



## Final Report for

## Classroom of Hope

## Project concerned

### Nong Hai Khok Primary School Building

One new building with six fully-furnished classrooms, and four new 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](http://www.childsdream.org) | [info@childsdream.org](mailto:info@childsdream.org)

## Executive Summary

The school, established in 1954, consisted of four buildings, all made from cement and zinc roofs. Two of the buildings were in good shape, and two were deteriorating, structurally unsafe and beyond repair.

Therefore, we supported Nong Hai Khok Primary School with a standardised school building with six fully-furnished classrooms and four additional new toilets.

### 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.

In 1774, two villages who had come to the area to escape the Cholera spread and to find land for rice farming, joined together to form Nong Hai Khok village, named from the Lao word for pond and the Hai trees. Centuries later, Nong Hai Khok village now has 2,561 residents and is home to 554 households, with the vast majority of the population reliant on farming, construction and plantation work for their livelihoods.

Nong Hai Khok Primary School was established in 1954 and has a current enrolment of 271 students (134 boys, 137 girls) and employs 11 teachers (one male and 10 female). The majority of the students who attend the school come from Nong Hai Khok village, and either walk or bike to school. The school consisted of four buildings; two cement buildings in good shape and two cement buildings that were in a state of great despair. Of the two buildings that were in good shape, one belongs to the nursery and kindergarten and the other has three classrooms, as well as a library and a teacher's room. The overall condition of the other two cement buildings (one built by the community in 1966

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

and the other built in 1997) was very poor with both buildings in a great state of decline. The building that was built in 1966 was used primarily for storage and teachers' materials and therefore not in critical need of replacement. The other building, consisting of six classrooms, was in critical condition with visible cracks in the walls and posts and deteriorating floors. The wood trusses holding the roof up were infested with termites and rotten. Due to the immense amount of deterioration, the building was extremely unsafe and structurally unsound thus endangering the lives of the students and teachers. The building was in dire need of replacement.

In an effort to alleviate this problem, we constructed one new school building with six furnished classrooms to replace the deteriorating building in critical condition. The new classrooms offer a safe and more motivating learning environment for the students. The construction of the new building emphasises the importance of education to the whole community and provides an incentive for the children to continue and complete their education.

We also built four new toilets to help improve the sanitation standards at the school 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 contributed by providing sand, gravel and soil to fill in each classroom, as well as providing water and electricity for the construction process.

A local contractor was chosen to manage labour and transportation of materials, oversee construction and provide the furniture. The contractor was paid in instalments after the completion of each step of the building process, according to a written agreement. As our team could not travel to assess the final phase of the school building due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, 10 percent (as opposed to the usual five percent) of the total labour cost will be held for twelve months after completion of construction as a guarantee for the quality of the work

Construction began in early July 2020. Due to travel restrictions brought about by COVID-19, our team stayed in touch with the construction manager and school management online, receiving regular updates. The progress was monitored to ensure our high quality standards were met, and we were pleased with the cooperation of the community. The overall construction process went well and we are satisfied with the result. The official completion date was 9 November 2020. The opening ceremony is not yet scheduled due to travel restrictions but we will be in touch with you as soon as travelling is possible again. We then hope that you will be able to attend the ceremony together with us.

## 3. Project Performance

**Effectiveness:** The following initial objectives were achieved:

- One new school building with six fully-furnished classrooms. A quality learning environment for these students will incentivise them to continue their 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 more children will continue to secondary school.
- We also built four new toilets to help improve the sanitation standards at the school and prevent hygiene-related illnesses.

**Efficiency:** We are happy to inform you that we have successfully completed this project slightly below the original budget of USD 52,363. The remaining amount will be kept aside and used for future renovations of Nong Hai Khok Primary School.

Please note that the financial reconciliation on page 6 does not yet include the 10% guarantee payment on the total labour cost, which will only be released after the successful checking of the building in 12 months' time.

**Sustainability:** Sustainability of the school is guaranteed through close cooperation and collaboration with the government. Nong Hai Khok Primary School is a government school; the government will provide teacher salaries, staff training, etc. The school management and the community have agreed to maintain and manage the facility after completion.

#### 4. Project Chronology

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

<https://childsdream.org/projects/nong-hai-khok-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 in 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, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

#### Child's Dream Foundation



Marc T. Jenni  
Co-Founder & Managing Director Operations



Daniel M. Siegfried  
Co-Founder & Managing Director Programmes

5. Photographs



The cement building suffers from cracked walls, deteriorating floors, and rotten wood trusses infested with termites.



The classroom walls are cracked and the floors are crumbling, providing neither a comfortable nor safe learning environment.

Inside the deteriorating classrooms



Construction started in early July 2020.



Construction continued to progress smoothly.



New furniture in the classrooms



Construction was officially completed on 9 November 2020 and the children and teachers are already making the most out of their new classrooms.



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





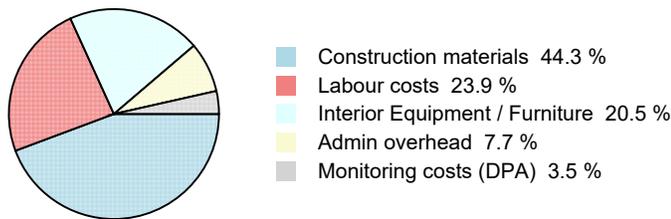
# Financial Report

Nong Hai Khok Primary School Building - Construction of 1 school building with 6 classrooms

Budget Fx 8,984.00 Expenses Fx 8,984.00

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	209,826,492.00	188,843,844.00	20,982,648.00	23,355.58	21,020.02	2,335.56
Infrastructure	Interior Equipment / Furniture	97,109,496.00	87,398,546.00	9,710,950.00	10,809.16	9,728.24	1,080.92
Infrastructure	Labour costs	113,064,012.00	101,757,610.00	11,306,402.00	12,585.04	11,326.54	1,258.50
	Project subtotal	420,000,000.00	378,000,000.00	42,000,000.00	46,749.78	42,074.80	4,674.98
	Monitoring costs (DPA)	17,500,000.00	15,120,000.00	2,380,000.00	1,947.91	1,682.99	264.92
	Admin overhead	32,930,107.53	32,930,107.53	0.00	3,665.42	3,665.42	0.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>470,430,107.53</b>	<b>426,050,107.53</b>	<b>44,380,000.00</b>	<b>52,363.10</b>	<b>47,423.21</b>	<b>4,939.89</b>

Actual Cost Breakdown



Budget vs Actual Cost

