a guarantee for the quality of the construction. The remaining funds will be used for monitoring and evaluation in the years to come.

Sustainability: Sustainability of the school is guaranteed through close cooperation and collaboration with the government. Non Yang Primary School is a fully accredited government school; the government will provide teacher salaries, staff training, school maintenance, and resources for future renovations.

The community will ensure that the school is properly maintained. We will carry out regular follow-up visits for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

4. Project Chronology

The following link provides more information and photos about the various phases of construction:

<https://childsdream.org/projects/non-yang-primary-school/>

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for your support and trust. Together, we were once again able to make a significant impact on the lives of many children. Thank you so much!

We would love to embark on a similar project again together in the future.

Chiang Mai, 23rd February 2021

Child's Dream Foundation



Marc T. Jenni
Founder & Managing Director Operations



Daniel M. Siegfried
Founder & Managing Director Programmes

5. Photographs



One of the wooden school buildings of Non Yang Primary School



The rundown classrooms were neither safe nor motivating for the students



Termites had infested the wooden slats



The students urgently needed a new school building



Construction started in June 2020



Despite some rain delays, the construction process went well



New toilets for the children



By January 2021, the finishing touches were being added both inside and outside



What a beautiful new school! Thank you very much for your great support!





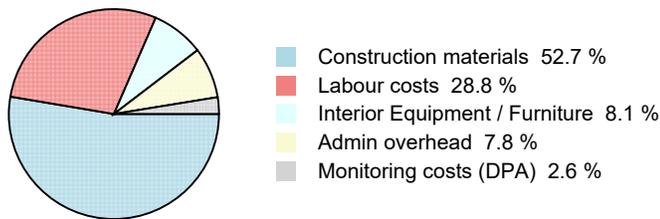
Financial Report

Non Yang Primary School - Construction of 1 school building with 6 classrooms

Budget Fx 8,901.00 Expenses Fx 8,901.00

Financial overview		In budget currency (LAK)			In reporting currency (USD)		
Account item	Account sub-item	Budget	Actual cost	Deviation	Budget	Actual cost	Deviation
Infrastructure	Construction materials	255,665,101.00	230,098,590.00	25,566,511.00	28,723.19	25,850.87	2,872.32
Infrastructure	Interior Equipment / Furniture	39,309,069.00	35,378,162.00	3,930,907.00	4,416.25	3,974.63	441.63
Infrastructure	Labour costs	140,025,830.00	126,023,248.00	14,002,582.00	15,731.47	14,158.32	1,573.15
	Project subtotal	435,000,000.00	391,500,000.00	43,500,000.00	48,870.91	43,983.82	4,887.09
	Monitoring costs (DPA)	18,125,000.00	11,310,000.00	6,815,000.00	2,036.29	1,270.64	765.64
	Admin overhead	34,106,182.80	34,106,182.80	0.00	3,831.72	3,831.72	0.00
	TOTAL	487,231,182.80	436,916,182.80	50,315,000.00	54,738.93	49,086.19	5,652.74

Actual Cost Breakdown



Budget vs Actual Cost

